

**IN THE NAME OF  
GOD**

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# POISONING IN CHILDREN

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# INTRODUCTION

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- Most pediatric ingestions are accidental and minimally toxic.
- Approximately 50% occur in children <6 yr old , with the highest number of exposure occurring in 1 and 2 yr olds
- In adolescents , poisoning is the 3rd leading cause of injury – related death.
- Although adolescents (age 13-19 yr) account for only about 12% of exposures ,they constituted much larger proportion of death.

# APPROACH TO THE POISONED PATIENT

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- Treat the patient , not the poison.
- Assessment:
  - General appearance
  - Breathing
  - Circulation
  - ABCDs
  - IV access and monitors

# INITIAL ASSESSMENT

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- Physical examination:
  - Mental status
  - Vital signs
  - Pupils( size , reactivity)
  - Nystagmus
  - Bowl sound
  - Skin



# INITIAL ASSESSMENT

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- Laboratory evaluation:
  - A basic chemistry panel (electrolytes, renal function, glucose, blood gas)
  - Over dose of acetaminophen :AST ,ALT , INR
  - Anion gap , serum osmolality
  - CPK
  - B-HCG
  - Specific drug level !!!
  - Urine toxicology :rarely helpful

# ADDITIONAL DIAGNOSTIC TESTING

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- Cardiac monitoring or 12-lead ECG
- Chest xray : pneumonitis , FB, non cardiogenic pulmonary edema
- abdominal xray:
  - FBs
  - Radiopaque tablets
  - Drug pack in a body packer

# SECONDARY ASSESSMENT

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- Past medical history
- Obtain detail history of the amount and time of ingestion
- May need to search the home
- Events prior to presentation



# PRINCIPALES OF MANAGEMENT

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- Supportive care
- Decontamination
- Directed therapy
- Enhanced elimination

# DECONTAMINATION

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- Syrup of Ipecac :
  - *All published statements in favor of Abandoning the use of ipecac*
  
- Gastric lavage :
  - *No longer recommended*

# DECONTAMINATION

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- single dose Activated charcoal
- Ineffective in some ingestions:
  - Alcohols
  - Caustics: alkalis and acids
  - Heavy metals : (e.g., lead)
  - Hydrocarbones
  - Iron
  - lithium

# ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

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- Recommended dose:

infants: 1 g /kg / dose po

children: 1-2 g / kg /dose po(or 25-50 gr /dose)

Adolescents and adult : 50 -100 gr po

- Sorbitol:

infants and children : not indicated , due to risk for dehydration and ele imbalance

# WHOLE BOWL IRRIGATION

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- PEG(POLYETHYLENE GLYCOL):
- Useful for ingestions of iron,lithium, and sustained release perparations.
- DOSE : 35cc/kg /hr for small children and I- 2L/ hr for adolescents and adults.
- Administer for 4-6 hr or until effluent is clear.
- WBI is typically administered by NG tube



# DIRECTED THERAPY

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- Antidotal therapy
- Intralipid emulsion therapy
  - CCB
  - TCA
  - Bupropion

# ENHANCED ELIMINATION

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- Multipledose activated charcoal (GI dialysis) :
  - 0/5 gr / kg every 4-6 hr for 4 doses
  - Contraindication: unprotected airway and concerning abdominal exam
  - Phenobarbital,theophyllin, carbamazepine, dapsone ,quinin

# ENHANCED ELIMINATION

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- Urinary alkalization :
  - Drugs that are weak acids :become trapped in the renal tubules
  - Continuous infusion of sodium bicarbonate – containing IV fluid
  - Goal of urine PH : 7.5 – 8
  - Useful in managing salicylate and MTX toxicity

# ENHANCED ELIMINATION

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- Hemodialysis:
  - Methanol
  - Salicylates
  - Ethylene glycol
  - Theophylline
  - Lithium
  - Valporic acid

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OUR PATIENT ???



# TODDLERS / PRESCHOOLERS

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Accidental



# ADOLESCENTS

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Accidental

Suicidal

show of



# CASE # 1

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- The patient is a 14 year old girl who is brought to ER after she tells her mother “ I took as much acetaminophen as I could”
- Ingestion occurred 2 hr prior
- Denies other ingestions or medication use

# PHYSICAL EXAM

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- The patient is alert , orient to TPP , nauseated , mild abdominal pain
- VS :
  - HR: 90
  - BP:100 / 70
  - RR : 20
- EXAM : normal



# ACETAMINOPHEN

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- Most widely used pediatric analgesic on the markets
- Most common ingestion in toddlers , preschoolers and adolescents
- Normal cytochrome p-450 metabolism yeilds small amounts of free oxidants that are hepatotoxic
- In overdose free NAPQI (Highly reactive intermedite metabolite of APAP) is able to produce hepatocellular necrosis.



