

POISONING & DIALYSIS

Tim Shipley

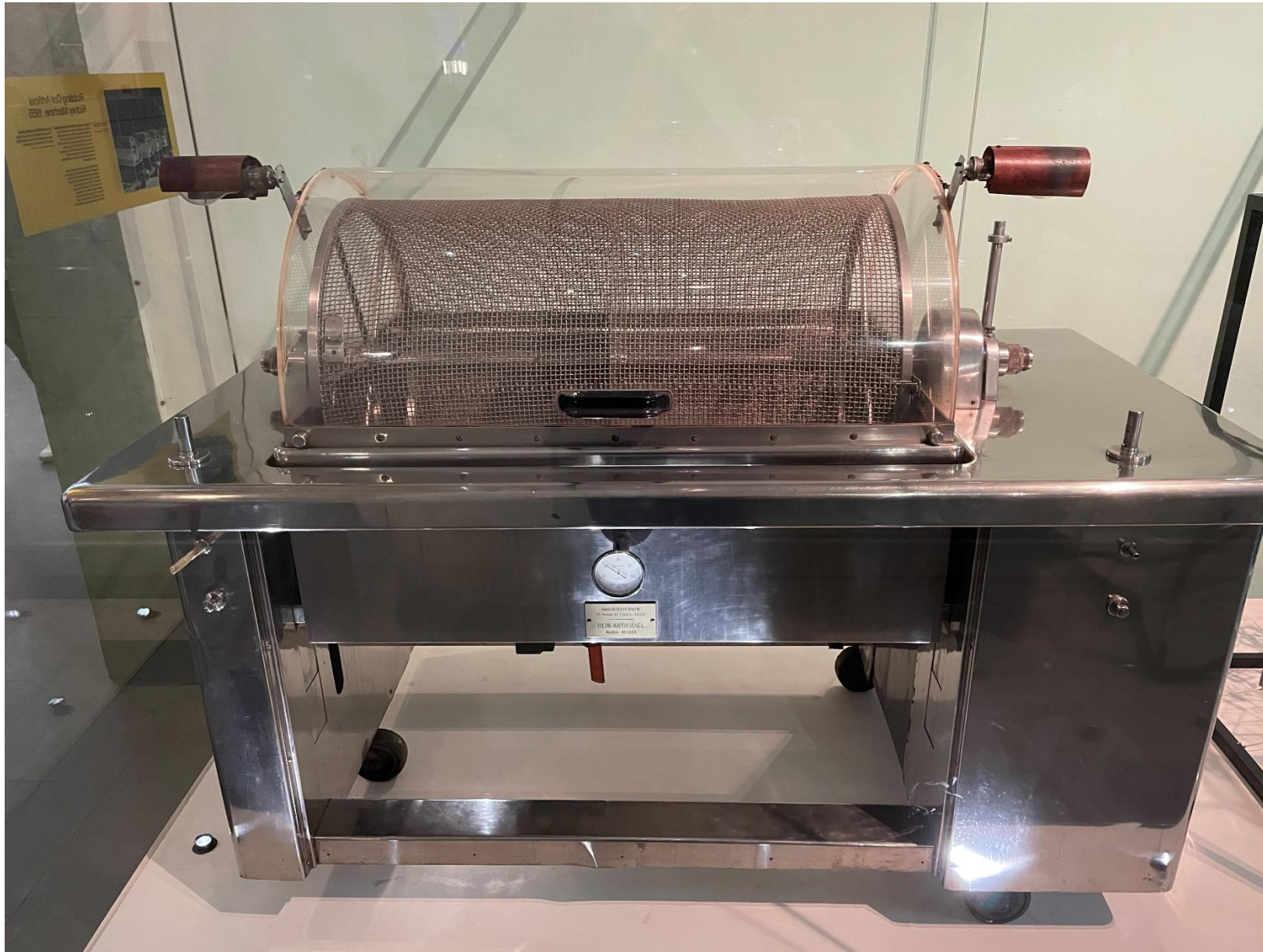
Renal consultant



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No declarations of interest





Rowntree

*748.2
am*

ON THE REMOVAL OF DIFFUSIBLE SUBSTANCES
FROM THE CIRCULATING BLOOD OF LIVING
ANIMALS BY DIALYSIS

BY

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Extracorporeal
treatments for
dialysis

