

### Calcium polystyrene sulfonate

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#### Colonic necrosis in an elderly patient: case report

A 73-year-old man developed colonic necrosis while receiving calcium polystyrene sulfonate [Kalimate].

The man, who had a history of end-stage renal disease, was receiving treatment with calcium polystyrene sulfonate not suspended in sorbitol [*dosage and route not stated*]. He experienced lower GI bleeding during a dialysis session, and was admitted to a hospital [*duration of treatment to reaction onset not stated*]. He had received 4 units of packed RBCs; however, he had hypotension and a haemoglobin level of 6.5 g/dL on admission. Endoscopy revealed a large hiatal hernia, and colonoscopy found ischaemic lesions in his caecum, ascending colon and hepatic angle. Histological examination found calcium polystyrene sulfonate crystals within the granulation tissue of a colonic ulcer, along with mucosal necrosis.

The man received conservative treatment, and the lower GI bleeding stopped. He was discharged 8 days after admission.

**Author comment:** *"This case confirms that Kalimate per se induces ischemic intestinal injury, mostly in reduced blood flow situations, such as hemodialysis."*

Castillo-Cejas MD, et al. Colonic necrosis due to calcium polystyrene sulfonate (Kalimate) not suspended in sorbitol. Revista Espanola de Enfermedades Digestivas 105: 232-234, No. 4, Apr 2013. Available from: URL: <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23859454> - Spain

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