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Common toxicological syndromes and therapeutic interventions

Toxicology and identification of common syndromes plays a significant role in therapeutics. This is not limited to toxic substances and includes drug overdose, toxicity with drugs having a narrow therapeutic index, drugs of abuse, and other hazardous substances. While management of adverse effects include common approaches such as ionized diuresis, airway, breathing and circulation support, gastric lavage and hemodialysis, specific antidotes play a significant role. Identification of the offending agent is crucial which then determines management with an antidote and also symptomatic management. Antidotes do not exist for all toxic substances. Also of concern are substances that may have carcinogenic and teratogenic effects. Toxicology therefore involves the knowledge and practice of life saving modalities and therapeutic interventions that eradicate or reduce the levels of toxic substances. These interventions also have to take into account substances that produce delayed toxicity. Multi-organ involvement needs to be considered while coma and death often occurs due to cardiac, respiratory and renal failure, severe CNS depression and also vascular collapse. This presentation addresses common syndromes and therapeutic interventions and likely outcomes.

Biography

Bimal Roy Krishna is currently Professor and Director of Pharmacology at the College of Osteopathic Medicine, Touro University in Nevada. He obtained a Bachelor of Science (First Class Honors) in Pharmacology and Physiology and a Doctor of Philosophy, Medicine (OB/GYN/Pharmacology) from Monash University in Australia. Dr. Krishna also teaches for the Step 1 USMLE and COMLEX reviews for Kaplan Medical throughout the United States and in UAE, Europe, Saudi Arabia, India, Mexico and the Caribbean. He has been teaching online for Kaplan University for over 7 years. He has contributed to numerous publications and is a member of a number of organizations including Fellow-American College of Clinical Pharmacology.