Haemodialysis

Haemofiltration

Haemoperfusion

Plasma exchange

Evidence for ECTR in poisoning

Limited

No RCTs

Reliant on back-to-basics
pharmacology,
pharmacodynamics and
toxicodynamics

Are there other treatments available?

- Corporeal treatments
 - Activated charcoal
- Antidotes
 - NAC, fomepizole
- Antibodies
 - Digibind
 - Snake bite anti-venom

Some basic principles

- *Risk vs benefit of ECTR*
 - What is the risk from the poison?
 - Will ECTR prevent death?
 - Will ECTR prevent serious injury/disability?
 - Will ECTR reduce the length of time spent on ITU?

Some basic principles

- *What characteristics of a poison make it amenable to ECTR?*
 1. Lower molecular weight
 2. Less protein bound
 3. Lower endogenous clearance
 4. Smaller volume of distribution

Extracorporeal
treatments for
dialysis

Haemodialysis

Haemofiltration

Haemoperfusion

Plasma exchange

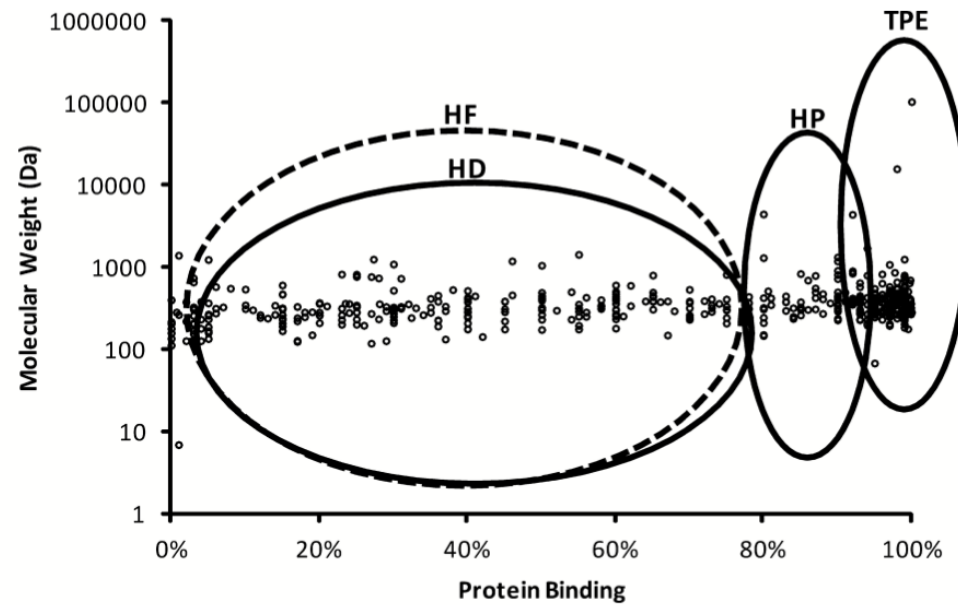


FIG. 1. Relationship between a drug's or poison's molecular weight and protein binding characteristics and the method of extracorporeal clearance that is anticipated to maximize clearance. Circles indicate for which poisons a specific ECTR is most useful. HD: Hemodialysis, HP: Hemoperfusion, HF: Hemofiltration, TPE: Therapeutic plasma exchange.

