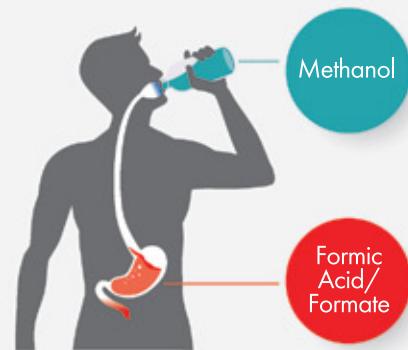


## WHAT IS METHANOL POISONING?

Methanol is not in itself toxic, but is metabolised to the highly toxic formic acid. Treatment focuses on blocking the enzyme (ADH) with antidote (ethanol), buffering the metabolic acidosis with bicarbonate, and, if possible, using dialysis to remove methanol and formate thereby correcting the metabolic acidosis. Folinic acid may also be given to enhance the endogenous metabolism of formate.



## WHAT ABOUT ACCESS TO MEDICINES?



The most important part for the treatment is **early administration of antidote**. Apart from alcohol (ethanol), the only other antidote is **Fomepizole**. Fomepizole was included in the WHO Essential Medicine List in 2013. It is an established drug in the international guidelines, but the current price makes it unattainable for most victims in high-risk countries where people are affected. MI is working to make Fomepizole available at a price point which could then allow for a wider acceptance and adoption as a primary antidote.



### WHEN TO CALL FOR ASSISTANCE:

**Methanol poisoning can be treated if diagnosed within 10 to 30 hours of ingestion.**

If there are patients with a strong suspicion of methanol poisoning, call your local hospital for advice and to discuss possibilities for intervention.

One of the most important reasons for this is the possibility to identify illicit alcohol in the environment, starting early treatment, and be able to warn the public about the possible dangers, as soon as possible.

Where there is one there are usually many.

All content herein is for informational purposes only and not intended to be a substitute for independent professional medical judgment, advice, diagnosis, or treatment.



[METHANOL.ORG/BOOTLEGALCOHOL-PREVENTION](http://METHANOL.ORG/BOOTLEGALCOHOL-PREVENTION)



## KNOW WHAT IS IN YOUR DRINK?



# COULD IT BE METHANOL POISONING?

