



TRANSFORMING TOXICOLOGY LANDSCAPE FOR SAFER AND SUSTAINABLE TOMORROW

POSTER PRESENTATIONS

[ID-P#065] Thai Massage Oil with Unintentional Salicylate Poisoning

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Background: Thai traditional medicine is a kind of herbal medicine for treatment. Thai massage oil is a famous use for muscle strain, so some oils contain painkillers such as methyl salicylate compounds. Studies in Thailand report that one-third to half of all poisonings are unintentional. Risks for unintentional toxicity in the elderly are health problems, inappropriate use, and improper storage.

Case report: An 89-year-old Thai woman presented with dyspnea and vomiting after unintentionally ingesting Thai massage oil, resulting in acute poisoning. On arrival, she displayed respiratory alkalosis and wide-anion gap metabolic acidosis, with serum salicylate levels over 100 mg/dL. Treatment included urine alkalinization, 24-hour continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT), followed by 4-hour hemodialysis, and respiratory support with high-flow oxygen via nasal cannula. Post-treatment, serum salicylate concentration decreased to 56.27 mg/dL. Despite successful recovery from acute salicylate poisoning, she subsequently developed healthcare-associated pneumonia, prolonging her hospital course to 30 days.

Conclusion: This case underscores critical aspects in the management of acute poisoning from Thai traditional medicines, particularly in elderly patients. The patient's presentation with dyspnea and vomiting after unintentional ingestion of Thai massage oil highlighted the potential dangers associated with herbal remedies containing methyl salicylate. Prompt medical intervention, including urine alkalinization, continuous renal replacement therapy (CRRT), and hemodialysis, effectively reduced serum salicylate levels, leading to successful recovery from acute poisoning. However, the subsequent development of healthcare-associated pneumonia prolonged her hospitalization, emphasizing the complexities in managing elderly patients with multiple medical issues. This case emphasizes the importance of awareness regarding the widespread use of herbal medicines, risks of unintentional poisoning, and the need for comprehensive management strategies to ensure safe outcomes in vulnerable populations.