



Kentucky Regional
POISON
Control Center
OF KOSAIR CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

P.O. Box 35070
Louisville, KY 40232-5070
Phone: (502) 629-7264
Fax: (502) 629-7277

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Dear Healthcare Provider

It has come to our attention at the Kentucky Regional Poison Control Center (KRPPCC) that pharmaceutical reps from Arbor Pharmaceuticals are out in force to market their n-acetylcysteine product, Cetylev®. Please note, KRPPCC does **not** recommend this product for treatment of acetaminophen overdose. Several systems have reported pharmaceutical sales representatives coming into their hospitals in scrubs. Concerning the product:

1. Although this is being marketed as an oral product in place of IV Acetadote, n-acetylcysteine has existed as a generic oral product for several years and Cetylev® is not superior to this product.
2. Although Cetylev® is flavored, your pharmacy can add flavor to oral n-acetylcysteine prior to dispensing to the patient.
3. Assuming an average patient weight of 90kg, with the expected loading dose of 140 mg/kg, this would take 25, 500 mg tablets. Their 10 pack carton contains 20 tablets. If you the additional 17 doses recommended by the FDA, this would be another 215 tablets.
4. Not only is this product carbonated, it comes with a high sodium load. In the package insert – they state “...At the recommended dosage an average sized adult (60 kg) may receive a total of 7 grams of sodium...”
5. In addition to vomiting, more significant adverse effects, including GI hemorrhage are noted in their package insert.

The package insert states the following: “...the treating physician should contact a US regional poison center at 1-800-222-1222, or alternatively, a “special health professional assistance line for acetaminophen overdose” at 1-800-525-6115 for assistance with dosing recommendations. Please be aware, this private number goes to the Rocky Mountain Poison and Drug Information Center – i.e., another regional poison control center, not a special medical line. We ask that should you have questions about this product, please use the national 800 number so your calls are directed to us, your nationally certified regional poison control center.

For additional information, please call or email me directly

Thank you,

Ashley N. Webb, MSc, PharmD, DABAT
Director, Kentucky Regional Poison Control Center
Ashley.webb@nortonhealthcare.org
502-629-5326