



Stimulant Poisoning/Overdose

Aliases

Amphetamines	Bath Salts	Cocaine
Ice	Methamphetamine	Phencyclidine (PCP)
Stimulant		

Patient Care Goals

1. Identify intoxicating agent
2. Protect organs at risk for injury such as heart, brain, liver, kidney
3. Determine if there is an antidote
4. Treat the symptoms, which may include severe tachycardia and hypertension, agitation, hallucinations, chest pain, seizure, and arrhythmia

Patient Presentation

Inclusion Criteria

1. Tachycardia/tachydysrhythmias
2. Hypertension
3. Diaphoresis
4. Delusions/paranoia
5. Seizures
6. Hyperthermia
7. Mydriasis (dilated pupils)
8. Stimulant/hallucinogenic (with stimulant properties) agents:
 - a. Cocaine
 - b. Amphetamine/methamphetamine
 - c. Phencyclidine (PCP) (hallucinogen)
 - d. Bupropion
 - e. Synthetic stimulant drugs of abuse (some having mixed properties)
 - f. Ecstasy
 - g. Methamphetamine
 - h. Khat or Synthetic cathinones ("bath salts")
 - i. "Spice"
 - j. "K2"
 - k. Synthetic THC

Exclusion Criteria

None noted

Patient Management

Assessment

1. Begin with the ABCDs:
 - a. **A**irway is patent
 - b. **B**reathing is oxygenating
 - c. **C**irculation is perfusing