



A CASE OF YELLOW PHOSPHORUS POISONING A GRIM PROGNOSIS

General Medicine

Dr. Veeresh K Hiremath	Postgraduate, MD General Medicine Akash Institute Of Medical Sciences And Research Centre Devanhalli Akash Institute Of Medical Sciences And Research Centre Devanhalli, 562110
Dr. Madhuvan H.S	Professor and HOD, General Medicine, Akash Institute Of Medical Sciences And Research Centre Devanhalli, Bangalore Rural, 562110
Dr. Sadanand C.D	Professor General Medicine, Akash Institute Of Medical Sciences And Research Centre Devanhalli, Bangalore Rural, 562110

KEYWORDS

INTRODUCTION

In India, over 150,000 people died by suicide in 2021, with 29,408 deaths due to poison ingestion, making it the second most common method. Yellow phosphorus poisoning is prevalent for self-harm due to its high toxicity, affordability, and accessibility, accounting for around 30% of fatalities. Its lethal dose ranges from 8-12 mg/kg. The toxicity stems from phosphoric acid, leading to cell death and multiorgan failure. The poisoning progresses through three phases, ending in severe organ failure. Treatment is mainly supportive, involving gastric lavage, careful monitoring, and possibly liver transplantation.

CASE REPORT\OBSERVATION

A 54-year-old female consumed 4g of 3% yellow phosphorus with suicidal intent and presented to the hospital 2 hours later with nausea and vomiting. Initial examination showed no significant findings except for sinus tachycardia. Gastric lavage and supportive treatments were administered, including NAC for hepatoprotection. Initially asymptomatic, she developed severe abdominal pain on the fourth day, blood investigation showed AST - 567, ALT-560, T.B.-4.2 Sr. LIPASE - 947, Sr. AMYLASE-2275 leading to a diagnosis of acute pancreatitis, fulminant hepatitis. Her condition rapidly deteriorated, resulting in cardiogenic shock and death despite intensive resuscitation efforts.

CONCLUSION

Acute yellow phosphorus poisoning can result in fatal acute liver failure with multi-organ dysfunction, requiring vigilant observation and excellent supportive care, with liver transplantation as a rescue option, emphasizing the importance of early intervention and awareness.