



# THINK AMMONIA!



**Hyperammonaemia is a state in which ammonia levels in the blood are elevated.**

- This is a **time-critical medical emergency** with the **risk of death and serious neurological damage**.
- Symptoms can be nonspecific in the first instance but may include irritability, lethargy, vomiting, headache, loss of muscle coordination, behaviour changes, confusion, mood swings, seizures, coma, and encephalopathy.
- Consider the possibility of hyperammonaemia in any unwell neonate and for anyone presenting with unexplained coma or encephalopathy.

# TEST AMMONIA!



**Act fast to prevent serious consequences.** Draw a free-flowing venous blood sample and transport to the laboratory **within 30 minutes to avoid sample rejection**. Consult your standard operating procedure for the specific sample requirements.

# TREAT AMMONIA!



If ammonia levels are elevated, urgently contact your regional inherited metabolic disorder service, and refer to the hyperammonaemia guidelines available on the Metabolic Support UK website.

**Scan the QR code using the camera on your smart device or type in the link for guidance on how to diagnose, test and treat hyperammonaemia.**



<https://qrco.de/berVCU>