

PIRATE



Primary survey

ABCDE assessment & stabilisation

Investigation & Identification

Investigation: ECG, lab, tox screen

(which agent, levels)

Identification: clinical features, history

Risk assessment

Agent type (immediate/slow release),
dose, time of ingestion, clinical features,
patient features (age, comorbidity)

ADME

Absorption ↓: e.g. gastric lavage, activated charcoal

Distribution ↓: e.g. Fab-fragments for Digoxine

Metabolism Δ: e.g. N-AC for Paracetamol

Elimination ↑: e.g. hemodialysis

Therapy

Resuscitation, antidote, specific therapy

Evaluation

Monitoring, observation, disposition,

Screen for child abuse , psychiatric evaluation



The PIRATE acronym is not intended to replace advice from the Poison Information Center (NVIC). For advice on a specific case or intoxication, call the NVIC: 030 282 3838