A 17 year old woman presented to ED after taking an overdose. She weights 50kg and has taken 60 tablets of 300mg aspirin.

Vital signs

HR 110/min

RR 28/min

BP 100/60

Sats 100% room air

Temp 36.5

a) What features stratify her as high risk? 2 points

b) What investigations (apart from ecg and paracetamol level) would you request? 2 points

c) She deteriorates further and requires intubation? What are specific considerations when intubating patients having taken an OD of aspirin? 2 points

d) What are the indications for haemodialysis? 4 marks

1. Dose > 300mg/kg

Tachypnoea

1. ABG

Salicylate level

BSL

c) Avoid acidosis – give Sodium Bicarbonate prior to intubation

Hyperventilate once intubated

Avoid long acting muscle relaxants to monitor for seizure activity

D) Unable to maintain urinary alkalinisation

Serum salicylate levels increasing (> 4.4 mmol/L) despite optimal medical treatment

Altered mental status, acidaemia, renal failure

Very high salicylate levels - Acute > 7.2mmol/L, Chronic > 4.4mmol/L