



# Overdose Toxidromes

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Health Sciences North  
April 17, 2017

# + Learning Objectives

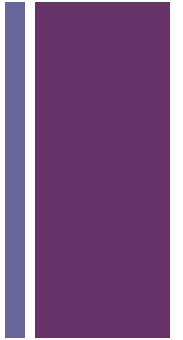
- To review antidote kit stock including indications for use, dosing & administration, and mechanisms of action
- To apply concepts to a clinical case





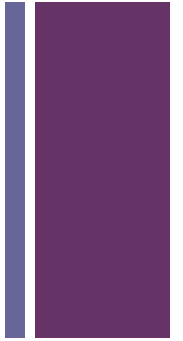
+ Case Study

# + Meet Patient OD



- 63 year old female found by husband in home with empty pill bottles of **citalopram** (180 mg), **hydrochlorothiazide** (375 mg), **zopiclone** (105 mg), and **acetaminophen**
- Also took husband's medications, **bisoprolol** and **amlodipine**

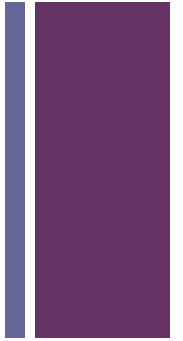
# + Meet Patient OD



## Past Medical History:

- Previous overdose attempt (March 2017)
- Advanced adjustment disorder with depressed mood
- Chronic pain
- Generalized anxiety disorder
- Hypothyroidism

# + Meet Patient OD



## Relevant Labs/Investigations:

- HR= 35 bpm in junctional escape rhythm
- Na= 132 mmol/L
- K= 5.1 mmol/L
- Cl =99 mmol/L
- SCr = 133  $\mu$ mol/L
- AST = 118 U/L
- ALT = 31 U/L
- Acetaminophen level = 645  $\mu$ mol/L



+ Antidote Kit

# + Taking Stock...

## Antidote Kit

- Acetylcysteine
- Atropine
- Calcium Chloride
- Calcium Gluconate
- Cyanide Kit
- Deferoxamine
- Dimercaprol
- Ethyl Alcohol
- Flumazenil
- Fomepizole

- Glucagon
- Lipid Kit
- Methylene Blue
- Naloxone
- Pralidoxime
- Pyridoxine
- Sodium Bicarbonate

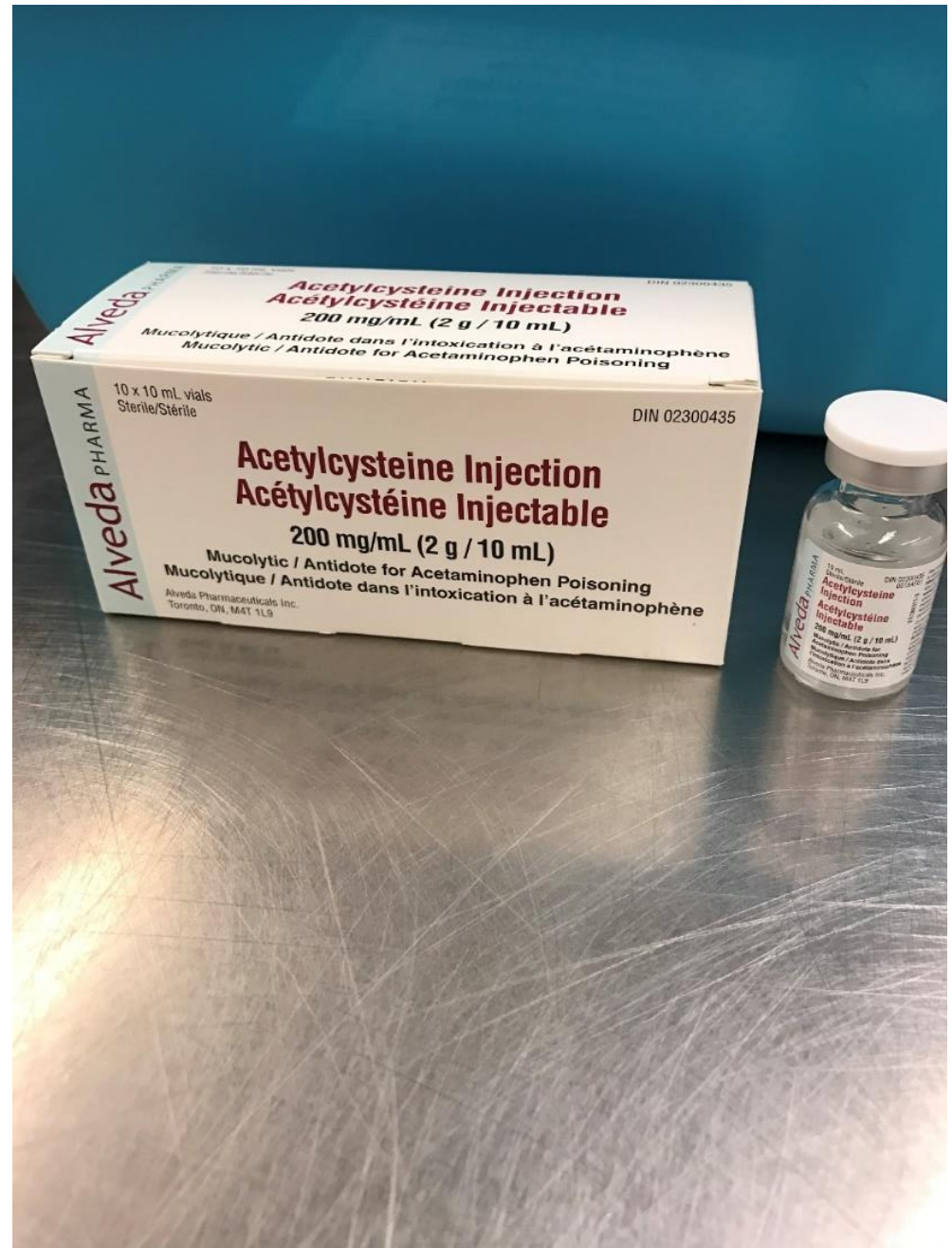
## ER Fridge

- Digoxin Immune Fab
- Octreotide





# Acetylcysteine



# + Acetylcysteine<sup>1,2</sup>



- **Toxin:** Acetaminophen

- **Dosing & Administration:**

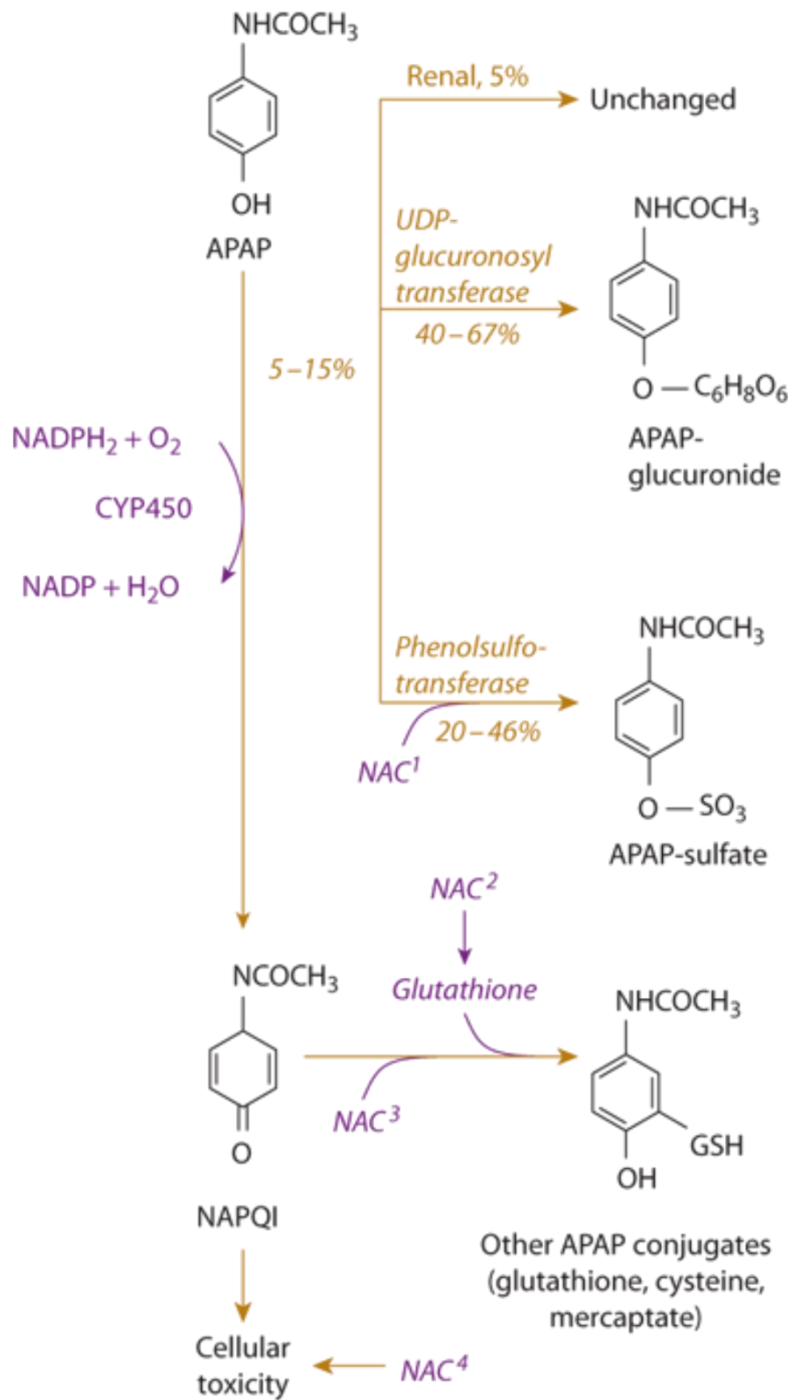
- *21-hour IV Protocol:* 150 mg/kg in 200 mL D5W over 60 minutes, then 50 mg/kg in 500 mL D5W over 4 hours, followed by 100 mg/kg in 1000 mL D5W over 16 hours
- Total dose = 300 mg/kg over 21 hours

- **MOA:**

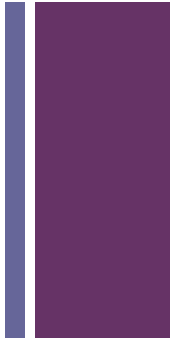
- Augments glutathione reserves depleted by the metabolism of acetaminophen

- **Onset:**

- Immediate



# + Acetylcysteine<sup>2</sup>



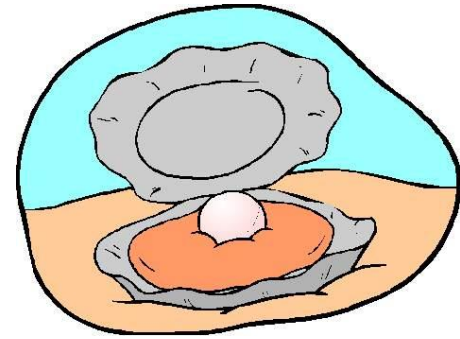
## ■ **Monitoring:**

- Serum acetaminophen levels, AST, ALT, bilirubin, PT, INR, serum creatinine, BUN, serum glucose, hemoglobin, hematocrit, and electrolytes
- Obtain first acetaminophen level 4 hours post-ingestion
- Reassess LFTs for possible hepatotoxicity every 4-6 hours



# Acetylcysteine<sup>1,2</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



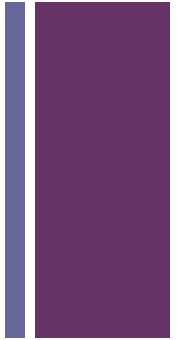
- Best results if given within 8-10 hours of overdose (but may be started within 24 hours)
- Infusing the initial dose of 150 mg/kg over a period of 60 minutes reduces risk of anaphylactoid reactions



# Ethanol



# + Ethanol<sup>1,3</sup>



- **Toxin:** Methanol (windshield washer fluid), ethylene glycol (antifreeze)
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - A loading dose is calculated so as to give a blood level of at least 100 mg/dL or 22 mmol/L (42 g/70 kg in adults)
  - 100% ethanol should NOT be used for parenteral administration unless appropriately diluted in NS, D5W, or dextrose-saline to get a **final concentration of 10% v/v**
  - Dehydrated alcohol 100% v/v = 78.9 g/100 mL (or 78.9% w/v)

# + Ethanol<sup>1</sup>

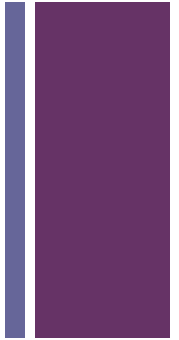
	<u>Amount of ethanol</u>	<u>Volume of 10% v/v ethanol</u>
<b>Loading dose (over 30 minutes) *</b>	600-800 mg/kg	7.6-10.1 mL/kg
<b>Maintenance dose</b>		
• non-drinker	66 mg/kg/hr	0.8 mL/kg/hr
• moderate drinker	110 mg/kg/hr	1.4 mL/kg/hr
• ethanol abuser	154 mg/kg/hr	2 mL/kg/hr
<b>During hemodialysis</b>		
• non-drinker	169 mg/kg/hr	2.1 mL/kg/hr
• moderate drinker	213 mg/kg/hr	2.7 mL/kg/hr
• ethanol abuser	257 mg/kg/hr	3.3 mL/kg/hr

\* assuming initial ethanol concentration is zero.

