

Table 1 Study characteristics

Study	Country	Number of participants enrolled		Age range	Percentage severely dehydrated	Route of ORT	Subjects with persistent/protracted vomiting
		Total	(IVT/ORT)				
Atherly-John 2002	USA	34	(16/18)	3 mos – 17 yrs	0%	PO	Excluded
De Pumarejo 1990	Puerto Rico	31	(14/17)	2 wks - 4 yrs	0%	PO	Excluded
El-Mougi 1994	Egypt	61	(20/41)*	3 mos - 2 yrs	0%	Unknown	Included
Gremse 1995	USA	24	(12/12)	2 - 19 mos	Unknown	NG†	Included
Gonzalez-Adriano 1988	Mexico	200	(100/100)	1 day - 5 yrs	0.5%	PO, NG if required	Included
Issenman 1993	Canada	42‡	(19/23)	6 - 31 mos	Unknown	PO	Excluded
Listernick 1986	USA	29	(14/15)	3 mos - 2 yrs	Unknown	PO	Included
Mackenzie 1991	Australia	111	(54/57)	3 mos - 3 yrs	Unknown	PO, NG if required	Included
Nager 2002	USA	96§	(48/48)	3 - 36 mos	0%	NG	Included
Santosham 1982	USA	52	(17/35)*	3 mos - 2 yrs	8%	Unknown	Not specified
	Panama	94	(31/66)*	3 mos - 2 yrs	11%	Unknown	Not specified
Sharifi 1985	Iran	470	(234/236)	1 mo - 1½ yrs	23%	NG (rehydrate), then PO (maintain)	Included
Singh 1982	Afghanistan	100	(50/50)	Not specified	Unknown	PO	Excluded
Tamer 1985	USA	100	(50/50)	3 - 33 mos	32%	PO	Included
Vesikari 1987	Finland	37	(15/22)	< 60 mos	5%	PO, NG if required	Unknown

* these studies had two ORT groups with solutions with different osmolarity

† patients were randomised to NG or IV after having failed an uncontrolled trial of oral rehydration

‡ two patients were excluded after randomisation because they had received antibiotics (1 patient per group)

§ six patients were excluded after randomisation: intussusception - 1 ORT; >10% dehydration - 2 IVT; persistent vomiting - 1 ORT, 2 (IVT); those patients with persistent vomiting were considered as treatment failures in the present analysis

|| this study was conducted concurrently and slightly differently in two countries and was therefore analyzed as two separate studies