

Household bleach is a frequently ingested corrosive but rarely causes serious damage.

Liquid corrosives are easily ingested and cause more damage than granular/solid preparations. Liquids may also be aspirated, causing upper airway injury.

Solid products tend to stick to and burn tissues, causing localized damage.

## Treatment

Inducing emesis is contraindicated (vomiting re-damages the mucosa).

Contact the PCC immediately. If the PCC or medical advice and treatment not immediately available, it may be appropriate to dilute corrosive with water or milk (usually  $\leq 120$  ml [4 oz]).

*Do not neutralize.* Neutralization can cause an exothermic reaction (which produces heat and causes increased symptoms or produces a thermal burn in addition to a chemical burn).

Maintain patent airway as needed.

Administer analgesics.

Give oral fluids when tolerated.

Esophageal stricture may require repeated dilations or surgery.

## Hydrocarbons

Gasoline

Kerosene

Lamp oil

Mineral seal oil (found in furniture polish)