

Nova Scotia Antidote Program

Quarterly Report: Apr 1st- June 30th 2016

The Nova Scotia Antidote Kit program is pleased to present another Quarterly Report, which provides information on changes and trends in antidote therapy and reports ongoing Provincial Antidote usage.

Antidote usage Apr 1st –Jun 30 th 2016						
Western Zone 1	Northern Zone 2	Eastern Zone 3	Central Zone 4	IWK	Quarterly Total	*Total to date
11	11	5	11	0	38	705

Western Zone: Former DHA1, DHA2, DHA3 **Northern Zone:** DHA4, DHA5, DHA6 **Eastern Zone:** DHA7, DHA8 **Central Zone:** DHA9 Health *Total to date includes antidotes used in DHA9 & IWK since 2006

Digoxin immune Fab

There have been cases recently for which additional DigiFab has been administered unnecessarily due to misinterpretation of digoxin serum levels. Once DigiFab is administered, doing a digoxin level is not recommended, as it reflects both the digoxin AND the antidote complexes, and can be significantly elevated. This phenomenon can occur for several days after DigiFab is given. Further dosing should be based on clinical condition of the patient.

KY Jelly & Calcium Gluconate

The Antidote kit contains 2 tubes of Calcium Gluconate gel. In addition there are also 2 tubes of KY jelly. There are 2 reasons why we added the KY Jelly:

1. In the event of a severe hydrofluoric acid skin burn the supplied gel may not be enough and the recipe to make more is contained in the Calcium Gluconate monograph
2. Not all types of lubricating jelly are compatible with Calcium Gluconate . Thus it was decided to stock KY Jelly in the kits.

To Access the Antidote Monographs

When you need to view the online monographs it is best to ALWAYS go through the IWK Regional Poison Centre website as this will give you the most recent, up to date monographs. Do not store/save the Antidote manual to any other areas on your computer (e.g. desk tops, or personal drives) as these may not be current.

Contact Ruth Bona RN CSPI at ruth.bona@iwk.nshealth.ca or 902-470-3857 with any inquiries.