

Chlorphenamine/dextromethorphan/ paracetamol/phenylephrine

Abdominal pain due to retained pill fragments: case report

A 15-year-old girl presented with a 2-day history of abdominal pain with nausea and vomiting, and had mild abdominal tenderness in the right lower quadrant. A CT scan showed numerous radiopaque pills in the stomach. It was then discovered that because she had flu-like symptoms 1 week previously, she had taken Comtrex Cold & Cough Day/Night: two caplets every 6 hours for 24 hours followed by two caplets daily for the next 6 days (total of 20 caplets). Each caplet contained chlorphenamine 2mg (night-only caplet), dextromethorphan 10mg, paracetamol [acetaminophen] 325mg and phenylephrine 5mg. She was treated with a phosphate laxative and had recovered at follow-up, 4 days later.

Judge BS, et al. Incidental discovery of radiopaque pills on abdominal CT in a patient with abdominal pain. *Clinical Toxicology* 46: 574-575, No. 6, Jul 2008 - USA 801118278