

Acute Renal Failure and Ethylene glycol poisoning in Haitian pediatric population

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The ethylene glycol use in pharmaceutical industry may cause severe acute renal failure (ARF) without appropriate management. Upon ingestion, it is rapidly absorbed (within 1 to 4 hours). Less than 20% is excreted unmetabolized; most is successively metabolized to very toxic compounds for brain, heart, lungs and kidney.

We conducted a retrospective study of all cases of acute renal failure, owing to EG poisoning, admitted in our unit during the period between November 1995 and June 1996. Fifty four (54) patients were included.

The median age was 38 months [1, 132], with sex ratio boy/girl 1.76. Twenty Two have died (40.7%), 25 were taken from the hospital by families and were lost to follow-up (46.3%), 7 have survived (12.9%). Nine of the dead infants have had peritoneal dialysis. Six of the survivors have had intensive care management including peritoneal dialysis or hemodialysis; one of them survived without renal replacement therapy. There is also a small group of 4 children who had the intoxication without ARF. Those eleven (11) patients have a follow-up until now. One of them died recently from chronic renal failure.

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