Overview: Osmotherapy for the treatment of Severe Intracranial Hypertension

Notes:
Osmotherapy for intracranial hypertension should be employed once universal measures have been addressed. Universal measures include adequate sedation and analgesia, head-of-bed positioning, neck positioning, treatment of fevers and subclinical seizures, tight glycemic control, treatment of raised intraabdominal/intrathoracic pressure.

Osmotherapy proceeds along a stepwise approach.

The sequence of attempted therapies is mannitol boluses, then 5% HTS boluses, then 3% NaCl infusion.

To determine eligibility for each therapy, refer to the specific protocol.