Choice of ECTR modality

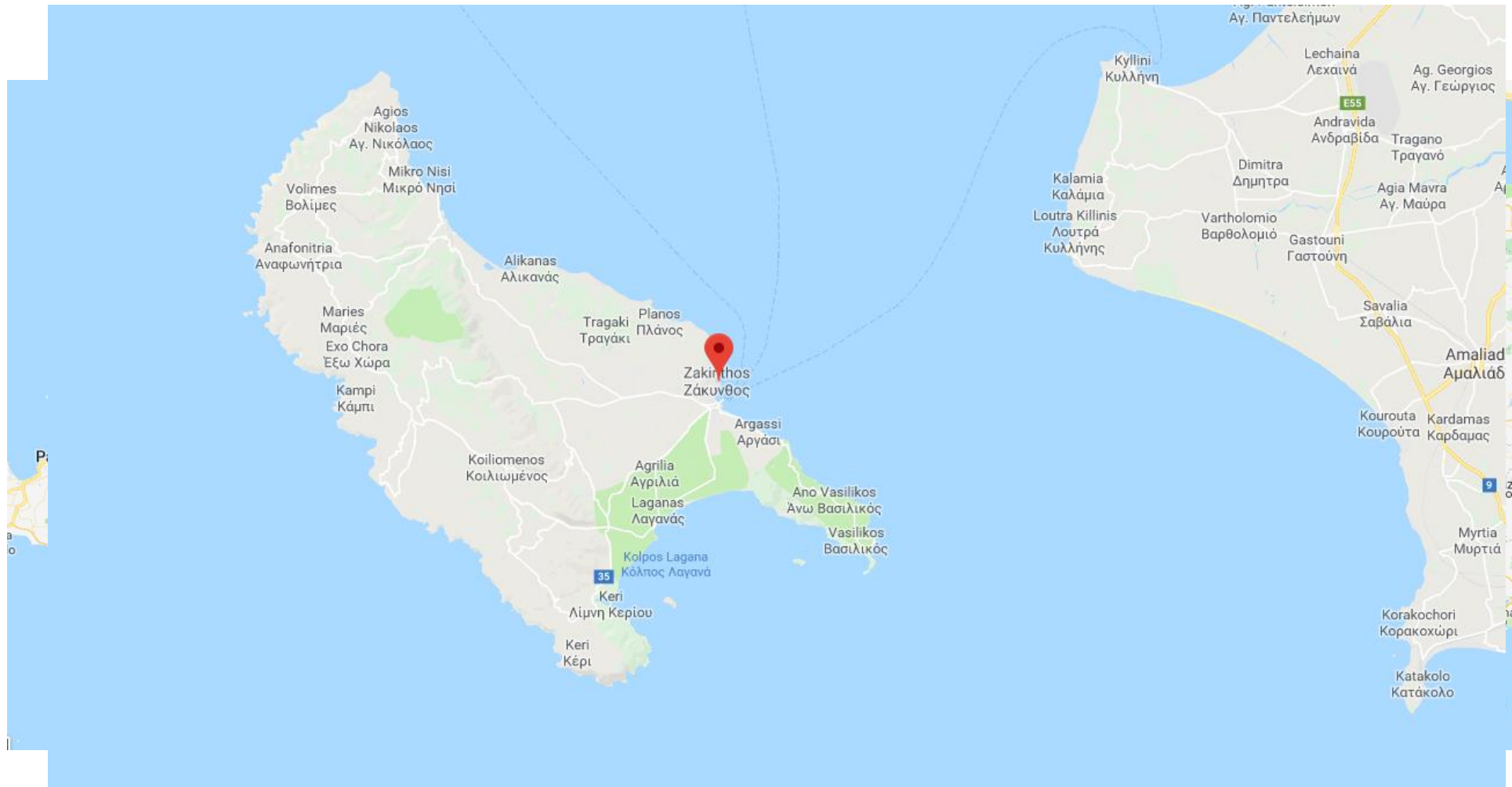
- Presence of AKI
- Need for anticoagulation
- Local availability & expertise
- What the patient is poisoned with