- Doses given above are only guidelines; administration should be adjusted according to blood alcohol levels



# + Ethanol<sup>1,3</sup>



## ■ MOA:

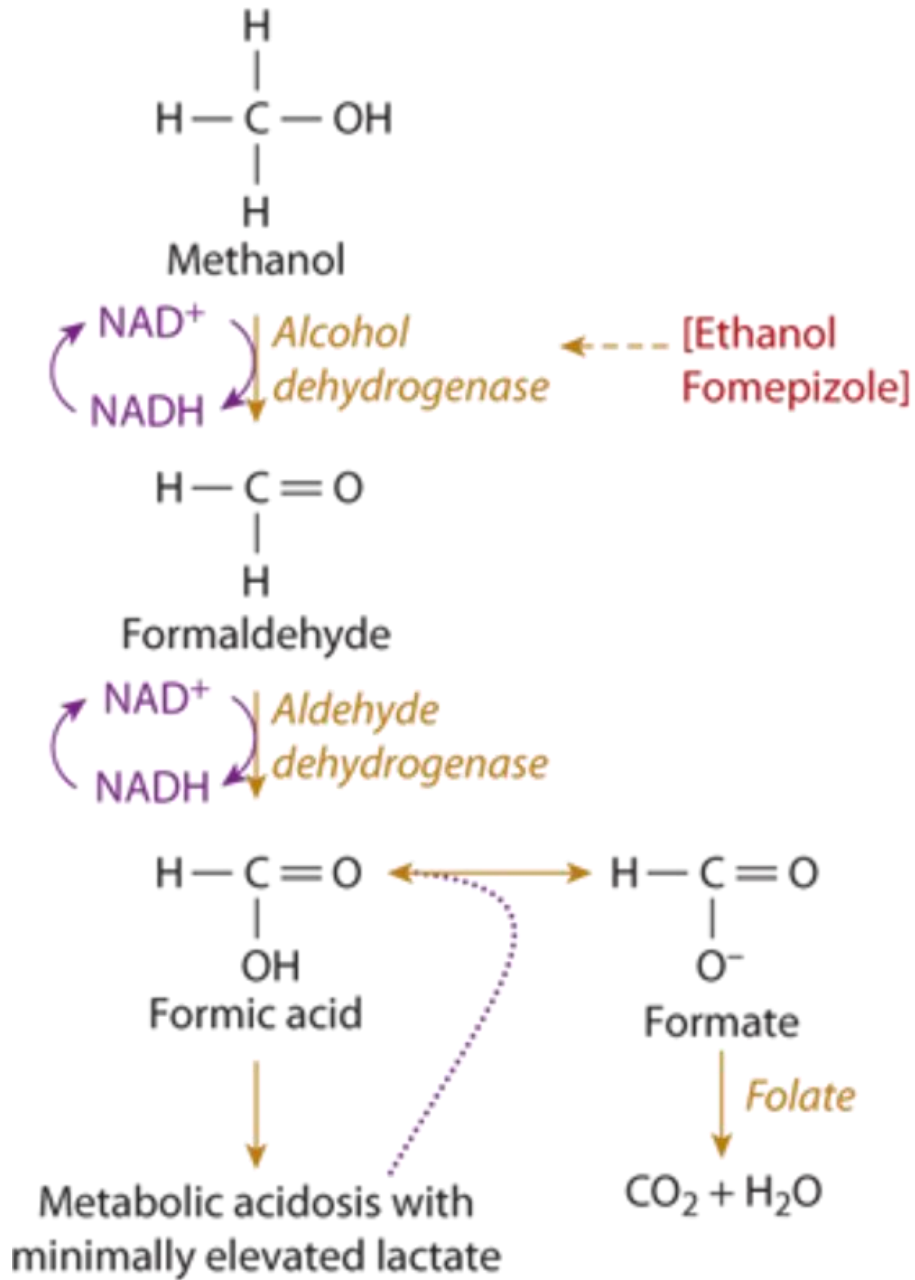
- Outcompetes methanol for alcohol dehydrogenase

## ■ Onset:

- Rapid

## ■ Monitoring:

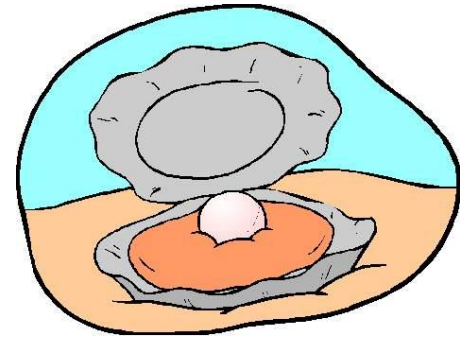
- Electrolytes (including serum magnesium), arterial pH, blood gases, HR, BP
- Monitor blood glucose and blood alcohol concentrations (aim 22-28 mmol/L) during therapy
- Continue therapy until methanol or ethylene glycol levels are undetectable





# Ethanol<sup>1,3</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



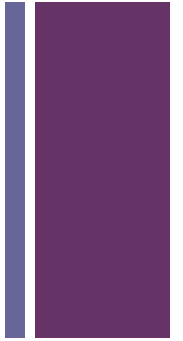
- Difficult to obtain, dose, and monitor levels; associated with multiple negative side effects if utilized
- No benefit to adding ethanol therapy to fomepizole therapy in methanol and ethylene glycol-poisoned patients



# Fomepizole

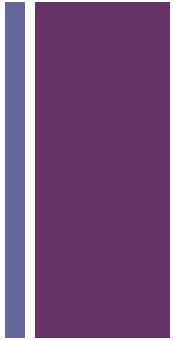


# + Fomepizole<sup>1,4</sup>



- **Toxins:** Methanol, ethylene glycol
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - Loading dose 15 mg/kg IV; followed by maintenance doses of 10 mg/kg Q12H for 4 doses
  - If therapy is still needed beyond 48 hours, continue infusion with 15 mg/kg IV Q12H until ethylene glycol or methanol levels are undetectable or below 3.2 mmol/L and 6 mmol/L, respectively
- **MOA:**
  - Competitively inhibits alcohol dehydrogenase

# + Fomepizole<sup>1,4</sup>



## ■ Onset:

- Immediate

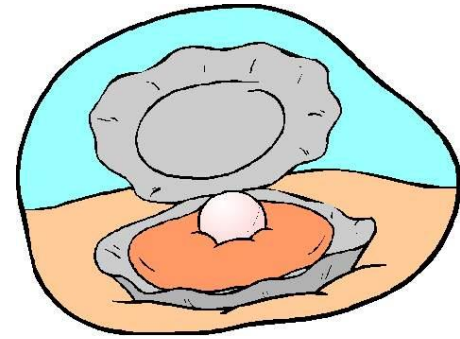
## ■ Monitoring:

- Resolution of clinical signs and symptoms of ethylene glycol or methanol intoxication
- Plasma/urinary ethylene glycol or methanol levels, urinary oxalate (ethylene glycol), plasma/urinary osmolality
- Renal/hepatic function
- Serum electrolytes and ABGs
- Ideally, fomepizole plasma concentrations should be monitored (generally not available)



# Fomepizole<sup>1,4</sup>

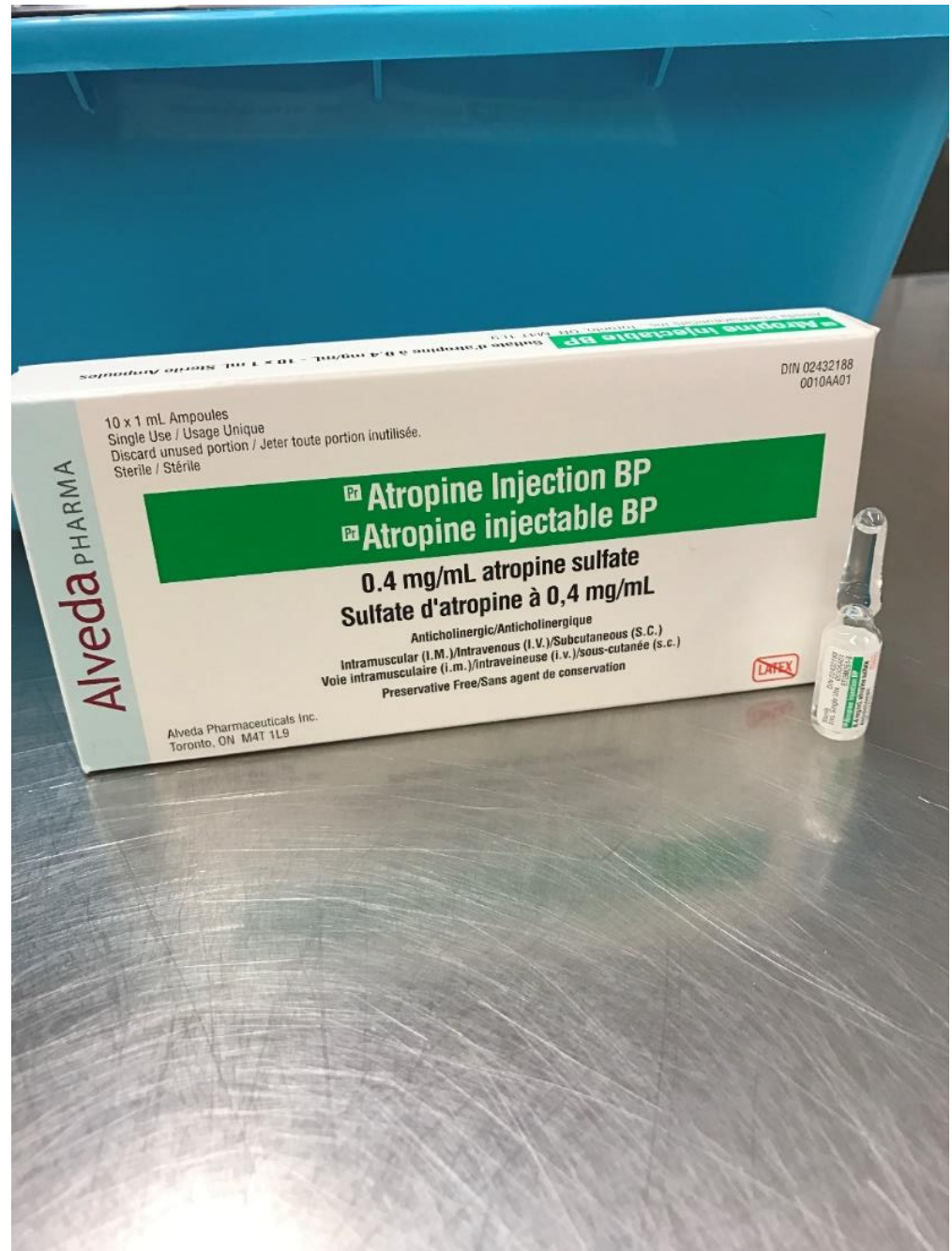
## Clinical Pearls



- More convenient and easier to use than ethanol
- Requires dose increase on fifth maintenance dose due to auto-induced metabolism
- Undiluted fomepizole solidifies at temperatures below 25°C
  - Liquefy by warming
  - Solidification does not affect the stability

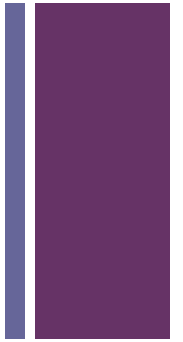


# Atropine



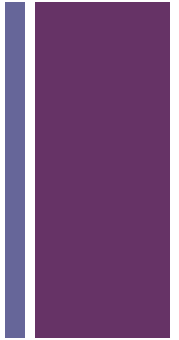


# + Atropine<sup>1,5,6</sup>



- **Toxins:** Organophosphates and carbamates pesticides, nerve agents, drug/toxin-induced bradycardia
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - *Pesticide Poisoning:* 1-2 mg IV/IM repeated Q5-60min PRN (in severe cases: 2-6 mg , repeated Q5-60min PRN)
  - *Nerve Gas Exposure:* 2-6 mg IV/IM repeated Q5-10min until secretions are minimal, the skin is dry and ventilation is adequate
  - *Bradycardia:* 0.5-1 mg IV, repeated Q3-5min up to a total dose of 3 mg or 0.04 mg/kg, whichever is less

# + Atropine<sup>1,5,6</sup>



## ■ MOA:

- Decreases action of the parasympathetic nervous system increasing conduction velocity (dromotropy) and HR (chronotropy)
- Enhances conduction through the AV junction

