



## Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study

### SPAM (Sotolol, Propranolol, Atenolol, Metoprolol)

**AIMS:** To investigate the pharmacokinetics & dynamics of beta-blockers in overdose. In particular the management of beta-blocker toxicity including the benefits & risks of inotropes & high dose insulin euglycaemia therapy (HIE).

**INCLUSION:**

- 1/ Any patient taking an intentional overdose of a beta-blocker
- 2/ Any patient taking an accidental overdose of a beta-blocker

**EXCLUSION:** Age < 14 years

**WHAT IS INVOLVED:** This study involves using serum already collected & obtaining additional serum samples, while the patient is in hospital. Patients' will be informed that extra blood samples will be taken. At the most we will collect 4 extra blood samples per 24 hours. The majority of these samples will be taken with the patient's routine bloods. Hence there are minimal risks from this study, only that of collecting an extra blood sample. The patients will be de-identified. Samples are tested for drug levels. Once the study is completed the samples are destroyed. As a part of this study we will also be accessing the patient's medical records. This study will allow us to better understand the toxicity of beta-blockers in overdose.

**METHOD:**

**STEP 1** - Obtain **consent** from the patient. Please ask them to sign **page 4** of the "**Subject Information & Consent form**" & then please fax this page to: **(02) 80160860**.

**STEP 2** - Complete the patient data form & please fax the completed form to **(02) 80160860**

**STEP 3** - Research samples are to be collected in a **serum tube**. **Note** on all request forms "**SPAM**" – research sample. Please send the "Laboratory Protocol" to your pathology laboratory with the first research serum sample collected.

**ECG & BLOOD SAMPLE TIMES:**

**Research samples to be collected are 5mL serum samples (SST)**

ECG should be done on admission & when clinically indicated.

Blood collection: Please collect as many of the samples below as possible:

Suggest collecting in the first 24-hour period where possible – on admission, 2h, 4h, 6h, 12h, 18h, 24h & then 6 hourly while in Intensive Care or High Dependency Unit. Then daily after 3 days.

**Any questions please call Dr Colin Page on 0404044732 or 1800 676 944.**

**Please fax all forms to (02) 80160860**





**Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study  
Sotolol, Propranolol, Atenolol & Metoprolol (SPAM)  
Patient Data Sheet**

<b>PRESENTATION TO HOSPITAL:</b>  <b>DATE:</b> <b>TIME:</b>	<b>Patient Sticker/Details:</b>
<b>CONSENT OBTAINED:</b> Yes / No	
<b>INGESTION DETAILS</b>  <b>DATE:</b> <b>TIME:</b>	<b>WEIGHT:</b> <b>HEIGHT:</b>
<b>DRUG, DOSE &amp; NUMBER INGESTED:</b>	<b>USUAL MEDICATION:</b> Yes / No  <b>INDICATION:</b> e.g. Hypertension  <b>INTENTIONAL / ACCIDENTAL</b>
<b>CO INGESTIONS:</b> Drugs or Alcohol	<b>CHARCOAL GIVEN:</b> Yes / No  <b>TIME &amp; DOSE:</b>
<b>CLINICAL EFFECTS:</b>  <b>Minimum GCS:</b> <b>Seizures:</b> Yes / No  <b>Minimum pulse:</b> <b>Minimum blood pressure:</b>  <b>Arrhythmia:</b> Yes / No      Please include ECG  <b>Other end organ toxicity</b> e.g. renal impairment/ Please specify.	
<b>MANAGEMENT:</b>  <b>INTUBATION/VENTILATION:</b> Yes / No  <b>INOTROPES:</b> Yes / No <b>If yes, which inotropes &amp; maximum dose used</b>  <b>High Dose Insulin Euglycaemia (HIE):</b> Yes / No <b>If yes, maximum dose insulin used &amp; duration</b>  <b>OTHER TREATMENTS:</b> e.g. Calcium, atropine, glucagon	

Please fax completed form to (02) 80160860 or scan & email to [cpage@bigpond.net.au](mailto:cpage@bigpond.net.au). If you have any questions, please call Dr Colin Page on 0404044732 or 1800676944



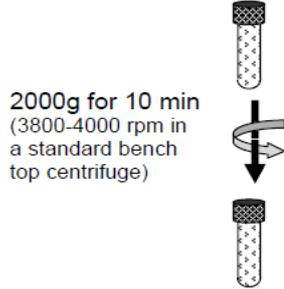
# Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study

## SPAM Laboratory Protocol

Please send this information sheet to your pathology laboratory with the first serum research sample collected.

