

# Accidental substance ingestion



## Clinical support tool for remote clinical assessment

Clinical findings	Green – low risk		Red – high risk
Airway and breathing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No concerns</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any fast or laboured breathing</li> <li>Any additional breathing noise or choking</li> <li>Difficulty swallowing or drooling</li> </ul>
Circulation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Warm hands and feet</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pale, mottled, colds hands and feet</li> </ul>
Behaviour/neuro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Normal behaviour</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drowsiness</li> <li>Confusion or agitation</li> <li>Any sign of a fit/seizure</li> </ul>
Abdo/GI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>None</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Significant abdominal pain</li> <li>Significant vomiting or vomiting with blood</li> </ul>
Substance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clear description of substance</li> <li>Clear amount taken</li> <li>Toxbase checked and does not recommend any investigation/observation for substance and amount taken</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hazard label on bottle/container mandates medical review</li> <li>Toxbase checked and recommends ongoing assessment/observation or investigation</li> <li>If using a dose/weight formula please ensure that the weight is accurate and if in doubt refer</li> <li>If unable to ascertain exact amount taken or an accurate weight please refer</li> <li>Please consider any regular doses of the medication given in the preceding 24hrs when calculating total dose taken</li> </ul>
Other			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Additional parent/carer concerns</li> <li>Any concerns about safeguarding ie deliberate exposure of neglect</li> </ul>

### Green Action

Provide Ingestion safety netting advice. Confirm they are comfortable with the decisions/ advice given  
Always consider safeguarding issues.

### Red Action

Refer immediately to emergency care – consider whether 999 transfer or parent/taxi most appropriate based on clinical acuity etc.