

Stasik MJ, Byczkowska Z, Szendzikowski S, Fiedorczuk Z: Acute tetraethyllead poisoning. Archives of Toxicology. 1969, 24(4), 283-291.

Abstract

Four cases of accidental poisoning with tetraethyllead are described. Three out of four of the patients died.

In the first case, pure ethyl fluid was accidentally ingested. Dominating the clinical picture of this patient were signs of greatly elevated intracranial pressure. Three other persons were poisoned as a group. They unknowingly inhaled tetraethyllead contained in a paint solvent they used. In these three cases, the intoxication manifested itself predominantly as a mental disorder suggestive of schizophrenia.

Gross and microscopic changes observed in the fatal cases gave evidence of a capillary vascular lesion, particularly involving the vessels of the CNS. Liver damage and less severe damage to the heart muscle and kidney parenchyma were also noted.

The distribution as well as the extent of the above mentioned lesions correlate approximately with the distribution and concentration of tetraethyllead in the various internal organs.

Key-Words

Tetraethyllead Mental Disorder Damage to Parenchymatous Organs