



Poison HOTLINE

Partnership between UnityPoint Health and
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics

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Did you know

Citing concerns about acetaminophen (APAP) induced liver injury, the FDA has required all prescription medications containing APAP to limit the amount of APAP in each tablet to 325 mg by January 14, 2014. More than 100 prescription products containing over 325 mg of APAP have been identified by the FDA. In 2012, the brand-name hydrocodone-APAP preparation, Vicodin, released all of their reformulated products which now contain only 300 mg of APAP. Older formulation Vicodin tablets and generic hydrocodone / APAP tablets containing more than 325 mg APAP are still in the supply chain and will likely continue to be available until the end of 2013 or early 2014.

Accidents with Veterinary Vaccines...E-I-E-I-Ouch!

With over 92,000 farms in Iowa, the following is a familiar call to the ISPC: "Old MacDonal accidentally injected himself with a veterinary vaccine while inoculating his _____ (pig, goat, cow, sheep, turkey, horse, chicken, llama, etc). What do I need to do?" The specialist in poison information may refer the patient to the ER for evaluation of potential complications.

Management of a parenteral exposure to a veterinary vaccine includes the following considerations:

- Determining what vaccine(s) were involved, how much (if any) vaccine was injected, and what body part was involved.
- Determining if any physical trauma has occurred.
- Determining if it is a live or a killed vaccine. Killed and inactivated vaccines do not contain infectious bacteria or viruses, and these vaccines cannot transmit the disease for which the animal was being vaccinated. Contact the ISPC for specific information if a live vaccine has been involved since some live vaccines can cause active disease in the person injected with the vaccine.
- Determining what else is in the vaccine. If the vaccine is formulated in an *oil-based emulsion*, the patient should be promptly evaluated for vasospasm and development of compartment syndrome. The oil is an irritant in the tissues and may also cause chronic inflammation and granuloma formation. An orthopedic consult is recommended. Vaccines containing *alum* or *aluminum hydroxide* may cause an intense inflammatory reaction and significant pain.
- Various preservatives, antibiotics, and possibly egg proteins can be found in vaccines, causing allergic reactions in some sensitive individual.
- The majority of times, the needle is a dirty needle and has been used repeatedly on multiple animals. Tetanus prophylaxis, wound care and possible antibiotics should be considered for these individuals.

The ISPC is readily available to assist health care providers with such veterinary vaccine exposures by calling **1-800-222-1222**.

*Tammy Noble RN, BSN, CSPI
Certified Specialist in Poison Information*

**POISON
Help**
1-800-222-1222

Post and share this edition of **Poison Hotline** with your colleagues. Send comments or questions to Poison Hotline, 712-234-8775 (fax) or Tammy.Noble@UnityPoint.org. To subscribe or unsubscribe from this distribution list, contact the Iowa Poison Center education office at 712-279-3717. Read past issues of **Poison Hotline** at www.iowapoison.org.