

## QUESTION

10. A patient with a long history of alcohol abuse has been admitted to the hospital with a diagnosis of cirrhosis of the liver. The patient is currently on a sodium-restricted diet. The patient's laboratory values are as follows:

Na <sup>+</sup>	130 mEq/L
K <sup>+</sup>	3.5 mEq/L
Cl <sup>-</sup>	100 mEq/L
HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	24 mEq/L
BUN	20 mg/dL
Cr	1.2 mg/dL
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	8.5 mg/dL
Mg <sup>2+</sup>	1.5 mg/dL
Albumin	3.5 g/dL
INR	1.5
PT	14.5 sec
APTT	35 sec
Fibrinogen	250 mg/dL
D-dimer	0.5 mg/dL

Which of the following is the most likely cause of the patient's hyponatremia?

1. Hypoalbuminemia
2. Hypoosmolality
3. Hypoalbuminemia and hypoosmolality
4. Hypoalbuminemia and hyponatremia
5. Hypoalbuminemia, hypoosmolality, and hyponatremia

## ANSWER

1. Hypoalbuminemia  
2. Hypoosmolality  
3. Hypoalbuminemia and hypoosmolality  
4. Hypoalbuminemia and hyponatremia  
5. Hypoalbuminemia, hypoosmolality, and hyponatremia



## EXPLANATION

The patient has a long history of alcohol abuse and is currently on a sodium-restricted diet. The patient's laboratory values are as follows:

- Na<sup>+</sup> 130 mEq/L
- K<sup>+</sup> 3.5 mEq/L
- Cl<sup>-</sup> 100 mEq/L
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- Fibrinogen 250 mg/dL
- D-dimer 0.5 mg/dL

## ANSWER

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