

 An official website of the United States government  
[Here's how you know.](#)

FULL TEXT LINKS



Case Reports [J Vet Emerg Crit Care \(San Antonio\)](#). 2020 Jan;30(1):74-80.

doi: 10.1111/vec.12919. Epub 2019 Dec 28.

## Survival of a dog with accidental colchicine overdose

[Ingrid Henrietta Goodman](#) <sup>1</sup>

Affiliations

PMID: 31883205 DOI: [10.1111/vec.12919](#)

### Abstract

**Objective:** To describe the treatment and clinical course of a dog accidentally prescribed 10 times the recommended dose of colchicine (0.3 mg/kg/d instead of 0.03 mg/kg/d).

**Case summary:** After glaucoma surgery, a 1-year-old male neutered Pomeranian weighing 6.8 kg was prescribed 1,000 µg colchicine twice a day per os. The dog presented to the emergency department after the first dose with vomiting and was treated as an outpatient. Two colchicine doses later, the dog presented with vomiting, ocular pain, and increased intraocular pressure. The dog's vital signs were normal, and the dog was admitted for rehydration, analgesia, and revision glaucoma surgery the next day. Two hours after revision surgery, the dog developed vomiting and diarrhea. Postoperatively, the dog was hypothermic (36.3°C), persistently hypertensive (227 mm Hg), and bradycardic (60/min). Biochemistry revealed metabolic acidosis and increased hepatic enzyme activities. Mannitol was administered for presumed cerebral edema. Later, the dog developed bradycardia due to second-degree atrioventricular heart block, which responded to atropine. Total hospitalization was 9 days. Treatment included IV fluids, IV lipid emulsion, N-acetylcysteine, activated charcoal, gastroprotectants, antiemetics, opioids, antimicrobials, and barrier nursing due to transient neutropenia.

**New or unique information provided:** This is the first report to describe the successful treatment of a dog with colchicine overdose. The systemic effects were presumed to be secondary to colchicine toxicosis rather than diet, infection, or other drug reaction, and may have been compounded by a second anesthetic episode. Gastrointestinal signs, symptoms of cerebral edema, cardiac arrhythmias, and neutropenia were documented. One other report of colchicine overdose in a dog exists, and that patient was euthanized. This report demonstrates that complete recovery with intensive care is possible; however, the prognosis remains guarded.

**Keywords:** arrhythmia < cardiovascular; cerebral edema; colchicine; dog; toxicosis.

© Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care Society 2019.

[PubMed Disclaimer](#)

### Related information

[MedGen](#)

[PubChem Compound \(MeSH Keyword\)](#)

### LinkOut – more resources

Full Text Sources

[Ovid Technologies, Inc.](#)

[Wiley](#)