Specific poisons











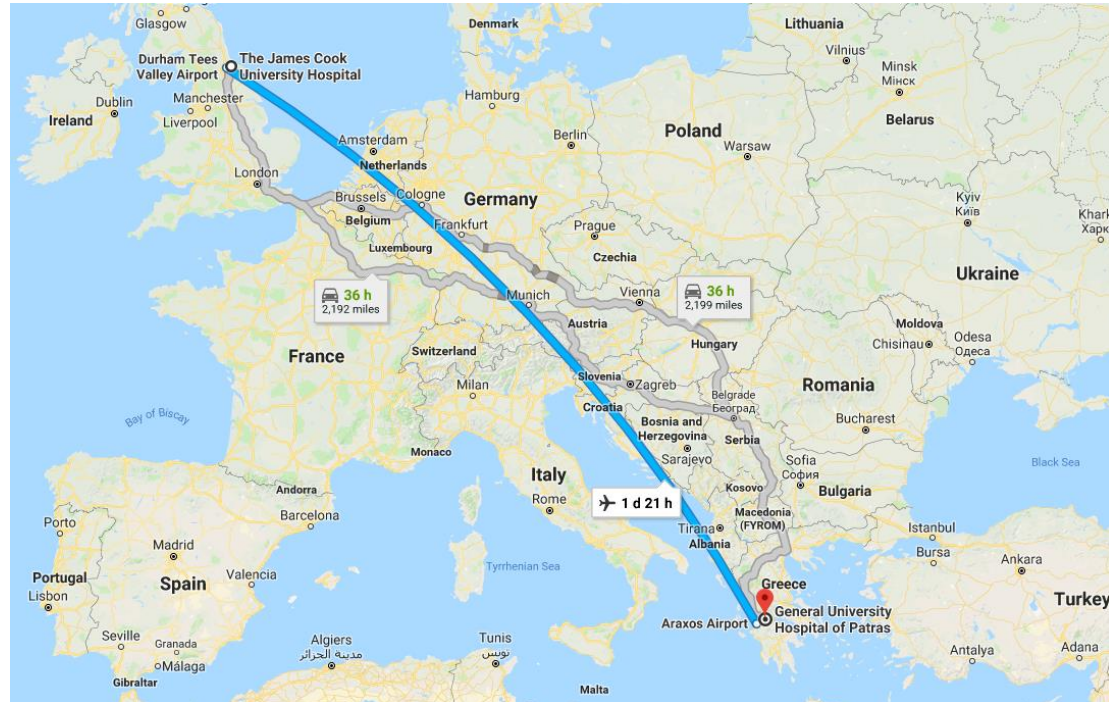
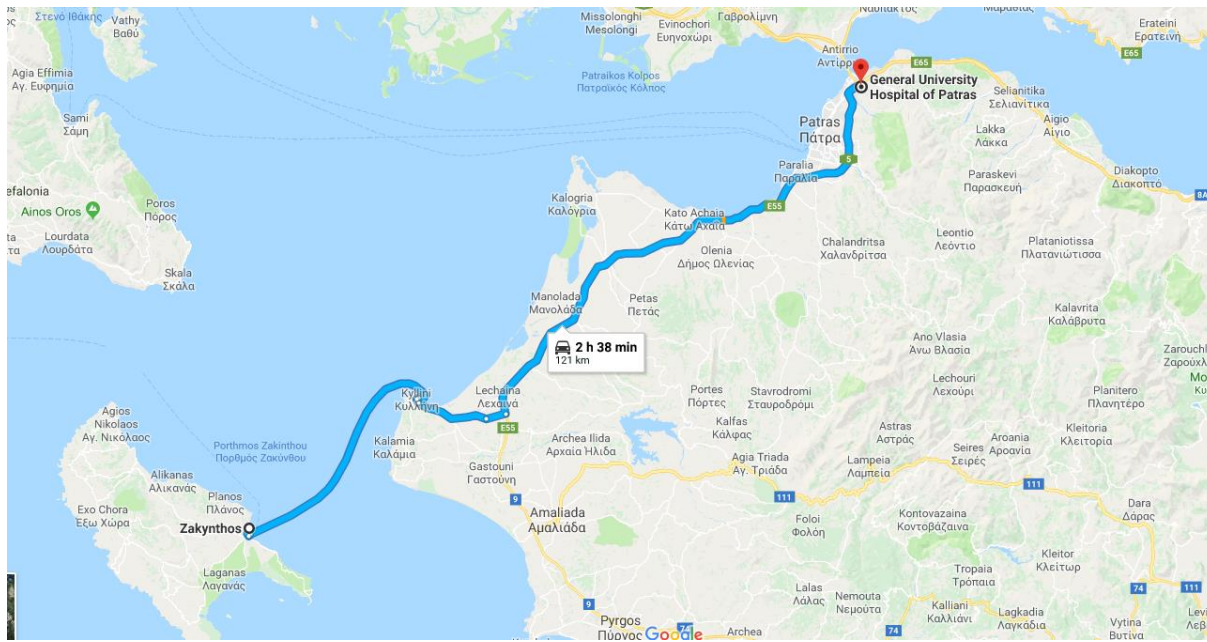
The morning after