# STAGES OF LIVER INVOLVEMENT

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- Stage 1 (4-12 hr)
  - Nausea, vomiting, diaphoresis, pallor, anorexia
- Stage 2 (24-72 hr)
  - Increasing LFTs, resolution of above symptoms
- Stage 3 (72-96 hr)
  - Peak LFT abnormalities, elevated PT time, liver failure
- Stage 4 (4 d – 2 wk)
  - Resolution of liver injury

# DIAGNOSIS

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- Toxic dose :
  - Children : 150 -200 mg /kg
  - Adults and adoscents : 7/5 -10 gr
  - Single dose or in 4 hr
  - In < 6y/o children : > 100 mg / kg /day in 72 hr

# MANAGEMENT

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- Charcoal 50 gr
- NAC therapy :
  - Proven to be very effective when given within 8-16 hours of ingestion
  - Loading dose (oral) : 140 mg / kg po
  - Maintenance dose : 4 hr after loading dose , give 70 mg /kg PO q4 hr for a total of 17 doses
  - IV continuous infusion:
    - 150 mg /kg iv over 1hr
    - 50 mg / kg iv over 4 hr
    - 100 mg / kg iv over 16 hr
- Cimetidine : 20-40 mg / kg / day IV q6hr for 24 hr

## CASE 2 #

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- 16 y/o boy brought by ambulance after a call from a parent who found our son unconscious at home.
- He was in the park with his friends 4 hrs ago
- His father, utters a few choice words and calls an ambulance

# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Upon arrival the child has clumsy movement with a decreased level of consciousness
- Vital signs : HR:120 , RR :20 , BP: 80/50 , T: 37/4
- GCS : 6/15    pupil : nl size    he smells of alcohol
- What class of toxin has this child ingested?



# CASE DISCUSSION:ALCOHOL

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- ETHANOL
  - Hypoglycemia,acidosis (respiratory or metabolic)
- Methanol
  - Blindness, high osmolar gap , metabolic acidosis , hyperglycemia
- Ethylene glycol
  - Renal failure (ca-oxalate crystals) ,osmolar gap, metabolic acidosis

# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Patient had mild metabolic acidosis which resolved with hydration
- Normal BS
- O2 SAT :95% without O2 therapy
- Now what???

# MANAGEMENT

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- Charcoal??? NO!!!
- Intubation ??
- Hemodialysis ?
- PICU admission ?

# CASE 3#

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- 3 y/o boy who drank from a soda bottle containing gasoline
- Cried immediately, gagged and coughed, and then vomited
- Alert and crying, HR: 122 , RR :24 , BP : 90/60
- What do you do ?

# HYDROCARBONES

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- Hydrocarbons include gasoline, kerosene, lamp oil, lighter fluid, paint thinners and removers, and motor oil. Young children may unintentionally ingest these fluids.
- Exposure to these poisons can affect the respiratory and central nervous systems.

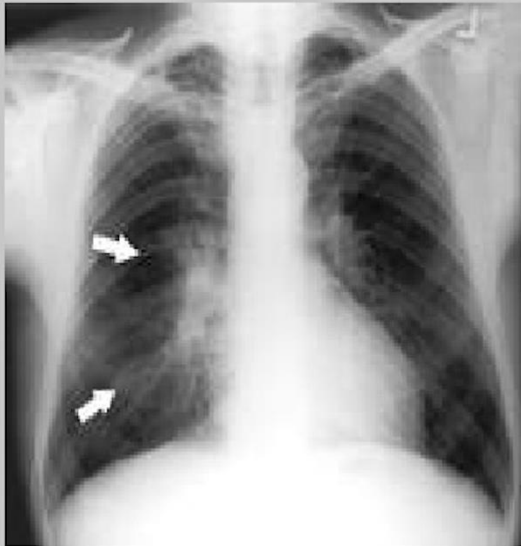


# MANAGEMENT ISSUES

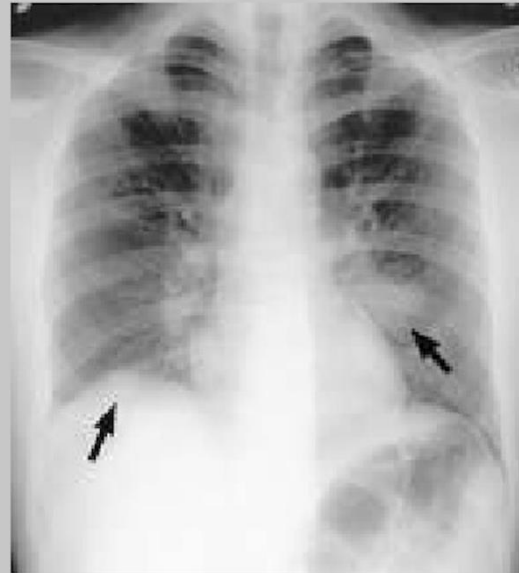
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- Admit all symptomatic patients and obtain ABG, EKG, and CXR
- Absence of symptoms for 4-6 hr after ingestion makes chemical or aspiration pneumonitis unlikely (CXR and pulse oximetry 6hr after ingestion seems reasonable)
  
- Charcoal ?? NO!!!
- Prophylactic AB ??? NO !!!
- Washing??? NO!!!

