

CNS Excitation Toxicities

OTHER LESS FREQUENTLY SEEN
TOXICITIES

STRYCHNINE no longer sold in NZ

ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDES

ILLEGAL DRUGS

Amphetamines and Cocaine

CNS Excitation Toxicities

STRYCHNINE

(aka nux vomica)

Infrequent poisonings as no longer sold in NZ as a
rodenticide

Nux vomica is used as a stimulant in Ketovet®

- Muscle rigidity
- Sawhorse stance
- Opisthotonos
- Violent seizures (stimulated)

CNS Excitation Toxicities

STRYCHNINE TREATMENT

- Anticonvulsants/Anaesthesia
- Symptomatic and supportive care
 - fluid diuresis
 - muscle relaxants
- Dark, quiet environment

CNS Excitation Toxicities

ORGANOCHLORINE PESTICIDES

Limited availability in NZ

- Behaviour: agitated and aggressive
- Spastic gait
- Blepharospasms
- Muscle fasciculations (head first)
- Continuous chewing
- Tonic-Clonic convulsions
- Other signs: weakness, paraesthesia

CNS Excitation Toxicities

ORGANOCHLORINE TREATMENT

- Light sedation with anaesthetics
- Symptomatic and supportive care
- Oxygen
- Decontaminate with activated charcoal

CNS Excitation Toxicities

ILLEGAL DRUGS

Amphetamines (alpha-methylphenylethylamine)
and Cocaine

- Dilated pupils
- Hyperactivity
- ↑ Heart rate, ↑ Respiratory rate
- Amphetamines-vocalisation, ↑ temp.
- Muscle tremors

CNS Excitation Toxicities

ILLEGAL DRUGS TREATMENT

- Anticonvulsants
- Symptomatic and supportive care
- Tachyarrhythmias-beta blockers
- PVCs-lignocaine