



Poison HOTLINE

1-800-222-1222

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Did you know

Homeopathy is an alternative medicine system that follows doctrine from Samuel Hahnemann of *like cures like*. This as well as other concepts followed in homeopathy are inconsistent with fundamental concepts of chemistry and physics.

So what does this mean? *Like cures like* claims states that a substance that causes symptoms of a disease in a healthy person would cure similar symptoms in a sick person.

Potency of homeopathic remedies is based on the dilution of the preparation, as dilution increases so does potency. There are two main scales upon which remedies display their potency, centesimal "C" and decimal "X" or "D". Dilution comparisons: $60X = 30C = 1 \times 10^{-60}$.

Novel Oral Anticoagulants

Since FDA approval of the direct thrombin inhibitor (dabigatran/Pradaxa[®]) and the oral factor Xa inhibitors (apixaban/Eliquis[®], edoxaban/Savaysa[®], and rivaroxaban/Xarelto[®]) there have been many questions on how to reverse these agents and how to monitor patients in overdose situations. According to poison control center (PCC) data across the nation, bleeding occurs infrequently with factor Xa inhibitor exposures. PCC data suggests that the risk of bleeding appears to be greater with long-term ingestion. A fairly short half-life and ceiling effect, based on saturation of Xa binding sites, may also limit the risk of bleeding after an acute overdose of factor Xa inhibitors.

Laboratory monitoring: Routine monitoring of coagulation tests during therapeutic use is not required. In overdose PT/INR, aPTT, TT, and anti-factor Xa activity may be elevated but are unreliable predictors of bleeding risk. When obtaining an anti-factor Xa level the assay needs to be calibrated to the exposure drug. For example, if the patient overdosed on apixaban the anti-factor Xa activity assay needs to be calibrated to apixaban. Other labs to obtain and follow would be liver functions, CBC, and serum creatinine. An accidental double dose of these anticoagulants may or may not prolong or elevate these laboratory tests. These tests in a small overdose may be prolonged or elevated and in a significant overdose they are likely to be prolonged or elevated.

Reversal agents: Idarucizumab or Praxbind[®] is the only agent that has been FDA approved for the reversal of the direct thrombin inhibitor, dabigatran. Reversal agents for the factor Xa inhibitors are currently being investigated and have yet to gain FDA approval.

Treatment: A mainstay of treatment is always good symptomatic and supportive care. Oral activated charcoal may be considered in these patients as long as there are no contraindications to use such as drowsiness or a seizure risk. There are multiple modalities to help in the correction of coagulopathies; however, one must always consider the risk of thrombosis when using these.

For further treatment advice and recommendations in exposed persons please contact the Iowa Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.

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1-800-222-1222

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