

Paracetamol (APAP) – Acute Single Ingestion of Modified-Release Preparation

Toxicokinetics of modified-release paracetamol differs from immediate release preparation due to slower absorption

Toxicity / Risk Assessment

- Toxic dose is 200 mg/kg or 10g (whichever is less)
- Two APAP concentrations measured 4 hours apart, and at least 4 hours after ingestion are required as part of formulating a risk assessment

APAP = paracetamol

NAC = acetylcysteine

Management

- Commence the 20-hour two infusion NAC regimen at the time of presentation if a toxic dose of MR paracetamol has been ingested
- Follow flow chart to determine if Rx is required if dose ingested < 200mg/kg AND <10g

Two-bag NAC regimen: 200mg/kg over 4 hours followed by 100mg/kg over 16 hours

