

lactic acidosis: Case report (Article) (Open Access)

[Acidosis láctica por metformina: reporte de caso]

[Sánchez-Díaz, J.S.^a](#), [Monares-Zepeda, E.^b](#), [Martínez-Rodríguez, E.A.^c](#), [Cortés-Román, J.S.^d](#),
[Torres-Aguilar, O.^a](#), [Peniche-Moguel, K.G.^a](#), [Díaz-Gutiérrez, S.P.^a](#), [Pin-Gutiérrez, E.^a](#),
[Rivera-Solís, G.^a](#), [García-Méndez, R.C.^a](#), [Huanca-Pacaje, J.M.^a](#), [Calyeca-Sánchez, M.V.^a](#)

^aCentro Médico Nacional «Adolfo Ruiz Cortines», Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS),
Departamento de Terapia Intensiva, Veracruz, Mexico

^bHospital San Ángel Inn Universidad, Ciudad de México, Mexico

^cFacultad de Medicina, Universidad Veracruzana, Campus Veracruz, Veracruz, Mexico

[View additional affiliations](#)

Abstract

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Lactic acidosis is defined as the presence of pH < 7.35, blood lactate > 2.0 mmol/L and PaCO₂ < 42 mmHg. However, the definition of severe lactic acidosis is controversial. The primary cause of severe lactic acidosis is shock. Although rare, metformin-related lactic acidosis is associated with a mortality as high as 50%. The treatment for metabolic acidosis, including lactic acidosis, may be specific or general, using sodium bicarbonate, trihydroxymethane, carbicarb or continuous haemodiafiltration. The successful treatment of lactic acidosis depends on the control of the aetiological source. Intermittent or continuous renal replacement therapy is perfectly justified, shock being the argument for deciding which modality to use. We report a case of a male patient presenting with metformin poisoning as a result of attempted suicide, who developed lactic acidosis and multiple organ failure. The critical success factor was treatment with continuous haemodiafiltration. © 2017 Sociedad Colombiana de Anestesiología y Reanimación

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