

Case Report: Cocaine toxicity causing a multi-organ failure and serotonin syndrome

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Abstract

Cocaine use has seen an increase over the years and is associated with several life-threatening complications. The way in which this happens is by blocking the uptake of specific monoamine transporters leading to its accumulation and overstimulation within the post-synaptic receptors. It's important to distinguish the symptoms of acute cocaine toxicity early to ensure appropriate treatment is started as symptoms can manifest rapidly. Here we see a young gentleman presenting with findings of acute agitation and hallucinations manifesting into a cardiac arrest with a multi-organ failure and serotonin syndrome. After admission to ITU post cardiac arrest he was stepped down after a total of 55 days and made a good recovery. We aim to discuss the numerous pathophysiological effects cocaine can have on the body and the significance of these in acute toxicity.

Keywords: cocaine toxicity, multi-organ failure, dopamine, serotonin, norepinephrine

Biography

Joshua Soggi is a junior doctor currently working in [elderly medicine](#) at [North Manchester General Hospital](#). He is an international graduate, who has an MD from [Medical University Of Varna, Bulgaria](#).

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