- Felt unwell
- Headache
- Tired
- Nauseated



By Monday

- Acutely unwell
- Admitted to local hospital
- Abdominal pain
- Vomiting
- AKI
- Severe acidosis
- Visual loss



What happened?

METHANOL POISONING **KILLS**

ARE YOU GOING TO INDONESIA OR BALI?
IF SO, KEEP CLEAR OF COUNTERFEIT ALCOHOL.



ONE OF THESE BOTTLES CONTAINS 25% METHANOL AND IS DEADLY.
IT IS NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE TO TELL WHICH ONE.*

BE WARY OF SPIRIT BASED DRINKS IN BARS, HOTELS AND SHOPS

DO NOT DIE FOR A DRINK

THIS POSTER WAS PRODUCED BY THE 'CHEZ - SAVE A LIFE CAMPAIGN'
CHEZNYE EMMONS 1989 - 2013

* The bottle on the right has enough methanol in it to kill three grown men and was bought in Indonesia

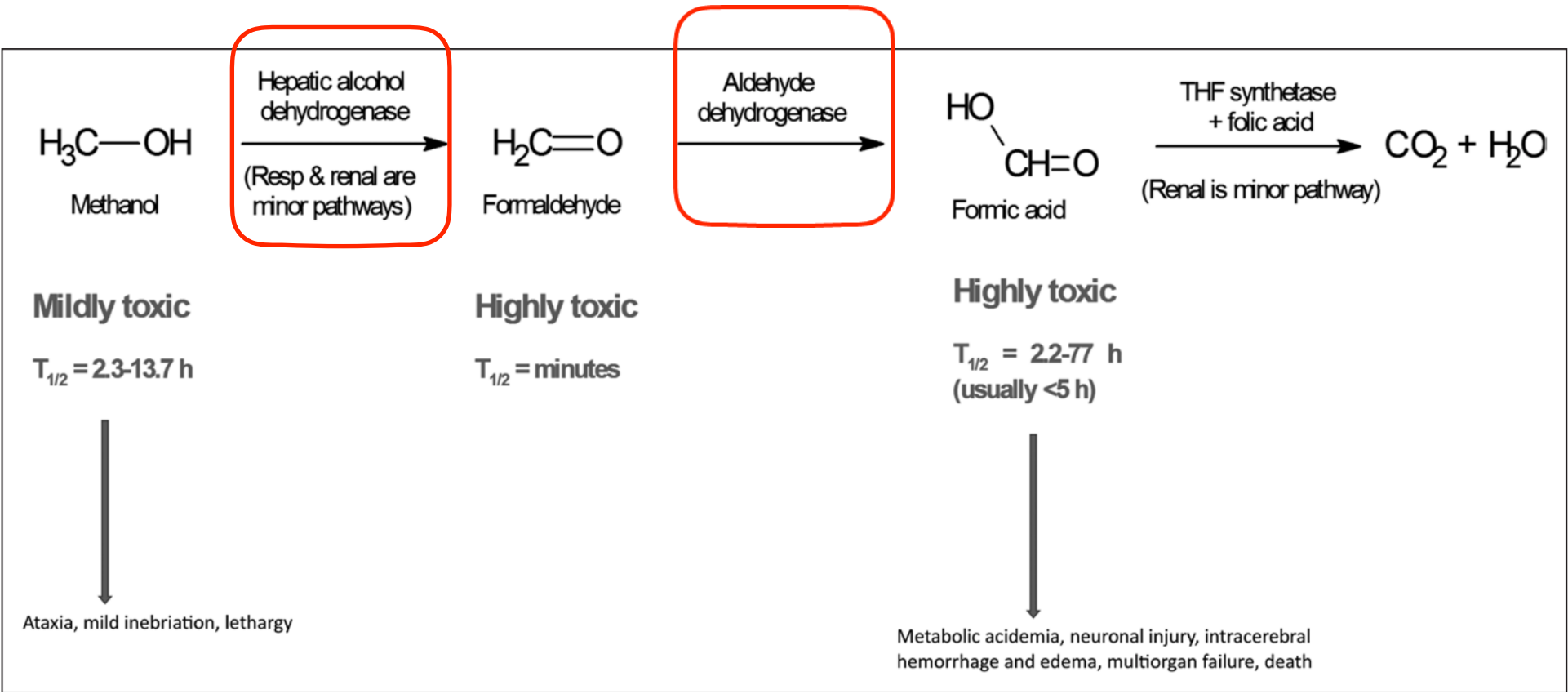


Ethylene Glycol & Methanol



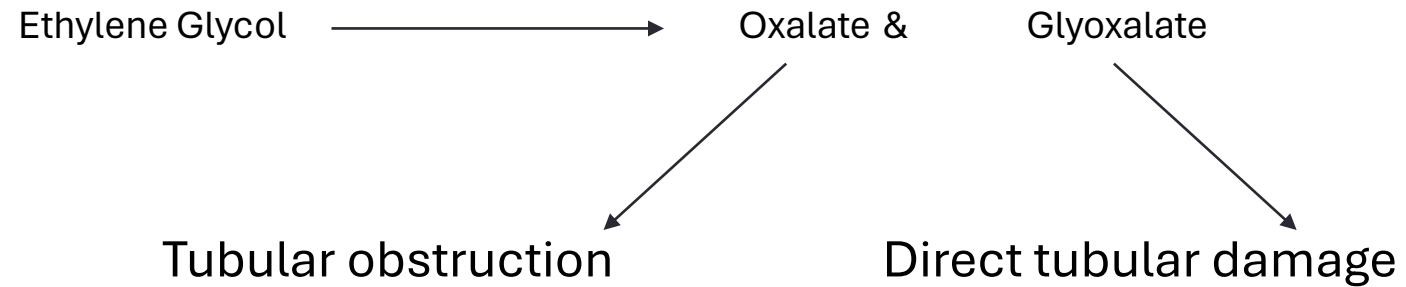
Ethylene Glycol & Methanol

- Anti-freeze, de-icers & varnishes
- 50ml can lead to death
- Symptoms
 - Similar to being drunk
 - Usually 12-24 hours after ingestion
 - Abdominal pain
 - Headaches
 - Seizures
 - Methanol causes retinal oedema & white matter demyelination (“blind drunk??”)