## ■ Onset:

- IV: Immediate; IM: Within 15-30 min

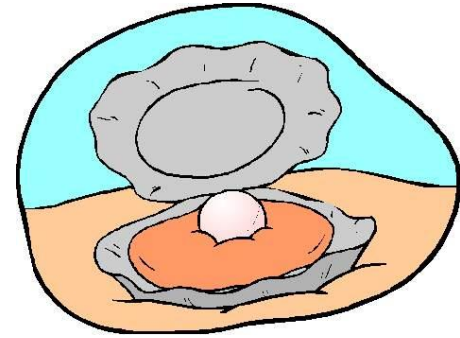
## ■ Monitoring:

- HR, BP, pulse, mental status
- IV dosing requires continuous ECG monitoring
- Observe for signs of urinary retention

+

# Atropine<sup>1,5,6</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



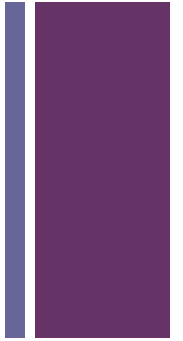
- Should still be considered as initial treatment for symptomatic bradycardia, but failure with this drug may be expected
- Transplanted hearts will not respond to atropine



# Pralidoxime

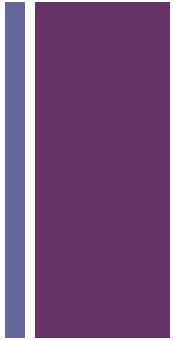


# + Pralidoxime<sup>1,7</sup>



- **Toxin:** Organophosphate pesticides, anticholinesterase agents used in the treatment of myasthenia gravis (i.e. neostigmine, pyridostigmine), nerve agents
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - *Pesticide Poisoning:* 1-2 g IV, IM, or SC (may repeat in 60 minutes PRN). Alternatively, a continuous IV infusion of 500 mg/hr.
  - *Anticholinesterase Overdose:* 1-2 g IV followed by 250 mg IV Q5min PRN.
  - *Nerve Gas Exposure:* 1-2 g IV/IM/SC. Repeat in 60 minutes PRN.

# + Pralidoxime<sup>1,7</sup>



## ■ MOA:

- Reactivates cholinesterase which have been inactivated by organophosphate pesticides and related compounds

## ■ Onset:

- IV: 5 to 15 minutes; IM: 35 minutes

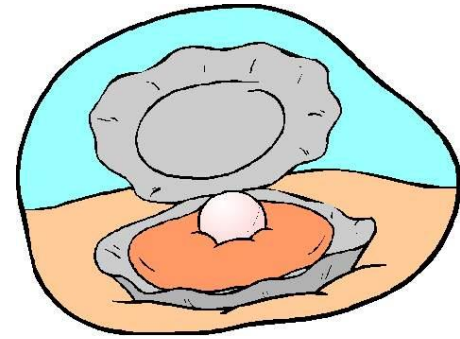
## ■ Monitoring:

- Vital signs, BP, and respiratory status
- Continuous ECG and hemodynamic monitoring is necessary
- With organophosphate poisoning or anticholinesterase overdose, monitor closely for muscle weakness or twitching, reduction in respiratory function, or altered consciousness



# Pralidoxime<sup>1,7</sup>

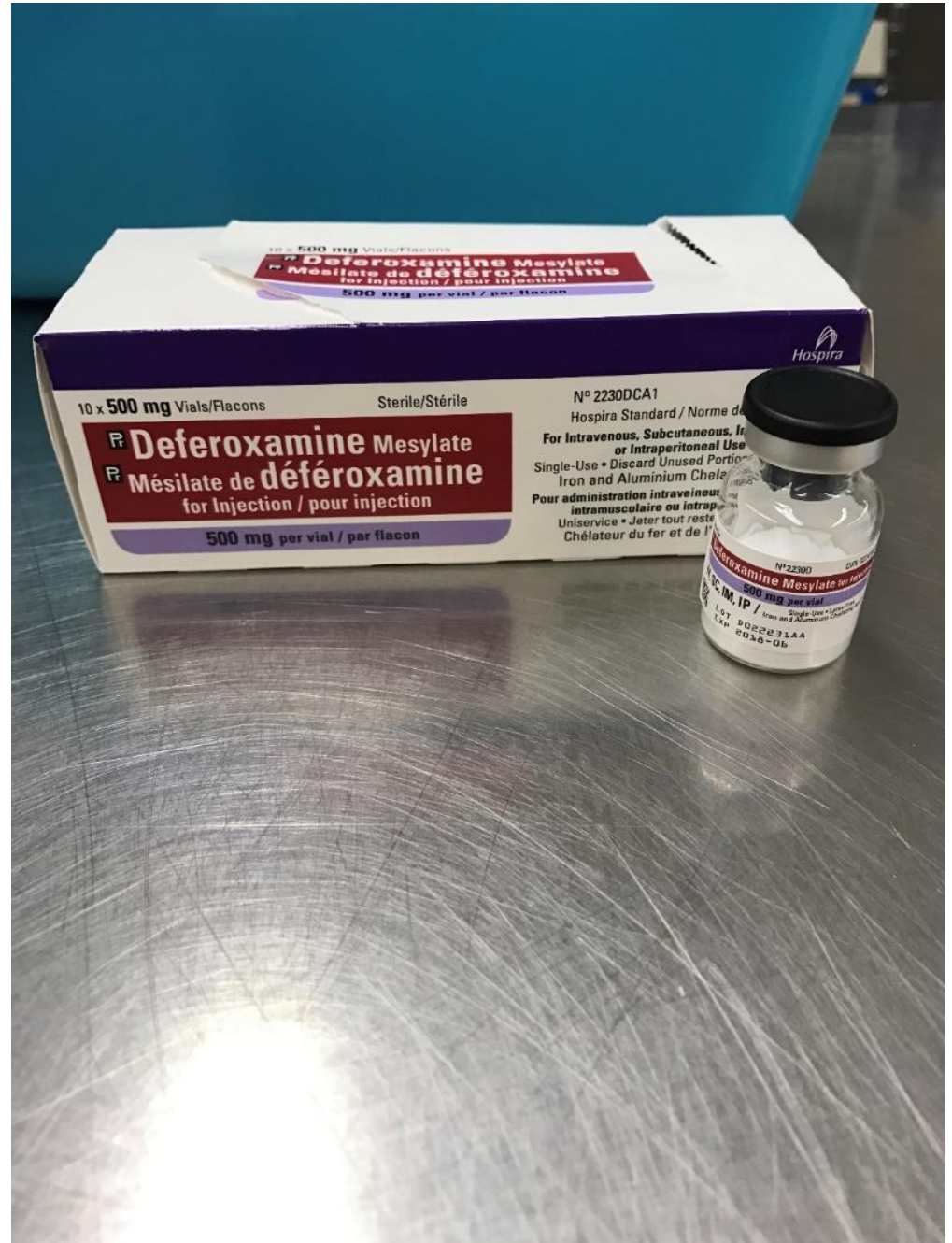
## Clinical Pearls



- No proven benefit in carbamate poisoning
- Reduce dose in renal dysfunction
- Use with atropine in most cases of organophosphate poisoning
  - Atropine administered before pralidoxime
- Patient exposed 2-6 days ago may benefit from treatment

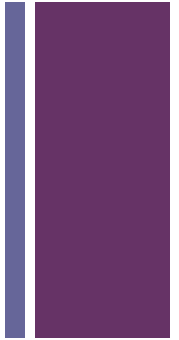


# Deferoxamine





# + Deferoxamine<sup>1,8</sup>



- **Toxin:** Iron salts (acute)
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 1 g **IM/IV** followed by 500 mg at 4-hour intervals for 2 doses. Depending on clinical response, subsequent doses of 500 mg may be administered Q4-12H. Maximum dose: 6 g/day.
  - 100 mg of desferoxamine binds 8.5 mg of iron (as the ferric ion)
- **MOA:**
  - Chelating agent that binds free iron creating ferrioxamine which is excreted in the urine

# + Deferoxamine<sup>1,8</sup>



- **Onset:**

- Rapid

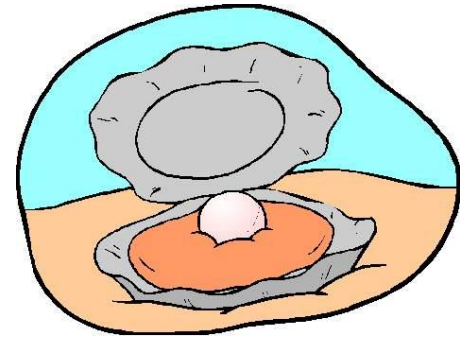
- **Monitoring:**

- BP, serum iron, ferritin, TIBC, CBC with differential, serum creatinine, LFTs



# Deferoxamine<sup>1,8</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



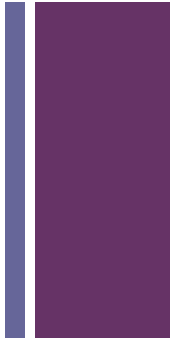
- Not a substitute for standard treatment of iron intoxication
- Urine may become pink
- Deferoxamine challenge test no longer advocated as a method to confirm the ingestion of a toxic iron dose
- Use greater than 24 h has been associated with acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)



# Dimercaprol

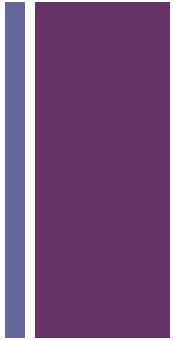


# + Dimercaprol<sup>9</sup>



- **Toxins:** Arsenic, gold, mercury, lead
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - *Arsenic or Gold Poisoning (Mild):* Deep IM: 2.5 mg/kg every 6 hours for 2 days, then every 12 hours for 1 day, followed by once daily for 10 days
  - *Arsenic or Gold Poisoning (Severe):* Deep IM: 3 mg/kg every 4 hours for 2 days, then every 6 hours for 1 day, followed every 12 hours for 10 days
  - *Mercury Poisoning:* Deep IM: 5 mg/kg initially, followed by 2.5 mg/kg 1-2 times/day for 10 days
  - *Lead Poisoning:* Deep IM: 4 mg/kg every 4 hours for 2-7 days

# + Dimercaprol<sup>9</sup>



## ■ MOA:

- Sulfhydryl group combines with ions of various heavy metals to form nontoxic, soluble chelates which are excreted in urine

## ■ Onset:

- 30 minutes

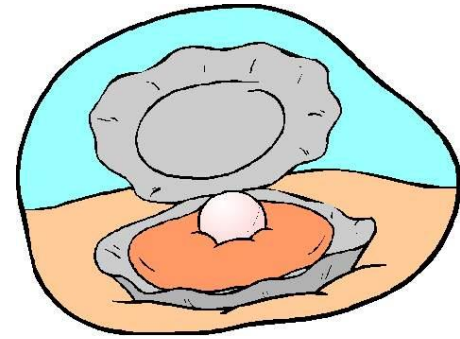
## ■ Monitoring:

- Renal function, urine pH, infusion-related reactions
- *Arsenic Poisoning*: Urine arsenic concentration
- *Lead Poisoning*: Blood lead levels (baseline and 7-21 days after completing therapy); hemoglobin, iron status