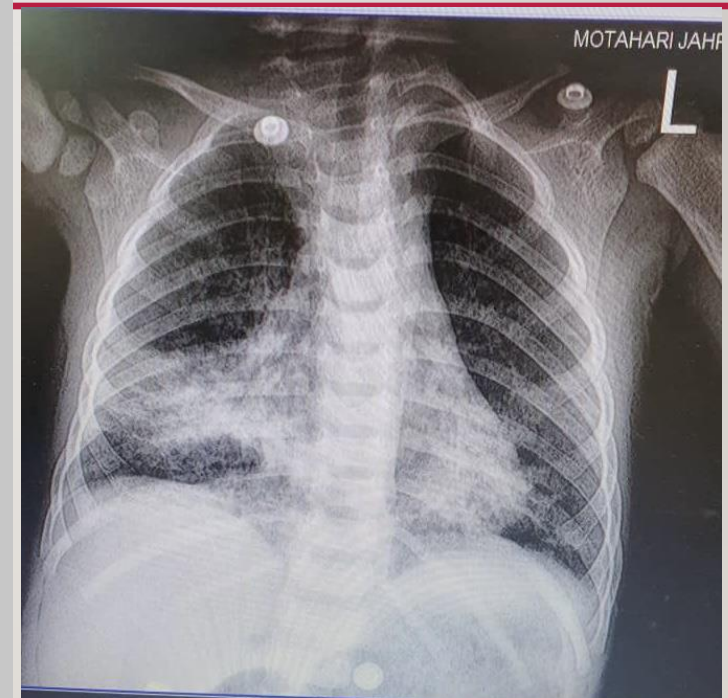
# KEROSEN POISONING



Perihilar opacity



Bi-basal infiltration



# CASE 4#

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- A 5 Y/O girl was at school when she developed :
  - Nausea
  - Vomiting
  - Abdominal pain
  - Bloody diarrhea
- Patient report that she ate some of her mothr's pills 2 hrs ago
- The bottle had contained 30 pills of ferrous sulfage ,and is now empty

# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Patient is alert, oriented to TTP, mild abdominal tenderness
- RR :22 HR : 110 ,T :36/6 BP: 80/50
- The patient is dehydrated (mild)



# DISCUSSION: IRON

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- Toxic exposure is based on elemental iron load
- Dose of elemental iron in children and adult preparation:
  - Children : 7-15 mg /cc (syrup) -65 mg per pill
  - Adults : 44mg – 65 mg per pill



# IRON

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- Toxic dose in children :
  - 10- 20 mg / kg of elemental iron : may show signs of toxicity
  - > 50 mg / kg : serious toxicity is likely
  - >100 mg / kg : lethal dose

# CLINICAL PRESENTATION

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- Phase I (first 6hr) :
  - Vomiting , diarrhea , abd pain ,both hematemesis and hematochezia
- phase 2 (4-12 hr) :
  - Improvement in GI symptoms ,however the vital signs worsen(tachycardia,metabolic acidosis,etc )
- Phase 3 (12-24 hr) :shock stage
  - Shock , coma,seizure,coagulopathy
- Phase 4 (2-3 days):hepatotoxicity stage
- Phase 5 (2-6 wks ) : GI scarring

# MANAGEMENT

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Abd X ray : iron tab are radio-opaque



# MANAGEMENT

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- Whole bowel irrigation :
  - 250-500 cc / hr (toddlers and preschoolers) 1-2 L/hr (adolescents)
  - Continue irrigation until the repeat radiographic findings are negative or rectal effluent is clear
- Deferoxamine:
  - Serum fe > 500 mcg /dl
  - Significant clinical toxicity
  - Persistent xray findings despite GI decontamination
  - Dose :15mg/kg /hr for 6 hr

# CASE 5#

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- 8 y/o boy who playing outside and returned to his house with respiratory distress
- Her mother arrived and note him to be lethargic, diaphoretic , and in moderate respiratory distress



# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Physical exam reveals rales and wheezing in lung field with excessive oral secretions
- Lethargic with Imm pupils
- Vital signs : HR: 50 , RR: 70,BP : 90/P,T:37/8 ,Wt :25 kg