Ethylene Glycol

- Oxidated by alcohol dehydrogenase and aldehyde dehydrogenase in liver
- Toxic metabolites → kidney and nerve damage



Treatments

- Inhibit alcohol dehydrogenase

Low MW
Not highly protein
bound
Water soluble



Indications for dialysis in methanol poisoning

- Severe poisoning
 - Coma
 - Seizures
 - New vision defects
 - Severe acidosis pH < 7.1
 - Anion gap > 24
- Very high methanol concentration
 - >700mg/L after fomepizole
- Renal failure

Haemodialysis

Indications for dialysis in EG poisoning

Coma

Seizures

Very elevated anion gap

Glycolate levels $>12\text{mmol/L}$

AKI/renal impairment



<http://www.extrip-workgroup.org/>

Lithium

Effective treatment for affective disorders

Narrow therapeutic window

Long term use associated with chronic renal failure

Acute Lithium Toxicity



Symptoms

Neuromuscular irritability

Confusion

Drowsiness



Measure lithium level

1.5 - 2.5mmol/L – mild toxicity

2.5 – 3.5mmol/L – moderate toxicity

>3.5mmol/L – severe toxicity

Dialysis in Lithium OD

Lithium effectively removed by dialysis

- “The most dialysable toxin”
- Low MW
- Negligible protein binding

Much higher clearance than in the urine

Indications for dialysis

HAEMODIALYSIS



LITHIUM LEVEL > 5MMOL/L



LEVEL > 4 IN PRESENCE
RENAL FAILURE



SEIZURES, REDUCED GCS
OR LIFE-THREATENING
DYSRHYTHMIAS

Cautions

- Delay in equilibration between intracellular and extracellular lithium
 - Rebound can occur after 1st dialysis
- May need extended dialysis time or multiple sessions
- Possible role of CVVH to avoid repeat HD sessions
- Beware SR preparations

Salicylates

- In therapeutic doses
 - Rapidly broken down to salicylic acid
 - Highly protein bound
 - Metabolised in the liver
 - Small amount renally excreted
- In overdose, protective mechanisms are overwhelmed

In overdose

Protein binding reduced

Hepatic detoxification saturated

Body relies more on renal excretion, which is slow

10 - 20g can be fatal in adults

Salicylate poisoning

- ECTR recommended in severe poisoning
 - Salicylate level >7mmol/L
 - Level > 6.5mmol/L and renal impairment
 - Altered mental state
 - Worsening hypoxia
 - Failure of medical treatment
- Recheck levels @ 2 hours and consider repeat HD

**LOW MW
PROTEIN BINDING REDUCES IN
OVERDOSE**

HAEMODIALYSIS

Beta Blockers

High dialyzability

- Atenolol
- Metoprolol

Low dialyzability

- Carvedilol
- Bisoprolol
- Propranolol

Theophylline

Narrow therapeutic window

Moderate → severe toxicity level $>25\text{mg/L}$

Features

- Seizures
- Tachyarrhythmias
- Electrolyte disturbances

Theophylline & dialysis

- ECTR recommended in severe poisoning
 - Level > 100mg/L
 - Seizures
 - Dysrhythmias
 - Shock
 - Rising levels despite medical management

LOW MW
40 – 60% PROTEIN BOUND
LOW VOL OF DISTRIBUTION

HAEMODIALYSIS

Metformin

- ECTR recommended for severe poisoning
 - Lactate >20
 - pH < 7.0
 - Shock
 - Failure of medical treatment

LOW MW
NOT PROTEIN BOUND
SMALL VOL OF DISTRIBUTION

HAEMODIALYSIS

Valproate

- ECTR recommended for severe poisoning
 - Level > 1300mg/L
 - Shock
 - Cerebral oedema
 - Severe acidosis

**LOW MW
PROTEIN BINDING REDUCES IN
OVERDOSE
SMALL VOL OF DISTRIBUTION**

HAEMODIALYSIS

Digoxin

- Large volume of distribution
- High molecular weight

**• ECTR IS NOT A GOOD
TREATMENT FOR DIGOXIN OD**

Take home messages

- Weight up risks & benefits of ECTR in poisoning
- Poisons that are amenable to ECTR are
 - Low MW
 - Not highly protein bound
 - Water soluble with a low volume of distribution
- Choice of ECTR depends
 - Poison
 - Local expertise & resource



In collaboration with:



<http://www.extrip-workgroup.org/>



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