### 1. Serum

Blood in plain or serum-separator (SST) tube



2000g for 10 min  
(3800-4000 rpm in  
a standard bench  
top centrifuge)

1.6-2mL aliquots of  
serum (in 2mL screw  
cap cryotubes if  
available)

Label each tube with sample type ("Ser"), patient ID, date & time of collection.

Keep samples from each collection time separate in a single specimen bag, along with a copy of the corresponding request form.



Freeze as soon as possible and transport in dry ice (or other suitable frozen transport) to -80°C storage. **NOTE:** please freeze all available (earlier) left-over samples, even if they have been left unfrozen for several days, noting the date and time of freezing on the request forms.

### 2. Left over serum/ plasma from earlier time points

The most important samples are the first ones taken, when the patient & doctor may not be aware of the study. Even if these samples have not been processed according to the procedures above, we can obtain important information from them. Therefore, please ensure that samples from this patient are **not discarded** without first discussing with a study coordinator (contact details at the bottom of this page).

### 3. Results from your lab

If time permits we would appreciate copies of all results (biochemistry, haematology & coagulation).

Please either fax to **(02) 80160860**

OR :

Post to: Dr Colin Page  
Emergency Department  
Princess Alexandra Hospital  
Ipswich Road  
Woolloongabba QLD 4102

If you have any questions please call **Dr Colin Page (QLD) on 0404044732**.

IF THIS FAILS please call the ASP study line on 1800676944.

**Fax number for sending laboratory results: (02) 80160860**

**Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study**  
**Australian Paracetamol Project**  
**Laboratory Protocol**

**4. Sample Transport**

Samples should be sent in a single batch on patient discharge.

Please label these samples as:

**“SPAM ATOM STUDY: Study Hold for Dr Isbister (NSW) or Dr Goce Dimeski (QLD)”**

These samples are to be sent to:

**FOR NSW SAMPLES**

**For Dr Geoff Isbister**

**Specimen Reception,  
Hunter Area Pathology Service, John  
Hunter Hospital,  
Lookout Road, New Lambton Heights,  
NSW 2305**

**\*PLACE IMMEDIATELY IN -80  
FREEZER\***

**FOR QLD SAMPLES**

**For Dr Goce Dimeski  
Chief Scientist  
c/o Chemical Pathology  
Princess Alexandra Hospital  
Woolloongabba  
QLD 4102**

**\*PLACE IMMEDIATELY IN -80  
FREEZER\***

**Background information about this study:**

The SPAM study aims to investigate the pharmacokinetics & dynamics of beta-blockers in overdose. In particular we want to examine the benefits & risks of various management options in beta-blocker toxicity. If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact us on the numbers provided below.

If you have any questions please call **Dr Colin Page (QLD) on 0404044732.**  
IF THIS FAILS please call the ASP study line on 1800676944.  
**Fax number for sending laboratory results: (02) 80160860**



**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM**  
**Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study**  
**Study Information Sheet**

**Invitation**

You are invited to take part in a study into drugs in overdose (Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study). The study is being conducted by the Department of Clinical Toxicology at the Calvary Mater Newcastle.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to participate in this study, it is important for you to understand why the research is being done and what it will involve. Please take the time to read the following information carefully and discuss it with others if you wish.

**1. ‘What is the purpose of this study?’**

This study measures drug levels in blood (and sometimes urine) after drug overdoses. By taking several samples, the study aims to find out how long it takes for the body to get rid of the drug. We are also looking at the effect of the drug on the body. This information might be useful to decide how long to keep people in hospital and whether drug levels might be helpful.

**2. ‘Why have I been invited to participate in this study’**

You are eligible to participate in this study because you have ingested a drug that we wish to gain more information about in overdose.

**3. ‘What if I don’t want to take part in this study, or if I want to withdraw later?’**

Participation in the study is completely voluntary you will suffer no disadvantage if you elect to not be involved in the study and will continue to receive optimal ongoing care. You may withdraw from the study at any time and have the option of withdrawing all data relating to the study and have any blood samples destroyed.

**4. ‘What does this study involve?’**

If you agree to participate in this study, you will be asked to sign the Participant’s Consent Form.

We may collect some extra blood samples while you are in hospital to measure drug levels in the blood. In most cases we will try to use blood samples that are collected as a part of your treatment. This excess blood would have been discarded. For some drugs urine will also be collected. An intravenous cannula, which is a fine plastic tube placed into a vein in the hand or arm, will be used to take the blood samples during the study to minimise discomfort This may be in addition to the intravenous cannula inserted for treatment of the overdose, if required.

