**Benefits of Colloids:** Because of the low volumes used resuscitation can be achieved rapidly. In addition intravascular expansion lasts many hours beyond what is seen in crystalloids with benefits seen up to 12 hours later. Colloids may be of extra benefit if the patient is severely hypoproteinaemic in order to increase oncotic pressure.

**Potential Problems with Colloids:** Despite in theory having many benefits for emergency fluid resuscitation there is no convincing evidence that colloids give better overall results for patients in circulatory shock compared to crystalloids. In addition synthetic colloids can cause an acquired coagulopathy. Colloids are also expensive and not multi-purpose.

Source: <http://www.ava.com.au/sites/default/files/Emergency%20Fluid%20Therapy%20In%20Companion%20Animals_PPitney.pdf>