

Tetryzoline

S

Intoxication with prolonged hypothermia following accidental ingestion in an infant: case report

A 1-year-old boy developed intoxication with bradycardia, hypotension, respiratory depression, unconsciousness and prolonged hypothermia following accidental ingestion of tetryzoline.

The boy presented 30 minutes after accidentally ingesting about 8mL of a nasal decongestant solution containing 0.05% tetryzoline. A few minutes after ingestion, he became fatigued and pale, which progressed to sweating and sleepiness. On presentation, he received naloxone; however, he did not improve clinically. Two hours after ingestion, he was admitted in an unconscious state. Examination revealed a heart rate of 60 beats/min, a body temperature of 35.5°C, a BP of 70/40mm HG, decreased deep tendon reflexes, a Glasgow Coma Scale (GCS) score of 5, weak peripheral pulses, an oxygen saturation of 92%, a capillary refill time of <3 seconds and an irregular and superficial respiratory pattern. An ECG revealed sinus bradycardia with a QTC of 0.40 sec and a PR of 0.16 sec.

The boy received atropine, and he was transferred to an ICU. In the ICU, his heart rate and oxygen saturation remained above 100 beats/min and 92%, respectively, while he remained in a normotensive state. At 4 hours after admission, he began to breath normally. At 12 hours, he was conscious with a GCS score of 15, and neurological examination was normal. Hypothermia persisted for 24 hours after admission. He was discharged on hospital day 2, and he had no symptoms at 1 week follow-up.

Author comment: *"We report the case of a one-year-old child who accidentally drank nasal decongestant solution containing [tetryzoline], resulting in serious side effects with prolonged hypothermia."*

Paksu SM, et al. One drop can be beneficial, one swig can be deadly: Tetrahydrozoline intoxication. Turkish Journal of Pediatrics 54: 658-660, No. 6, Dec 2012. Available from: URL: <http://turkishjournalpediatrics.org/?summaryId=1136&lang=eng> - Turkey

803086765