



Discharge after a paracetamol overdose

Emergency Department

Information for Patients

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You have been given this leaflet as you have been discharged after assessment and/ or treatment in hospital following a paracetamol overdose (poisoning).

What are the risks of paracetamol?

Paracetamol is a common painkiller that is normally safe but can be harmful to the liver, and rarely the kidneys, when taken in excess.

What are the risks to me?

You have been assessed by the medical team and based on the information you have provided and the result of blood tests, you are currently deemed to be suitable for discharge. If blood tests relating to paracetamol overdose are currently completely normal, there are no additional risks to you from this overdose. If your tests are abnormal, you may be at a small risk of developing or worsening damage to the liver if you take paracetamol too soon after discharge.

What should I do now?

Check immediately with one of the doctors or nurses looking after you if you are not sure whether blood tests relating to your paracetamol overdose are normal at this time. If your blood tests are normal, you don't need to do anything else unless you develop new symptoms, in which case you should seek medical advice as soon as possible.

You should ask the team looking after you if you need to avoid paracetamol, and for how long.

Health information and support is available at www.nhs.uk or call 111 for non-emergency medical advice

Visit www.leicestershospitals.nhs.uk for maps and information about visiting Leicester's Hospitals To give feedback about this information sheet, contact InformationForPatients@uhl-tr.nhs.uk





What should I look out for after discharge?

If over the next few days you develop any of the following symptoms, there may be a possibility that your overdose has resulted in an unexpected deterioration in your health, and you should return to the Emergency Department immediately:

- Pain in your tummy (abdomen).
- Feeling or being sick (nausea or vomiting).
- Yellowing (discolouration) of the skin or whites of the eyes turn yellow.
- Confusion or drowsiness.
- Difficulty in passing urine.

Will I have any long-term health effects?

Your blood tests indicate that no further treatment is needed. There should not be any long-term effects on your health.

Contact details

If you have any further questions or need further medical help, please call the NHS helpline on 111.

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات کسی اور زبان میں درکار ہیں، تو براہِ کرم مندرجہ ذیل نمبر پر ٹیلی فون کریں۔ علی هذه المعلومات بلغةٍ أُخرى، الرجاء الاتصال علی رقم الهاتف الذي يظهر في الأسفل જો તમને અન્ય ભાષામાં આ માહિતી જોઈતી હોય, તો નીચે આપેલ નંબર પર કૃપા કરી ટેલિફોન કરો

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If you would like this information in another language or format such as EasyRead or Braille, please telephone 0116 250 2959 or email equality@uhl-tr.nhs.uk

