**Abstract Template**

**Critical Response: Assessment and Management of Methadone Ingestion in Children**

WAFIUDDIN BIN RUJHAN1, NARONG REED A/L PREM1

1 *EMERGENCY AND TRAUMA HOSPITAL TENGKU FAUZIAH KANGAR PERLIS MALAYSIA*

|  |
| --- |
| **Introduction**Ingesting methadone in children is a severe medical emergency because of its powerful opioid effects, which can cause respiratory depression, changes in mental state, and even death. Timely medical care is crucial for effectively managing symptoms and reducing dangers linked with accidental or purposeful exposure.**Case Report**1 year 8 months Malay boy was brought to our ED by his mother as her son was vomiting for 3 times. Soon, he becoming drowsy and having weird gait. Based on the mother history and reconfirmation from the father, the patient was drinking his father methadone syrup. His father also realise that the patient had consumed 2 of 4 bottle methadone which is 35mg per bottle as his methadone was kept in the car dashboard. Upon assessment, the patient was drowsy and was not in respiratory distress. His pupil was pin point bilaterally and stridor was heard. Initial vital sign upon arrival were BP: 100/57 mmHg, P: 112/m, RR: 8/min and SPO2: 98% RA. The patient was put on oxygen HFMO2 10L/min, IVD NSD5% 42ml/h and CBD was inserted for urine drug test. Urine drug showed that this patient was indeed positive with methadone. IV Naloxone 1mg STAT was given and the patient suddenly regain consciousness as soon as the IV Naloxone was administered. Patient general condition was improving as his GCS was 15/15, not tachypnoeic or bradypnea, pupils mm bilaterally reactive and was able to move all four limbs. The patient was treated as alleged methadone ingestion and the case was referred to paediatrician on call for further management on their expertise.  **Discussion**Evaluating methadone use in children entails assessing the quantity consumed, timing of consumption, and symptoms such as respiratory depression and changes in mental state. Urgent medical intervention is necessary for management, which includes providing assistance with the airway, administering naloxone, and closely monitoring the patient in a hospital environment. **Conclusion / Learning Point**Immediate medical assistance is required for children who have ingested methadone due to its potentially life-threatening consequences. Prompt identification and timely treatment can greatly enhance results, underscoring the significance of attentiveness in households where methadone is present.Keywords: methadone, bradypnea, pin point, urine, Naloxone  |