

ACTIVATED CHARCOAL

PHARMACOLOGY & ACTIONS:

- Absorbs toxic substances from GI tract
- Can absorb up to 99% of another substance to render it inert

INDICATIONS:

- Oral poisonings & overdoses
- Used after evacuation of gastric contents

CONTRAINDICATIONS:

- Semiconscious or comatose patients
- Do not administer if specific oral antidote may be used (e.g. acetaminophen overdose)

ADMINISTRATION:

- 1-2 grams/kg premixed
- If needed to be mixed, ratio of 1:4 parts
- Administer orally or via nasogastric tube

SIDE EFFECTS & SPECIAL NOTES:

- Black stool
- May inactivate other drugs administered orally
- Do not give until ipecac-induced emesis has stopped
- Should contact medical or poison control before administration for petroleum or caustic ingestion
- Used often with magnesium citrate

CLASS: A

PROTOCOL(S) USED IN: Contact Poison Control