# Dimercaprol<sup>9</sup>

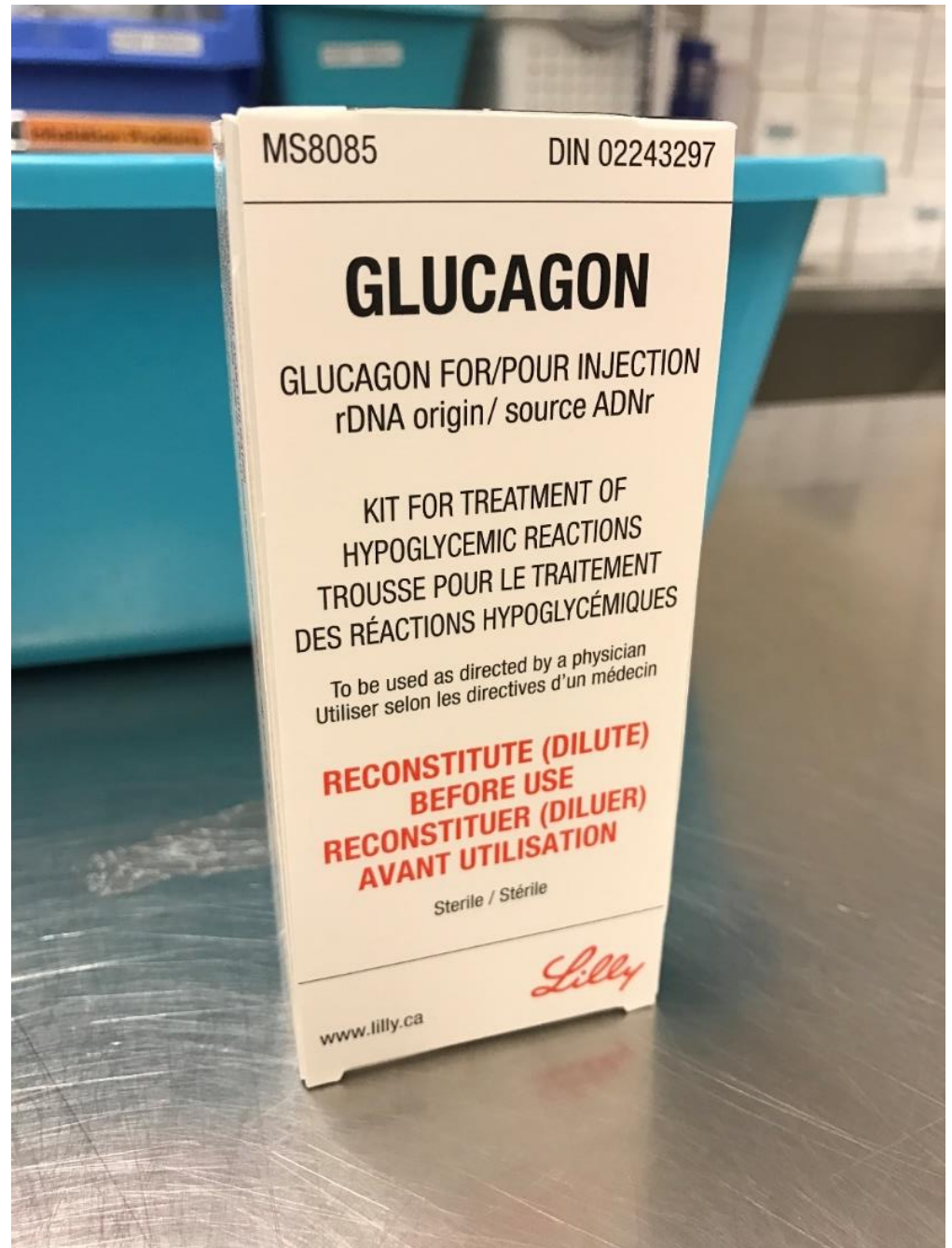
## Clinical Pearls



- Premedication with a histamine H<sub>1</sub> antagonist (eg, diphenhydramine) is recommended
- Administer all injections deep IM at different sites; **not** for IV administration
- Not indicated for treatment of iron, cadmium, or selenium poisoning
  - Use may result in the production of a toxic dimercaprol-metal complex

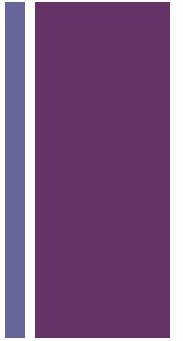


# Glucagon





# + Glucagon<sup>1,10,11</sup>



- **Toxins:**  $\beta$  blockers, calcium channel blockers
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 3-10 mg IV over 3-5 minutes
  - Follow with a continuous infusion of 1-5 mg/hr (maximum: 10 mg/hour)
  - May require up to 50 mg over a 24-hour period

# + Glucagon<sup>1,10,11</sup>



- **MOA:**

- Possesses inotropic and chronotropic actions

- **Onset:**

- 10-15 minutes

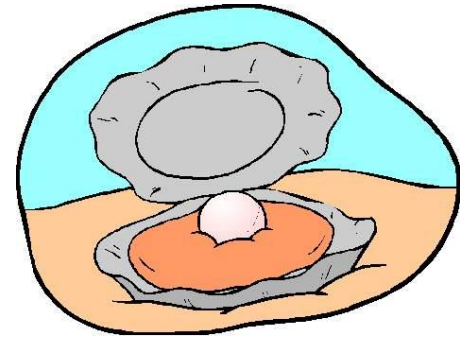
- **Monitoring:**

- Blood glucose levels, BP, HR, ECG, signs or symptoms of a hypersensitivity reaction



# Glucagon<sup>1,10,11</sup>

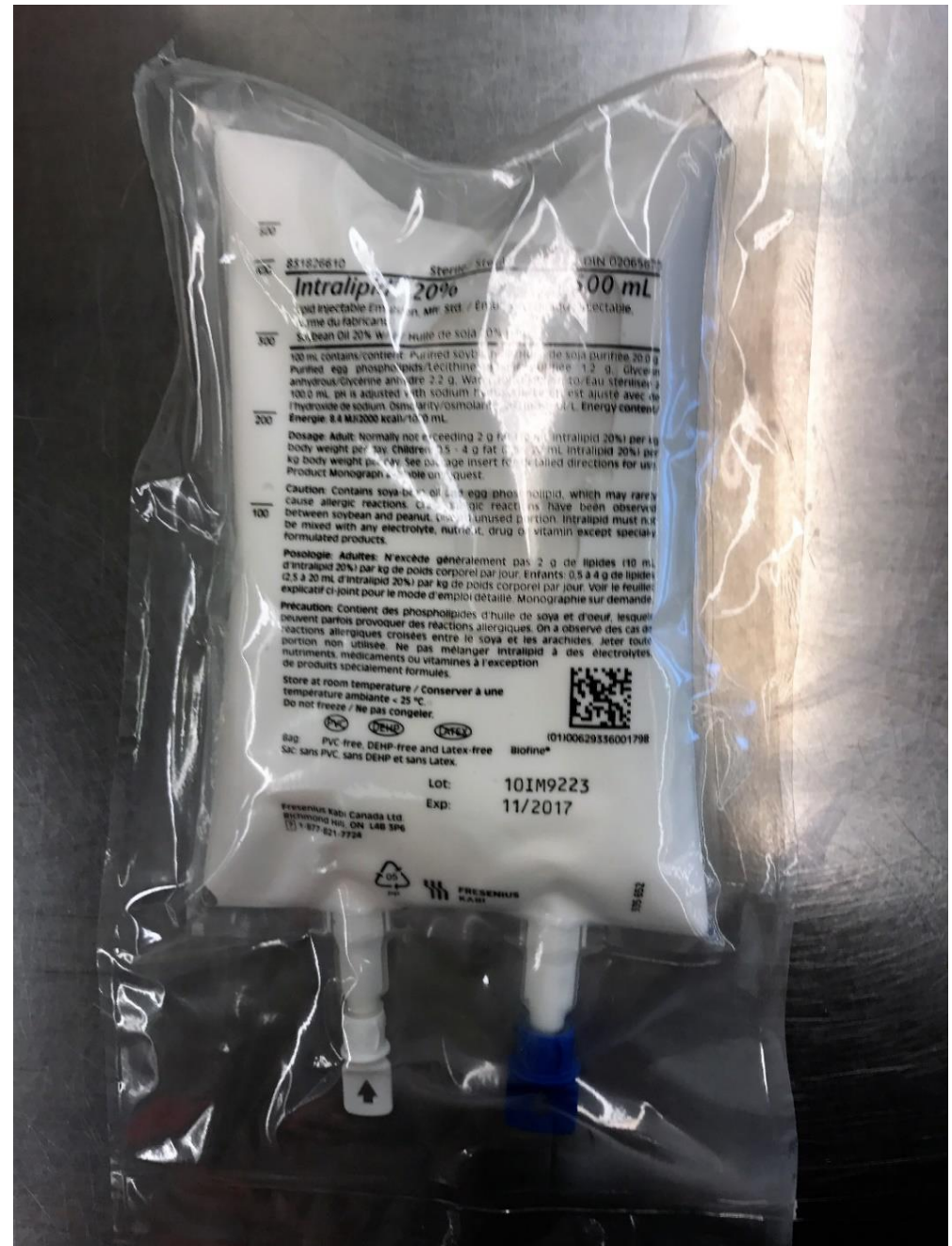
## Clinical Pearls



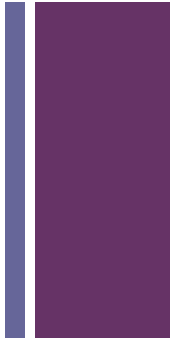
- Nausea and vomiting common; caution in patients with decreased LOC and unprotected airway
- Variable effects reported with CCB overdoses
  - Offers no pharmacologic advantage over alternative agents



## Lipid Kit

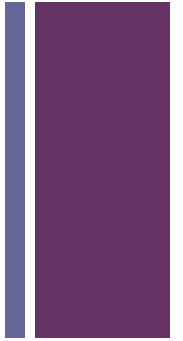


# + Lipid Kit<sup>1,12</sup>



- **Toxins:** Lipid-soluble cardiotoxic medications (local anesthetics,  $\beta$  blockers, CCBs, TCAs)
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 1.5 mL/kg as an initial IV bolus over 1 minute, followed by a continuous infusion of 0.25 mL/kg/min IV for 30-60 minutes
  - May repeat bolus once or twice in patients with persistent cardiovascular collapse
  - May increase rate of the continuous infusion to 0.5 mL/kg/min if BP decreases; continue the infusion for at least 10 minutes after hemodynamic stability has been attained
  - Maximum of 10 mL/kg over the first 30 minutes

# + Lipid Kit<sup>1,12</sup>



## ■ MOA:

- Exogenous lipids provide an alternative source of binding of lipid-soluble drugs, commonly known as the "lipid sink" effect
- Fatty acids provide the myocardium with a ready energy source, thereby improving cardiac function

## ■ Onset:

- 3-5 minutes

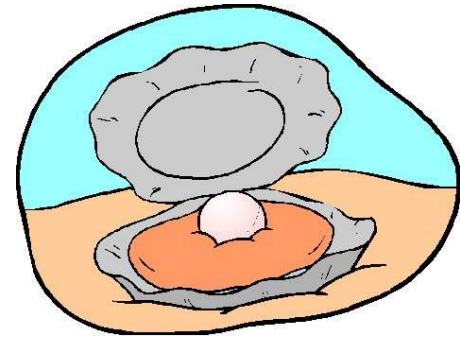
## ■ Monitoring:

- BP, HR, and other hemodynamic parameters should be recorded at least Q15min during the infusion



# Lipid Kit<sup>1,12</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



- Where possible, lipid resuscitation therapy should be terminated after 1 hour or less
- Contraindicated in severe egg or legume (soybean) allergies
- High dose epinephrine should be avoided
  - If necessary, use doses  $<1$  mcg/kg
- Collect blood samples for lab values before administration as blood becomes lipemic



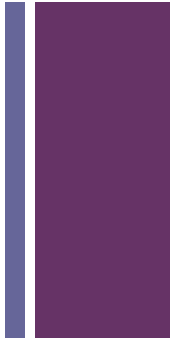
# Calcium Chloride 10%







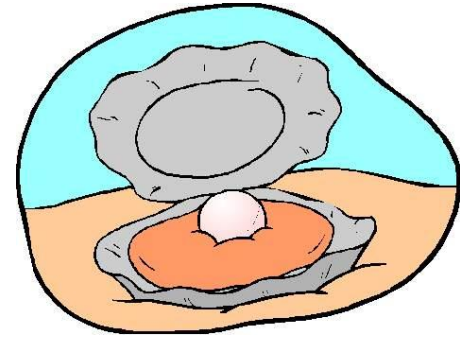
# Calcium Chloride 10%<sup>1,13,14,15</sup>



- **Toxins:** Calcium channel blockers,  $\beta$  blockers
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - Bolus: 10-20 mL (or 1-2 g) Q10-20min PRN; or
  - Infusion: 0.2-0.4 mL/kg/h
- **MOA:**
  - Moderates nerve and muscle performance via AP excitation threshold regulation
- **Onset:**
  - Immediate
- **Monitoring:**
  - Infusion site, ECG, serum calcium and ionized calcium, albumin, serum phosphate, magnesium

# + Calcium Chloride<sup>13</sup>

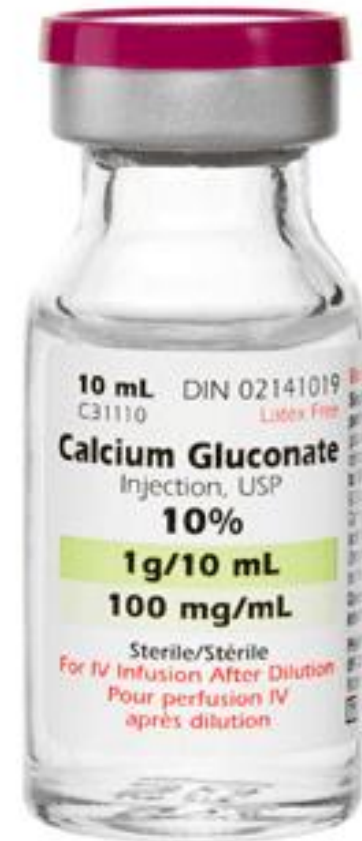
## Clinical Pearls



- Should be given through central IV due to vascular irritating properties
- Tends to improve conduction disturbances more than hypotension in symptomatic CCB toxicity

