Diabetic ketoacidosis (DKA) is a common medical emergency and is the most common cause of death in children with type 1 diabetes mellitus due to its complications. Paediatric residents are usually the first line of managing paediatric emergencies in Iraqi hospitals. They form the backbone of the provided service. It is important to make sure they are practicing at the highest possible standard to ensure patients’ safety. Therefore, it is crucial to check their knowledge and confidence in managing paediatric endocrine emergencies.

This study evaluates the knowledge of Iraqi paediatric residents regarding DKA recognition and subsequently its management. It also sheds light on the areas that need further improvement.

**AIM**

This study evaluates the knowledge of Iraqi paediatric residents regarding DKA recognition and management. It also sheds the light on the areas that need further improvement.

**METHOD**

An online survey was conducted. A survey link of the questionnaire using SurveyMonkey was sent to residents from different levels between first to fourth year of training (R1-4) in general paediatrics.

**RESULTS**

- **47 residents**
- **80%** correctly recognised the diagnostic criteria of DKA
- **Only 29%** think there is a need for more DKA teaching/educational sessions.
- **70% of residents are confident**
- **91%** think there is a need for more DKA teaching/educational sessions.
- **Recognition of life threatening complications**
  - Aspiration pneumonia: 12%
  - Hypokalemia: 36%
  - Cerebral oedema: 74%

**CONCLUSIONS**

Gaps in knowledge of correctly diagnosing DKA and subsequently its management were identified. Lack of a standardized national protocol is a contributing factor. Educational sessions for the residents about DKA management deemed necessary and it was demanded by the residents themselves.

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