

Lactic acidosis

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Lactic acidosis is when lactic acid builds up in the bloodstream faster than it can be removed. Lactic acid is produced when oxygen levels in the body drop.

Causes

The most common cause of lactic acidosis is intense exercise. However, it can also be caused by certain diseases, such as:

- AIDS
- Cancer
- Kidney failure
- Respiratory failure
- Sepsis

Metformin, a common medicine used to treat diabetes, can also cause lactic acidosis. People taking this medicine should have their electrolyte levels checked 1 - 2 weeks after starting it.

Symptoms

- Nausea
- Weakness

Exams and Tests

- Blood tests to check electrolyte levels

Treatment

The main treatment for lactic acidosis is to correct the medical problem that causes the condition.

References

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