Hypercalcemia

UC Emergency Med Quality Comm.

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Symptoms
- Bone pain, fractures
- Renal colic
- Nausea, vomiting, pancreatitis
- Muscle weakness, paresthesias
- Delirium, coma, stupor

EKG Abnormalities
- Shortened QTc
- Osborn waves
- AV block

Medications: Lithium, thiazide diuretics, Vitamin A or D excess
Dehydration
Inactivity
High calcium diet

Volume resuscitation
Start w/ 1-2L bolus of NS or normosol
- LR contains calcium
- Goal = euvolemic
Most patients require 3-6L in first 24h
Consider starting continuous fluids (normosol) at 150-250 cc/hr

Calcitonin
Dose = 4u/kg subQ q12 hours
Works within several hours but has tachyphylaxis after ~ 2 days

Biophosphonates
Use zoledronic acid 4mg IV over 15 minutes
Does not work for ~48 hours
Avoid in renal dysfunction

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