

Poisoning

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- Poisoning is a major problem globally and its incidence is rising due to rapid industrialization and urbanization.
- In India, insecticides and pesticides are the most commonly consumed agents in adults while kerosene oil is the most common toxin in children.
- Patients with suspected poisoning should be immediately shifted to near by hospital.

Following steps should be done until help arrives:

- **Swallowed poison-** Remove anything remaining in the person's mouth.
- **Poison on the skin-** Remove any contaminated clothing using gloves. Rinse the skin for 15 to 20 minutes in a shower or with a hose.
- **Poison in the eye** - Gently flush the eye with cool or lukewarm water for at least 15 minutes or until help arrives.
- **Inhaled poison-** Get the person into fresh air as soon as possible.
- If the person vomits, turn his or her head to the side to prevent choking.