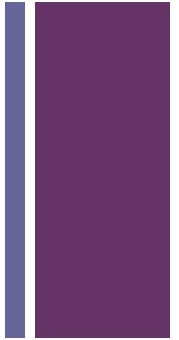


# Calcium Gluconate 10%





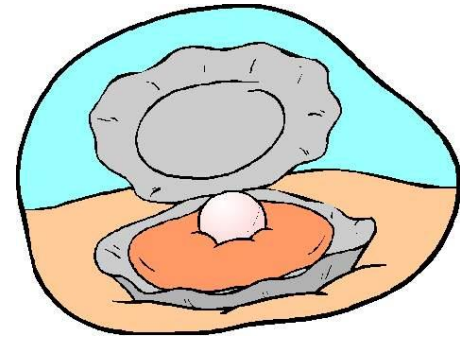
# Calcium Gluconate 10%<sup>1,13,16,17</sup>



- **Toxins:** Calcium channel blockers,  $\beta$  blockers
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - Bolus: 30-60 mL (or 3-6 g) Q10-20min PRN; or
  - Infusion: 0.6-1.2 mL/kg/h
- **MOA:**
  - Moderates nerve and muscle performance via AP excitation threshold regulation
- **Onset:**
  - Immediate
- **Monitoring:**
  - Infusion site, ECG, serum calcium and ionized calcium, albumin, serum phosphate, magnesium

# + Calcium Gluconate<sup>13</sup>

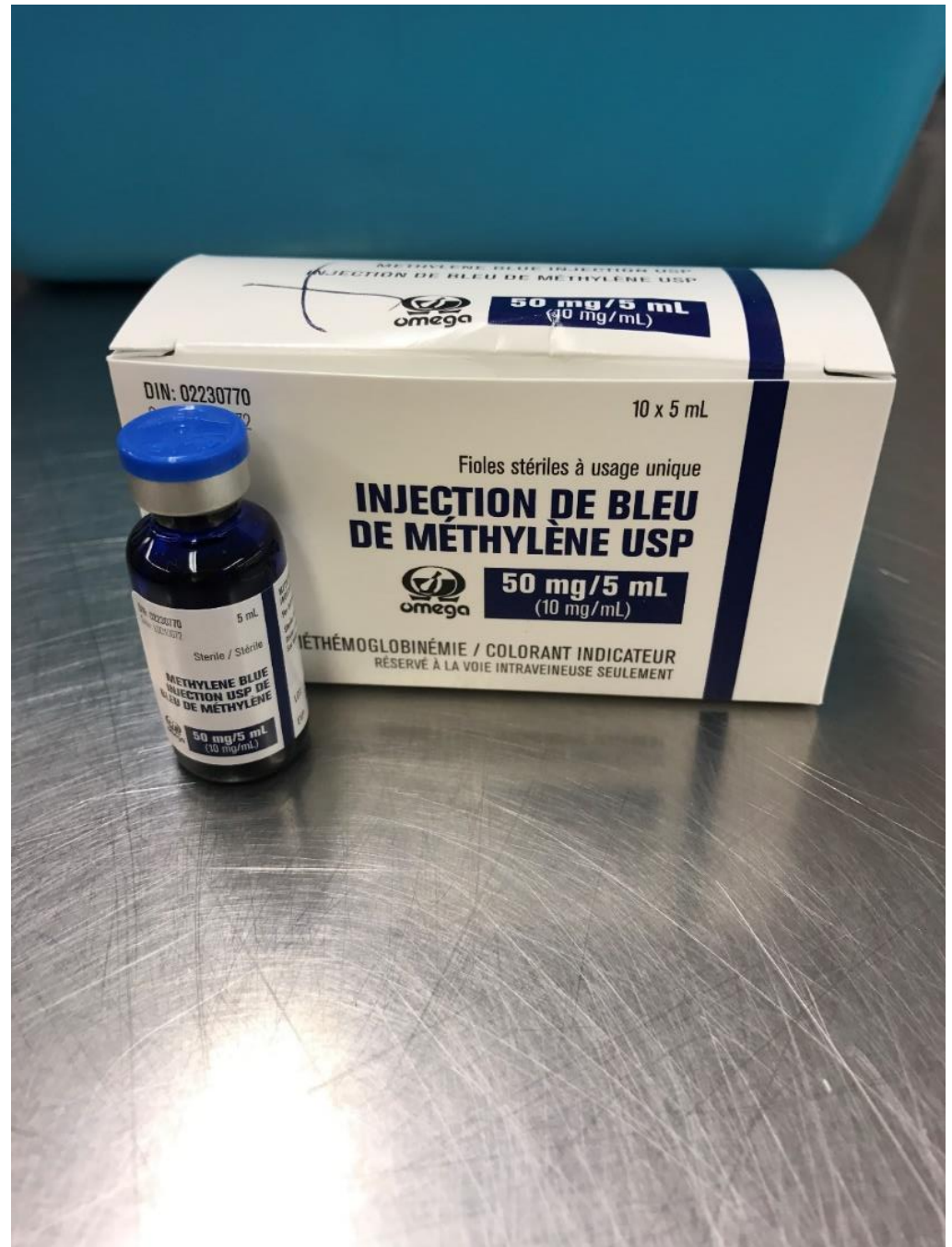
## Clinical Pearls



- Should not be used in critically ill patients or patients in cardiac arrest as it requires metabolism to release calcium salts
- Tends to improve conduction disturbances more than hypotension in symptomatic CCB toxicity



# Methylene Blue

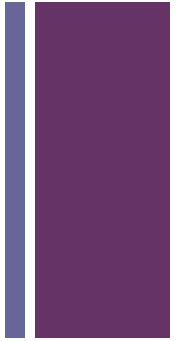


# + Methylene Blue<sup>1,18</sup>



- **Toxin:** Idiopathic/drug-induced methemoglobinemia (i.e. dapsone, topical anesthetics)
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 1 to 2 mg/kg IV over five minutes; the dose may be repeated in one hour PRN
- **MOA:**
  - Provides an artificial electron transporter for the ultimate reduction of methemoglobin

# + Methylene Blue<sup>1,18</sup>



- **Onset:**

- 10-60 minutes

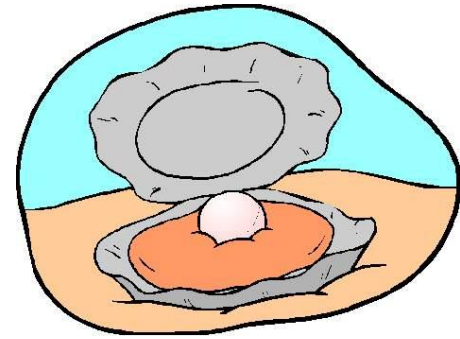
- **Monitoring:**

- Serial measurements of methemoglobin levels following treatment with MB
- Cyanosis



# + Methylene Blue<sup>1,18</sup>

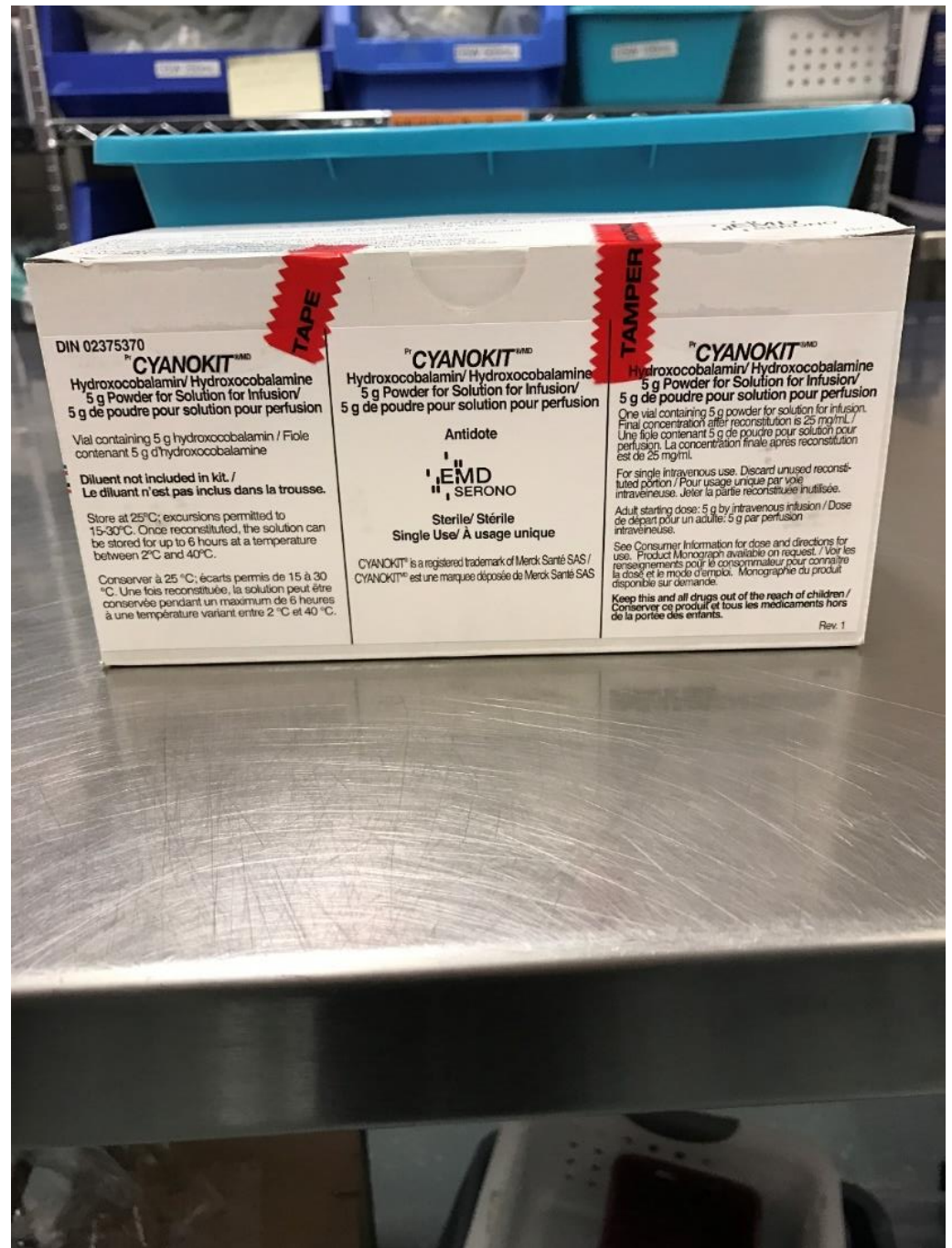
## Clinical Pearls



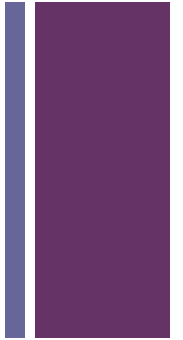
- Contraindicated in patients with G6PD deficiency as hemolysis may result
- If patient is taking drugs with serotonin reuptake inhibition properties, consider stopping them to avoid a serotonin syndrome reaction
- Patients who rapidly improve clinically do not need to have their methemoglobin rechecked
  - Standard pulse oximeter measurements of methemoglobin are unreliable in the presence of MB



# Cyanokit (Hydroxocobalamin)



# + Cyanokit (Hydroxocobalamin)<sup>1,19</sup>



- **Toxins:** Cyanide

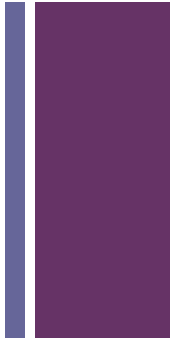
- **Dosing & Administration:**

- 5 g IV, repeat the dose if required. Maximum total dose is 10 g.
- 5 g of hydroxocobalamin neutralizes ~40 micromole/L (1.04 mg/L) of cyanide in the blood

- **MOA:**

- Contains a cobalt moiety that binds to intracellular cyanide forming cyanocobalamin, which is excreted in the urine

# + Cyanokit (Hydroxocobalamin)<sup>1,19</sup>



## ■ Onset:

- 2-15 minutes

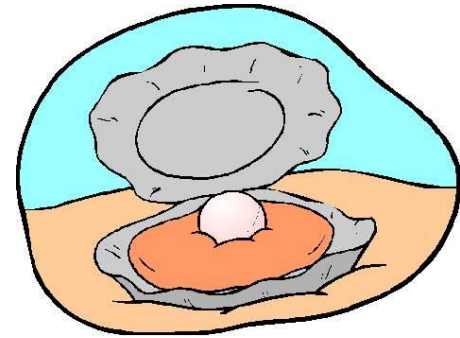
## ■ Monitoring:

- BP and HR during and after infusion, serum lactate levels, venous-arterial PO<sub>2</sub> gradient
- Pretreatment cyanide levels may be useful as post infusion levels may be inaccurate



