Prehospital trauma care


There are many unanswered questions in prehospital trauma care (scoop and run or stay and play?; what is the role of doctors, helicopter or intravenous fluids?) but there are no simple answers and all depends on the problem, the distance from hospital, and the circumstances. This makes decision making difficult for both paramedics and for those who write protocols or guidelines. This book does not give answers but provides up to date evidence on which these decisions can be based.

With over 70 contributors from 18 different countries this is an important work. It not only covers the usual clinical and epidemiological aspects of trauma including chemical hazards, diving accidents, and snake and poisons in the presence of tricyclics. The mechanism for this interaction is thought to be unmasking of tricyclic antidepressant induced seizures as a consequence of flumazenil antagonising the anticonvulsant effect of concomitantly ingested benzodiazepines. This interaction has resulted in a number of deaths.

In patients presenting after overdose, it is not always easy to obtain a clear and accurate history regarding what substances have been ingested. The administration of flumazenil as a diagnostic aid in these patients is potentially not always easy to obtain a clear and accurate history regarding what substances have been ingested. The chapter on venricular arrhythmias in the presence of tricyclics. The mechanism for this interaction is thought to be unmasking of tricyclic antidepressant induced seizures as a consequence of flumazenil antagonising the anticonvulsant effect of concomitantly ingested benzodiazepines. This interaction has resulted in a number of deaths.

In patients presenting after overdose, it is not always easy to obtain a clear and accurate history regarding what substances have been ingested. The administration of flumazenil as a diagnostic aid in these patients is potentially dangerous and should be avoided, particularly if tricyclic antidepressants have been taken.

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References


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