# CHOLINERGIC (ORGANOPHOSPHATE )TOXIDROME

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- Cholinergic agents inhibit acetylcholinestrerase
- Clinical presentation:
  - Diarrhea
  - Vomiting
  - Bradycardia
  - Urination
  - Salivation
  - Miosis
  - bronchorrhea

# MANAGEMENT

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- Remove clothing –skin decontamination
- Gastric washing
- Charcoal
- Atropine: vagal block (for muscarinic symptoms)
  - Dries secretions, decreased bronchoconstriction and increases HR
  - DOSE: 0/03 – 0/05 mg /kg IV/IM/ET q10-20 min PRN to effect, then q 1-4 hr for at least 24 hr

# MANAGEMENT

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- Pralidoxime (for nicotinic symptoms) :
  - 20-50 mg /kg /dose (not to exceed 2 gr /dose )IV
  - Followed by 10 -20 mg kg hr IV continuous infusion for maintenance
  - Continue:
    - till the pt being asymptomatic for 24 hr
    - Or 12- 24 hr from last dose of atropine

# CASE 6#

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- 10 y/o girl brought to ER 3 hrs after ingestion of 4 packs of unknown pills
- Patient noted to be lethargic and tachypneic ,with adequate circulation
- Patient responds to physician's voice and there are no focal finding on neurological exam
- V/S : HR :140, RR: 60 and deep ,T: 39,BP : 90/70
- VBG: PH:7/25
  - CO2:25
  - HCO3: 10



# SALICYLATES

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- Metabolic acidosis with respiratory alkalosis =
- Salicylate toxicity until proven otherwise

# CASE DISCUSSION

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- Respiratory alkalosis
- Increased temp ,HR ,RR
- Alters plt function and BT
- Tinnitus
- Confusion,dilirium,psychosis may developed cerebral edema
- High anion gap metabolic acidosis
- Vomiting , hyperpnea, lethary

# CASE DISCUSSION

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- Toxic dose :
  - >150 mg /kg or >6/5 gr
- Management :
  - Urinary alkalization with sodium bicarb to maintain urine PH> 7/5 - 8
  - Hemodialysis :
    - Renal insufficiency
    - Refractory metabolic acidosis
    - Altered mental status
    - Acid – base and electrolyte imbalance despite appropriate therapy

# CASE 7#

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- You are called to visit a 13 y/o girl after her parents arrived home from work to find the pt unresponsive
- Positive history of psychiatric problem in the pt family

# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Ph exam :
  - T: 38 , HR: 160 with widened QRS on the monitor , RR : 25 , BP : 100 /55
- Pupils are dilated and reactive, skin is dry and flushed, and pt is responding to deep pain only



# CASE DISCUSSION :TRICYCLIC ANTIDEPRESSANTS

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- Clinical picture is anticholinergic intoxication , CNS depression and cardiovascular instability
- Mainsity of therapy is sodium bicarb in addition to supportive cares

# MANAGEMENT

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- Charcoal 50 gr after airway secured
- Alkalinization with bicarb for hypotension, wide complex tachycardia, VT, QRS widening ( $> 110$  ms)
  - Multiple bolus doses of sodium bicarb, 1-2 meq/kg may be needed to narrow the QRS to  $< 110$  ms
- Hypertonic saline and/or lipid emulsion : for refractory cases
- Hypotension: 1- hydration with 10-20 cc/ kg n/s
  - 2- sodium bicarb
  - 3-epinephrine and norepinephrine
- Seizure : benzodiazepins (phenytoin is contraindicated)

# QRS DURATION

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- QRS > 100 ms associated with seizure
- QRS > 160 associated with cardiac arrhythmia

# CASE 8#

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- 2 y/o boy who was found unconscious with empty bottle of grandma's drugs(antihypertensive ,CCB ) at his side
- Multiple episodes of vomiting on transport to the hospital ,containing pill fragments

# CASE PROGRESSION

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- Vs :T : 37/5 , HR : 45 with 3rd degree heart block , RR : 12 , BP : 70 / 25
- Patient responsive to deep pain only , extremities cool with decreased pulses



# CCB

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- Specific agents include verapamil , diltiazem , nifedipine , amlodipine
- Morbidity and mortality result from cardiovascular collaps
- Verapamil and diltiazem are the most dangerous in overdose

# MANAGEMENT

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- Activated charcoal
- WBI for SR product in stable pt
- Calcium gluconate : help to overcome blocked ca channels
- High dose insulin euglycemia therapy : antidote of choice:
  - An initial bolus of 1 unit/kg R/I
  - Followed by an infusion 0.5-1 unit/kg/hr
- IV fluid boluses and vasopressors
- Intralipid

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION

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