# Cyanokit (Hydroxocobalamin)<sup>1,19</sup>

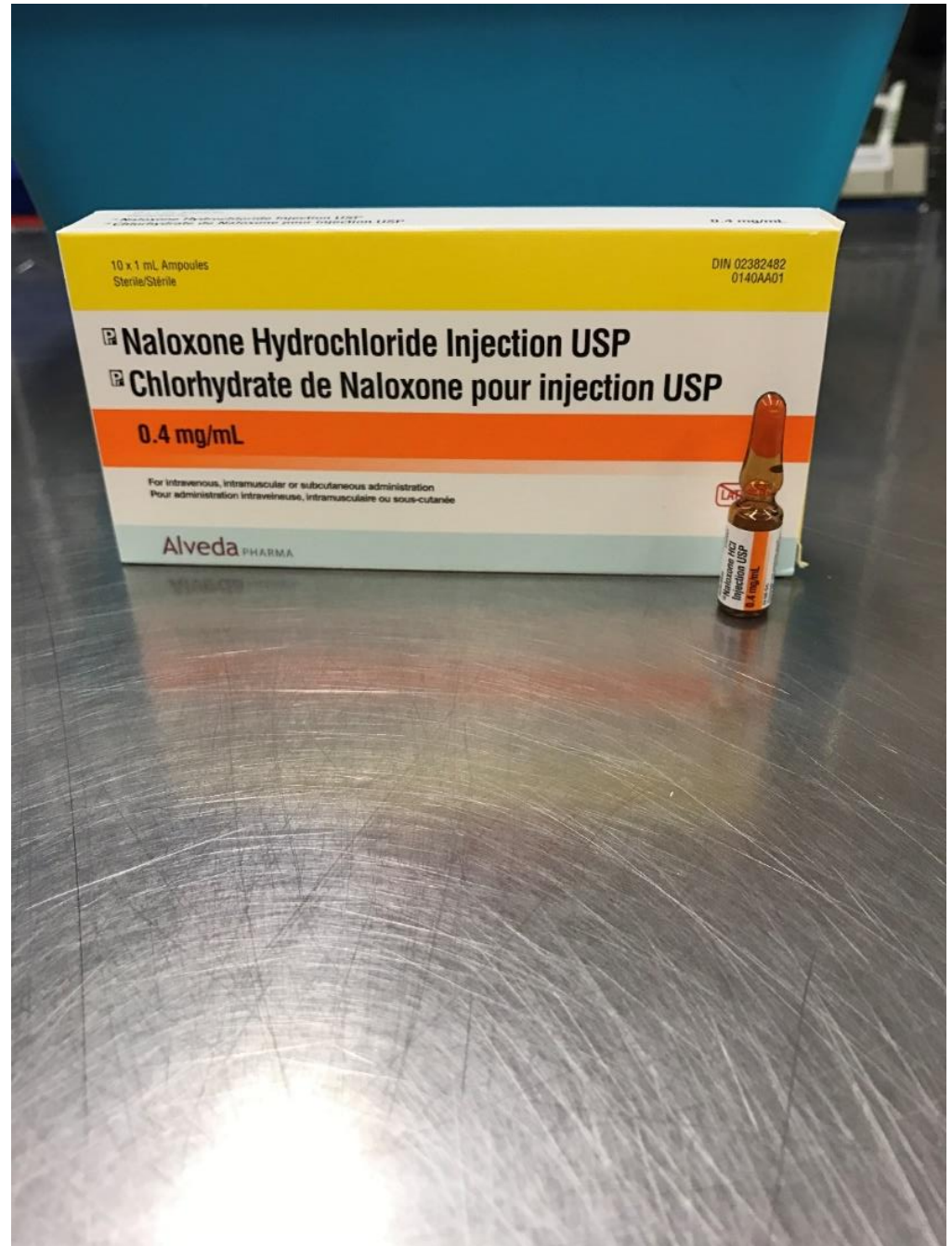
## Clinical Pearls



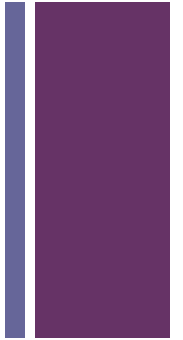
- Deep red colour of hydroxocobalamin interferes with many clinical laboratory tests and possibly HD machines
- May cause reversible red colouration of the skin and mucous membranes that may last up to 15 days & dark red colouration of urine that may last up to 35 days
  - Advise patient to avoid direct sun while skin discoloured



# Naloxone

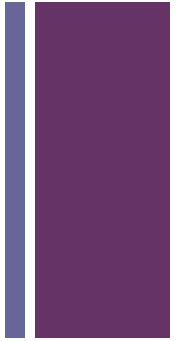


# + Naloxone<sup>1,20,21</sup>



- **Toxins:** Narcotic drugs, other opioid derivatives
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 0.4-2 mg IV initially; repeat as 2-3 minute intervals PRN to a maximum of 10 mg
  - If intermittent IV PRN fails, consider continuous IV infusion initially at 0.4 mg/hr, titrate according to patient response
- **MOA:**
  - A specific antagonist of opioids

# + Naloxone<sup>1,20,21</sup>



- **Onset:**

- 2-10 minutes

- **Monitoring:**

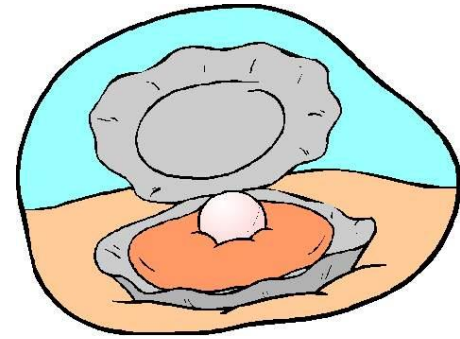
- Assess patient for opioid dependency
- RR, HR, BP, temperature, LOC, ABGs or pulse oximetry





# Naloxone<sup>1,20,21</sup>

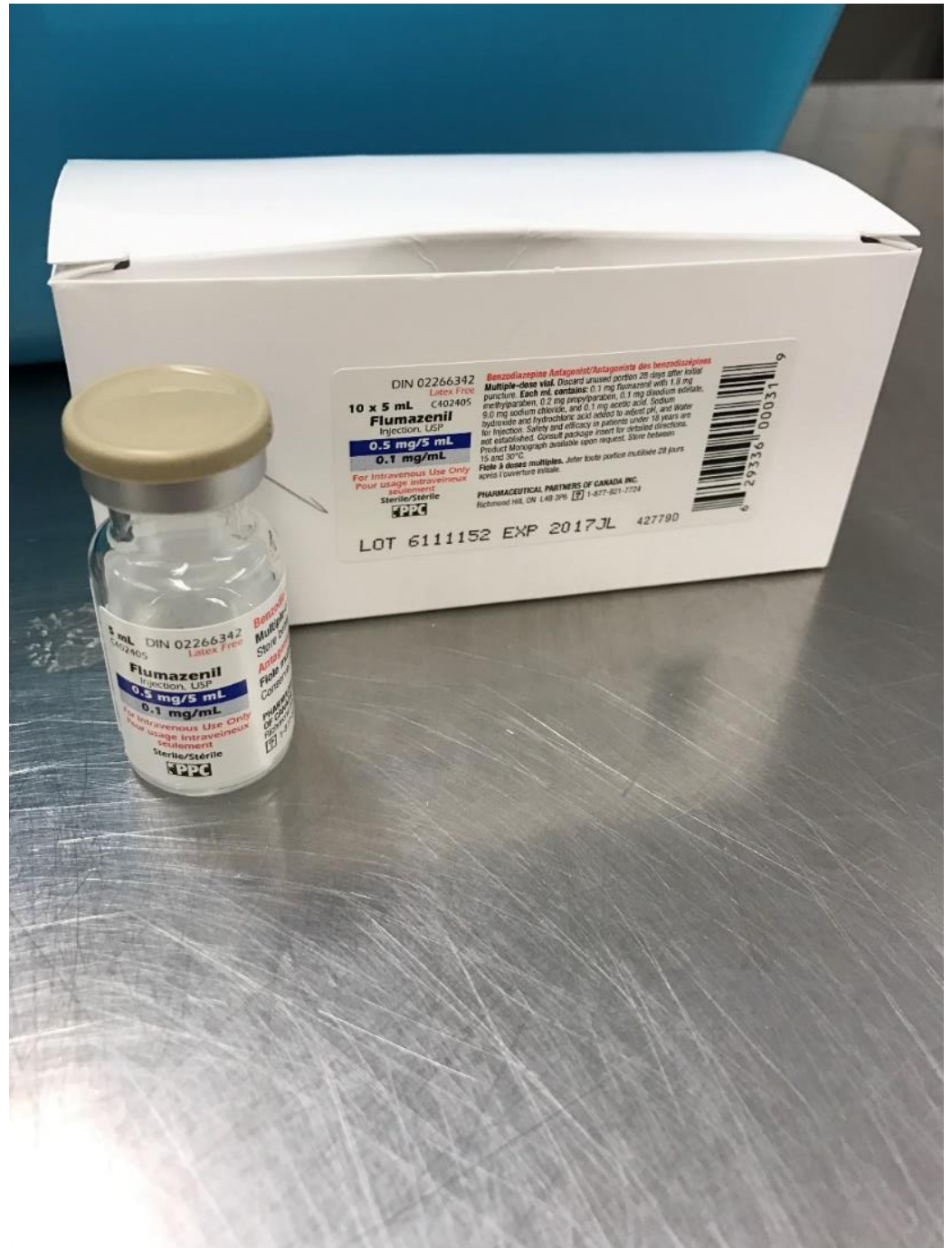
## Clinical Pearls



- Duration of action may be significantly shorter than that of the opioid being antagonized
- Larger doses may be needed to reverse the effects of overdose with fentanyl derivatives

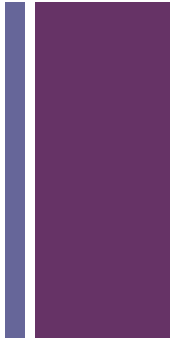


# Flumazenil



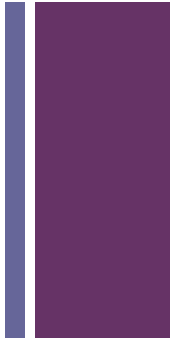


# Flumazenil<sup>1,22,23</sup>



- **Toxin:** Benzodiazepines
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - Initial dose of 0.3 mg IV over 30 seconds followed by additional 0.3 mg injections, each administered over 30 seconds, at 60 second intervals to a maximum total dose of 2 mg
  - If sedation recurs, may use an infusion of 0.1-0.4 mg/hr

# + Flumazenil<sup>1,22,23</sup>



- **MOA:**

- Competitively inhibits the activity at the benzodiazepine receptor site on the GABA/benzodiazepine receptor complex

- **Onset:**

- 1-2 minutes; 80% response within 3 minutes

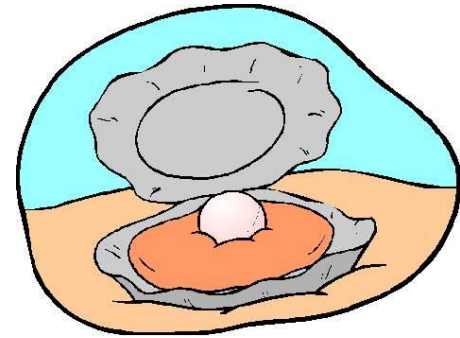
- **Monitoring:**

- Resedation, respiratory depression, seizure activity, HR, BP



# Flumazenil<sup>1,22,23</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



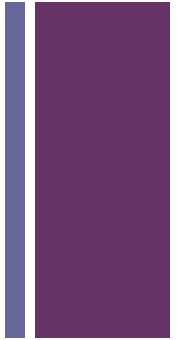
- Do not give to patients with seizures, benzodiazepine dependence, or tricyclic overdose
- As flumazenil has a short duration of action, patients should be monitored for 2 or more hours for recurrence of sedation after injection
- Although flumazenil can reverse benzodiazepine-induced sedation, it has variable effects on benzodiazepine-induced respiratory depression



# Pyridoxine



# + Pyridoxine<sup>1,24</sup>



- **Toxin:** Isoniazid, hydrazines

- **Dosing & Administration:**

- *Isoniazid overdose:* Dose equal to amount of isoniazid ingested; 1-4 g IV followed by 1 g IM Q30min until entire dose given
- *Hydrazine overdose:* 25 mg/kg; give 1/3 dose IM and rest by IV infusion over 3 hours

- **MOA:**

- Isoniazid and hydrazines are associated with vitamin B6 deficiency because they interfere with pyridoxine metabolism

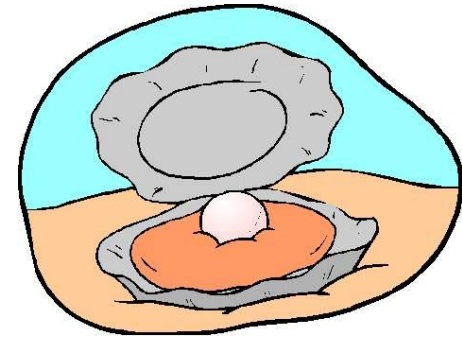
- **Monitoring:**

- BP, HR, RR
- Anion gap, ABGs, electrolytes, neurological exam, seizure activity for isoniazid toxicity



