



# PEDIATRIC TOXICOLOGIC EMERGENCIES



## Escambia County, Florida - ALS/BLS Medical Protocol

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This protocol is to be used for those patients suspected of exposure to toxic substances via any route of exposure (e.g. drug overdose, snake bite, etc.).

The protocols will give specific considerations for each type of exposure, as well as general treatment guidelines.

Additional assistance may be necessary in certain cases (e.g. hazardous materials team for toxic exposure, police for scene control, including violent and/or impaired patient.

A history of the events leading to the illness or injury should be obtained from the patient and bystanders to include:

1. What drugs, poisons, or other substance was the patient exposed to? Consider multiple substances, especially on overdoses. Also consider plants and herbal remedies.
2. When and how much?
3. Duration of symptoms?
4. Is patient depressed, suicidal?  
  
History of previous overdose? (if applicable).
5. Accidental?  
  
Nature of accident?
6. Duration of exposure (if applicable).

Collect all pill bottles, empty or full, and check for "suicide notes" (if applicable). Transport any/all information or items that may assist in the treatment of the patient to the emergency department.



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Approved by:

  
Charles Neal, D.O. Medical Director