

P89. SALBUTAMOL POISONING INDUCED HYPOKALEMIA: A CASE REPORT

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Although poisonings are in all age groups, in the pediatric age group has remained more common and more deadly. 80% of poisoning cases are children under 5 years of age. Poisonings with substances from the gastrointestinal tract are seen the most common poisonings (%75).

Salbutamol is a beta-2 adrenergic agonist, although it is a drug used in the treatment of bronchial asthma, also is recommended for use in serious heart failure, congestive cardiomyopathy and early pregnancy. Typical side effects observed in case of overdose are; agitation, tremor, tachycardia, hypotension, hyperglycemia and hypokalemia.

Ten-year-old girl admitted to Selcuk University Faculty of Medicine Department of Forensic Medicine with her medical documents that sent in order to prepare forensic report. After examining the medical documents and obtaining history from her mother, it was understood that she was brought to the emergency department with flutter complaint by her mother. She took Ventolin syrup (150 ml, salbutamol sulphate, 2 mg / 5 ml) which was prescribed by her doctor with a diagnosis of bronchitis but she did not know the amount of it. When examined on admission, her conscious was clear, her fever was 37° degrees, pulse 140/min, blood pressure of 100/60 mmHg. Sinus tachycardia was detected in ECG. In biochemical screening; potassium (K) was 3.1 meq/L (reference: 3.5 to 5.1 mEq/L), sodium (Na) was 134 mEq/L (reference: 136 to 145 mEq/L). Potassium supplementation was performed. The symptoms such as tachycardia and hypokalemia were considered symptoms due to beta-2 adrenergic agonist toxicity.

The main reason of poisoning is consumption of medicine by children accidentally or due to the carelessness of the families. Parents should be educated about preventing access to any kind of medicine of children.