# Pyridoxine<sup>1,24</sup>

## Clinical Pearls

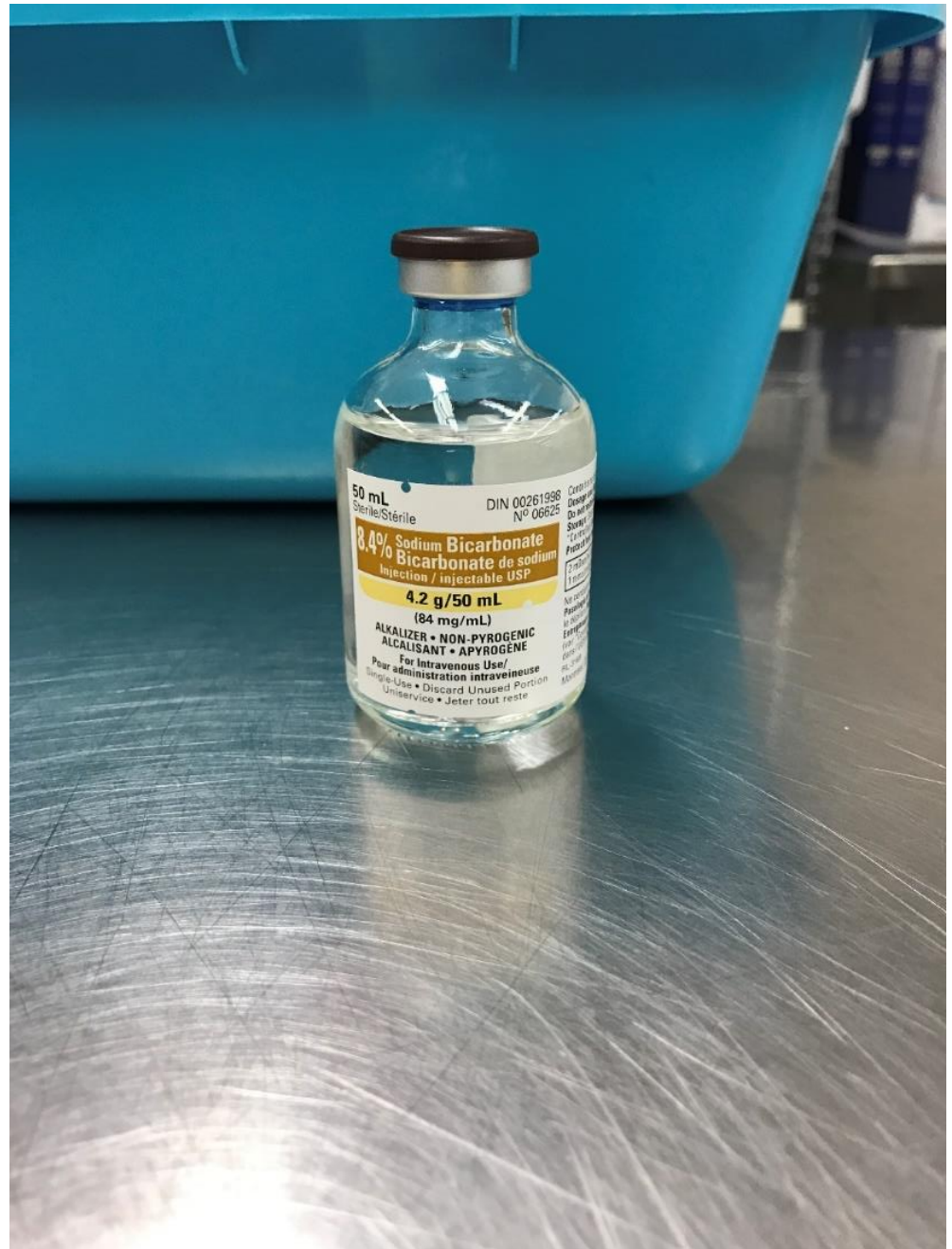


- Severe, permanent peripheral neuropathies have been reported; neurotoxicity is more common with long-term administration of large doses (>2 g/day)

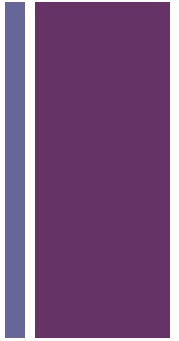




# Sodium Bicarbonate

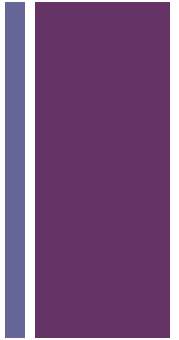


# + Sodium Bicarbonate<sup>25</sup>



- **Toxin:** Agents producing wide QRS, urine, or serum alkalization (Tricyclic antidepressants)
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 1 to 2 mEq/kg, given as a rapid IV push through a large bore IV catheter; may repeat bolus dose if no response after 5 min
  - Following bolus therapy, begin a continuous IV infusion by mixing 150 mEq of sodium bicarbonate in 1 L of 5 percent dextrose (D5W), and infusing at 250 mL/hour
- **MOA:**
  - Increases serum pH thereby favoring the non-ionized form of the drug, making it less available to bind to sodium channels

# + Sodium Bicarbonate<sup>25</sup>



## ■ Onset:

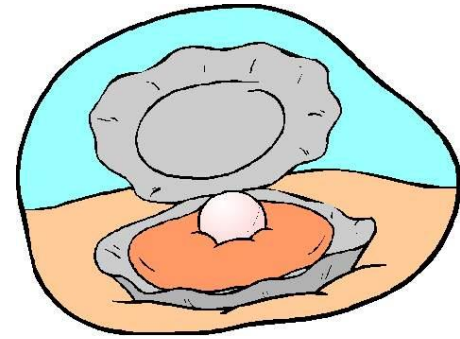
- 15 minutes

## ■ Monitoring:

- Arterial blood pH & serum potassium hourly until it is the therapeutic range and stable
- ABGs, electrolytes
- Useful to run a continuous 12-lead ECG during the infusion to demonstrate the presence (or absence) of narrowing of the QRS complex, a decrease in the R wave amplitude in lead AVR, or resolution of any arrhythmia

# + Sodium Bicarbonate<sup>25</sup>

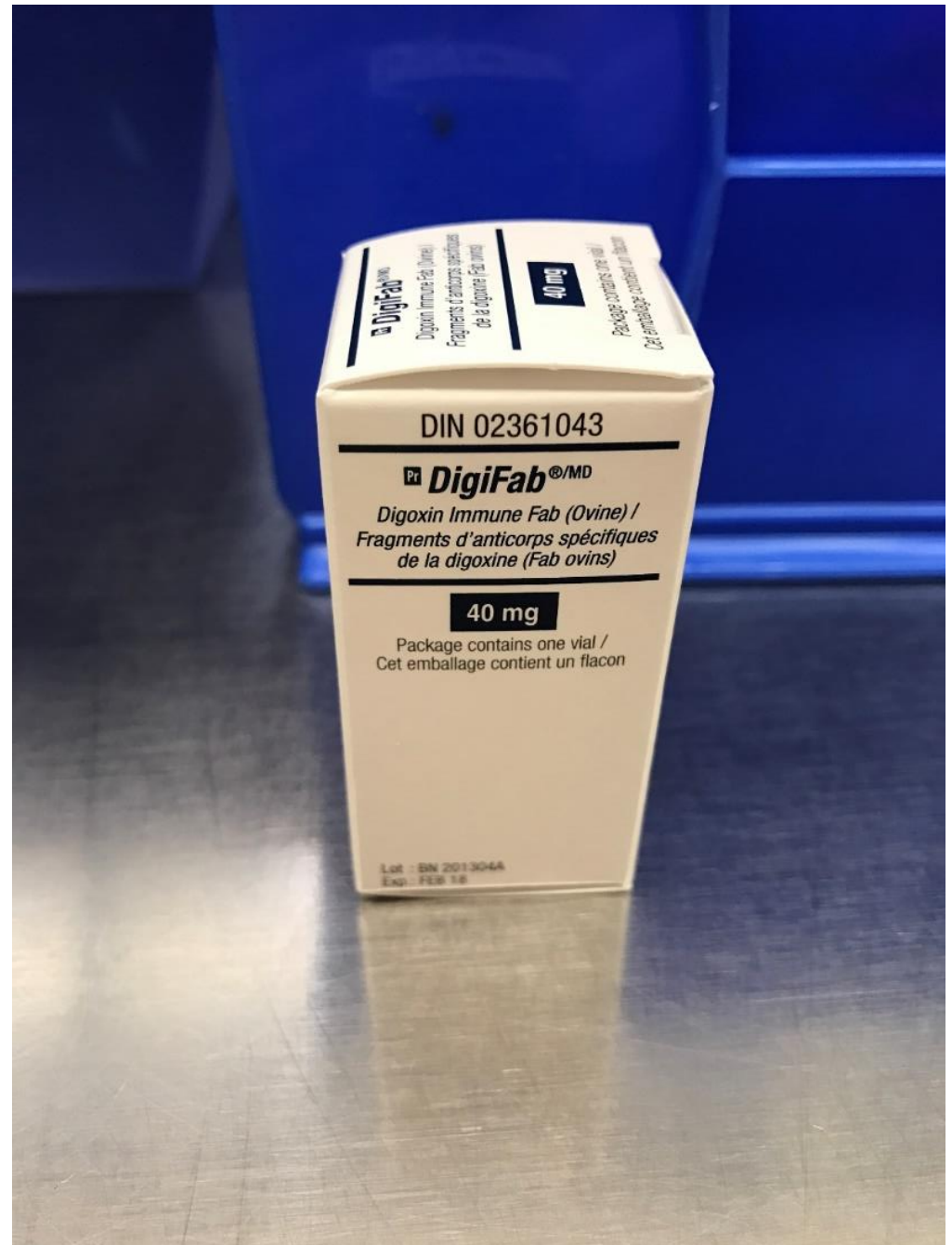
## Clinical Pearls



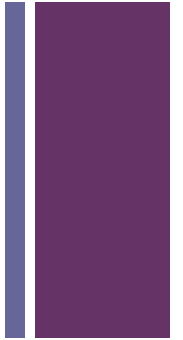
- Most patients with TCA-induced QRS interval prolongation appear to respond to bicarbonate therapy:
  - 80% of patients demonstrate a decrease in QRS interval
  - 90% of hypotensive patients increase their BP



# Digoxin Immune Fab



# + Digoxin Immune Fab<sup>1</sup>



- **Toxins:** Digoxin and related cardiac glycosides
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - One vial binds 0.5 mg digoxin
  - Indications include serious arrhythmias, hyperkalemia or end-organ dysfunction



# Calculating the Dose<sup>26</sup>

Method 1: Neither digoxin level nor amount ingested known

- Empiric treatment consists of 10 vials which should be repeated if clinical response is inadequate



# + Calculating the Dose<sup>26</sup>

Method 2: Amount of digoxin ingested is known but concentration is unknown

## **STEP 1: Calculate the Total Body Load (TBL)**

TBL for digoxin = Dose (in mg) ingested x 0.8

## **STEP 2: Calculate the Number of Vials Needed**

Number of vials = TBL/0.5

**The number of vials should be rounded up!**



# + Calculating the Dose<sup>26</sup>

Method 3: Steady state concentration is known

## STEP 1: Convert Serum Digoxin Concentration

Serum Digoxin Concentration in ng/mL = Serum Digoxin Concentration in nmol/L **x 0.78**

## STEP 2: Calculate Number of Vials

Number of vials

$$= \frac{\left[ \left( \text{serum digoxin concentration in } \frac{\text{ng}}{\text{mL}} \right) (\text{patient's weight in kg}) \right]}{100}$$

**The number of vials should be rounded up!**

# + Calculating the Dose

Method 3: Steady state concentration is known

## EXAMPLE

### STEP 1: Convert Serum Digoxin Concentration

Serum Digoxin Concentration in ng/mL

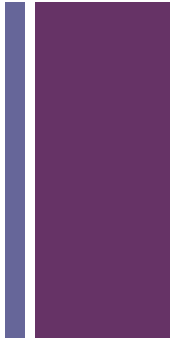
$$= 4.2 \text{ nmol/L} \times \mathbf{0.78} = 3.276$$

### STEP 2: Calculate Number of Vials

$$\text{Number of vials} = \frac{[(3.276)(63.5)]}{100} = 2.08 = 3 \text{ vials}$$



# Digoxin Immune Fab<sup>1,26,27</sup>



## ■ **MOA:**

- Antibody fragments bind free digoxin
- As the level of free digoxin in plasma falls, the resulting concentration gradient facilitates dissociation of digoxin from the sodium-potassium ATPase

## ■ **Onset:**

- Improvement may be seen within 20-90 minutes

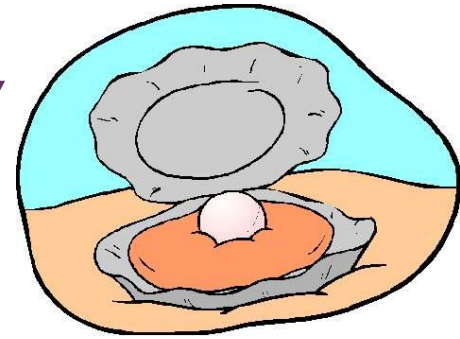
## ■ **Monitoring:**

- Prior to first dose, measure serum K, serum digoxin concentration and serum creatinine
- Closely monitor serum K (i.e. hourly for 4-6 hours; at least daily thereafter)
- Temp, BP, ECG



# Digoxin Immune Fab<sup>26,27</sup>

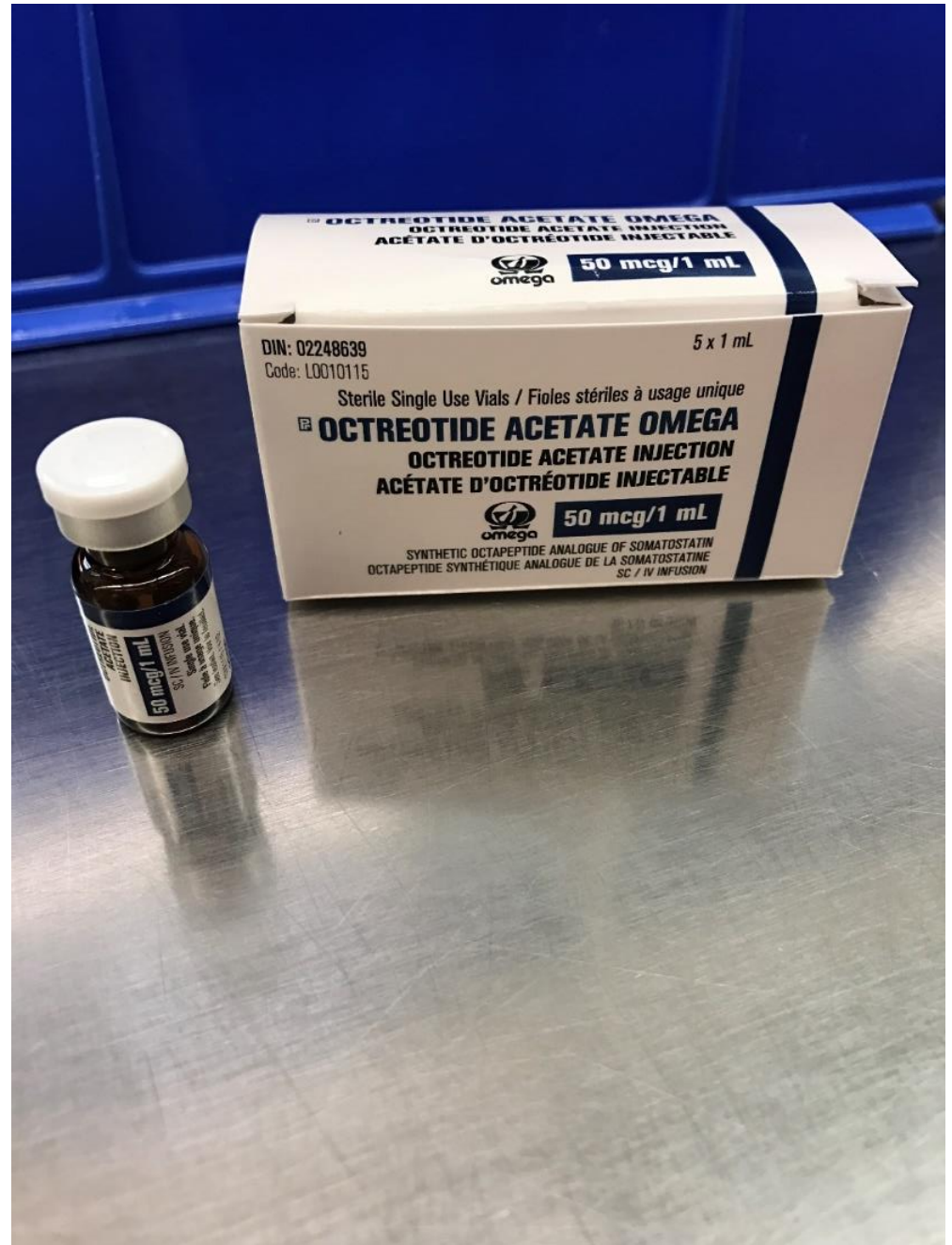
## Clinical Pearls



- For digoxin levels, draw blood samples just prior to a dose or at least 6-8 h after the last dose
- Fab treatment frequently causes an elevation in the measured digoxin concentration despite a free digoxin level approaching zero
- To convert serum digoxin concentration from nanomol/L to nanogram/mL **multiply by 0.78**
- Stored in fridge

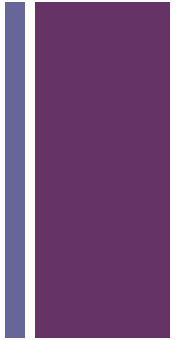


# Octreotide





# Octreotide<sup>1,28,29</sup>

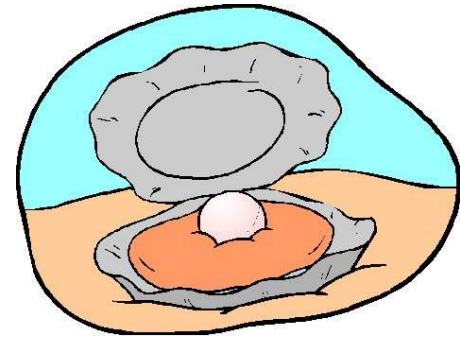


- **Toxin:** Oral sulfonylurea-induced hypoglycemia
- **Dosing & Administration:**
  - 50-75 micrograms subQ Q6H for 24 hours
- **MOA:**
  - Somatostatin analog that inhibits insulin release from pancreatic beta-islet cells
- **Onset:**
  - 1 hour
- **Monitoring:**
  - Serum glucose to identify any recurrence of hypoglycemia



# Octreotide<sup>1,28,29</sup>

## Clinical Pearls



- May also be given as an IV bolus or continuous IV infusion
  - However, in almost all cases, subQ dosing is sufficient to maintain normoglycemia
- Administer octreotide between meals and at bedtime to decrease GI side effects
- Stored in fridge

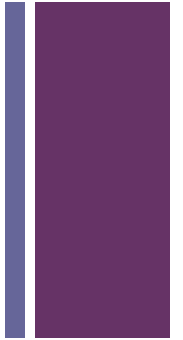


+ Case Study Revisited





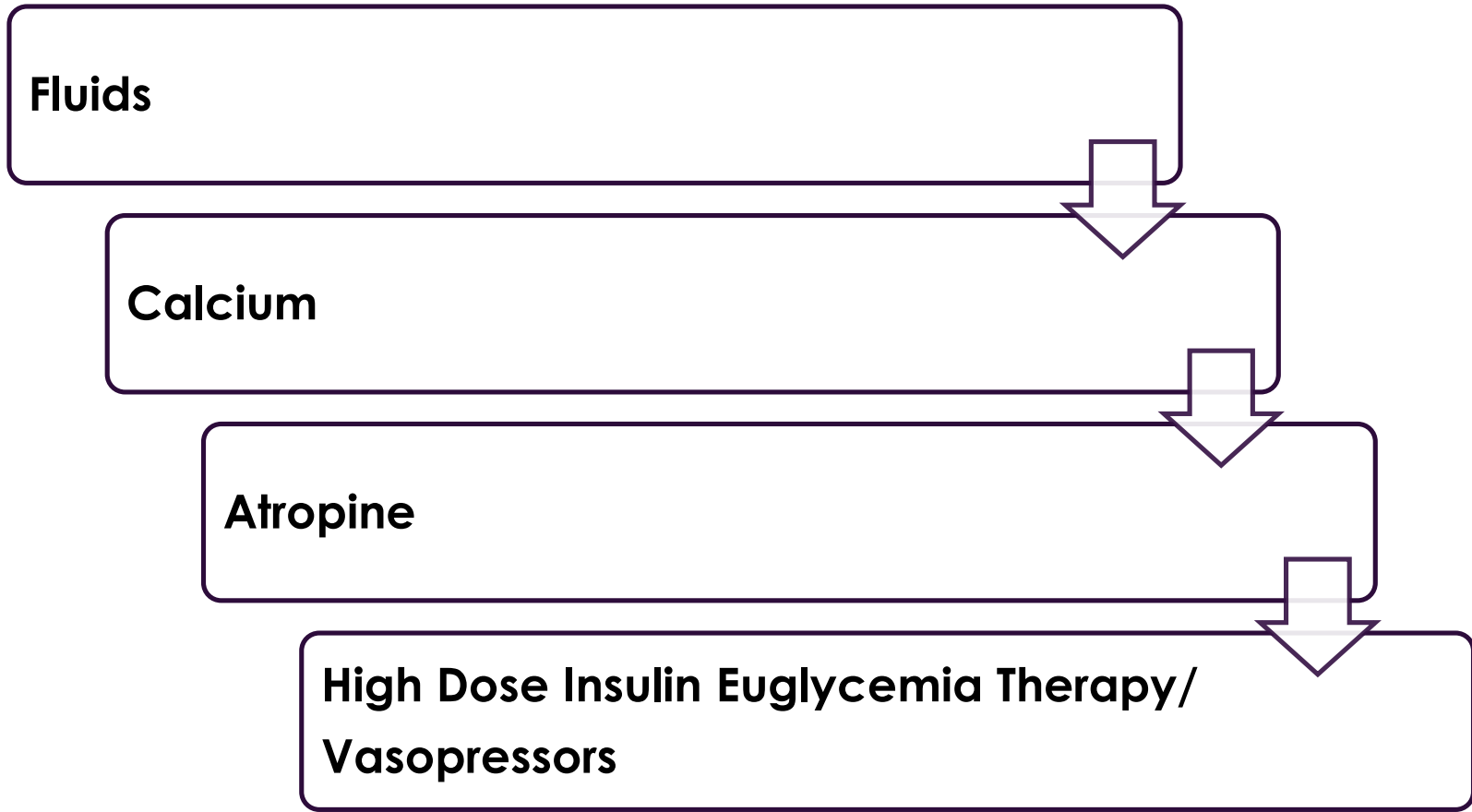
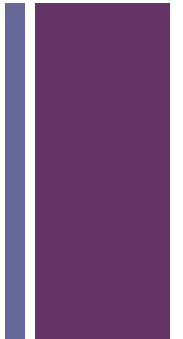
# Acetaminophen Overdose



- Assumed more than 8 hours since acetaminophen ingestion at the time of her blood draw
- Started 21-hour acetylcysteine protocol
- Experienced minimal elevation in AST and ALT which normalized

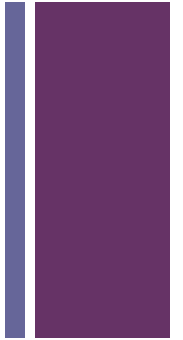


# Calcium Channel Blocker Overdose<sup>13</sup>



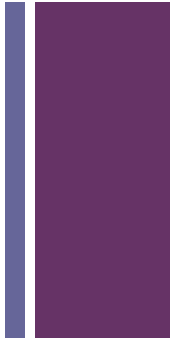


# Beta Blocker Overdose



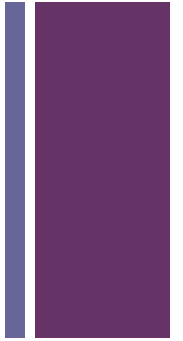
- Given a bolus dose of glucagon in the ER
- Also received calcium gluconate, epinephrine, high-dose insulin, and lipid emulsion therapy

# + SSRI Overdose



- No evidence of serotonin syndrome

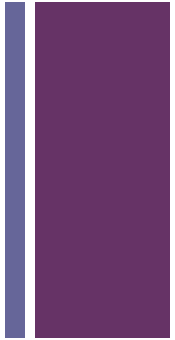
# + Zopiclone & BZD Overdose



- Airway protected
- Patient monitored for respiratory depression



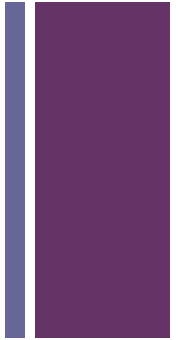
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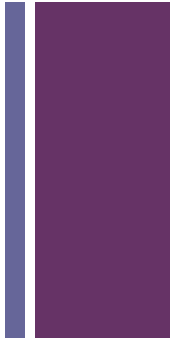
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