In some participants urine will also be collected, and you will be informed of this at the time of consenting. You will be asked to pass urine into a container at specific times for up to 24 hours. In addition the researchers would like to have access to your medical records to obtain relevant information to the study.

**5. ‘How is this study being paid for?’**

This study is being paid for by the Department of Clinical Toxicology Prince of Wales Hospital.

**6. ‘Are there risks to me in taking part in this study?’**



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The only risk of being involved in the study is the additional need for an intravenous cannula. This will not be required in all participants and we will aim to use the cannula inserted into your arm as a part of your treatment. This will be inserted by experienced health care staff. There are minimal risks from taking blood, but they include a small risk of bruising at the site, dizziness and fainting, and the small chance of an infection developing from the presence of the cannula. The standard precautions of using a sterile technique to collect blood and insert the cannula will significantly reduce the risk of this and will be adhered during the study. There is no risk from urine collection, which will be collected by nursing staff.

**7. ‘What happens if I suffer injury or complications as a result of the study?’**

If you suffer any injuries or complications as a result of this study, you should contact the study doctor as soon as possible, who will assist you in arranging appropriate medical treatment.

You may have a right to take legal action to obtain compensation for any injuries or complications resulting from the study. Compensation may be available if your injury or complication is caused by the procedures, or by the negligence of any of the parties involved in the study. If you receive compensation that includes an amount for medical expenses, you will be required to pay for your medical treatment from those compensation monies.

If you are not eligible for compensation for your injury or complication under the law, but are eligible for Medicare, then you can receive any medical treatment required for your injury or complication free of charge as a public patient in any Australian public hospital.

**8. ‘Will I benefit from the study?’**

This study aims to further medical knowledge and may improve future treatment of certain drug overdoses, however it may not directly benefit you.

**9. ‘Will taking part in this study cost me anything and will I be paid?’**

Participation in this study will not cost you anything and you will not be paid.

**10. ‘What will happen to my tissue sample after it has been used?’**

The blood or tissue sample/s you provide during the study will be destroyed at the completion of the study.

**11. ‘How will my confidentiality be protected?’**

The samples that are collected in this study will de-identified and stored as a study number. The study mastercode will only be known to the researchers and will be password protected. Only the researchers named above will have access to your details and results that will be held securely at this Hospital.

Any identifiable information that is collected about you in connection with this study will remain confidential and will be disclosed only with your permission, or except as required by law.



**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM**  
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**Study Information Sheet**

**12. ‘What happens with the results?’**

If you give us your permission by signing the consent document, we plan to discuss/publish the results with the HREC for monitoring purposes, peer-reviewed journals and presentation at conferences or other professional forums.

In any publication, information will be provided in such a way that you cannot be identified. Results of the study will be provided to you, if you wish.

The information collected from this study will be stored in a de-identified fashion. This personal information will be accessed, used and stored in accordance with Commonwealth Privacy Laws and the *NSW Health Records and Information Privacy Act 2002*. It is assured that all records dealing with participation in this study will be kept for five years after completion of the study under secure conditions. Authorised persons within the institution may also inspect records for purposes of data audit only. Individual participants in the study will not be identifiable in any reports of the data from the protocol or any publications resulting from the research.

**13. ‘What should I do if I want to discuss this study further before I decide?’**

When you have read this information, a member of the treating team will discuss it with you and any queries you may have. If you would like to know more at any stage, please do not hesitate to contact Dr Colin Page (QLD) on 0404044732.

**14. ‘Who should I contact if I have concerns about the conduct of this study?’**

This study has been approved by the South Eastern Sydney Local Health District – Northern Sector Human Research Ethics Committee. Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study should contact the Research Support Office which is nominated to receive complaints from research participants. You should contact them on 02 9382 3587, or email [ethicsnhn@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ethicsnhn@sesiahs.health.nsw.gov.au) and quote **HREC project number: 12/067**.

This project has also been authorised to be conducted at The Sydney Children’s Hospital Network. If you have any concerns about the conduct of this study, at this site please do not hesitate to contact the Research Governance Officer on (02) 9845 3011.

The conduct of this study at the Calvary Mater Newcastle has been authorised by the Little Company of Mary. Any person with concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study may contact Dr Nicole Gerrand, Manager, Research Governance Officer, Calvary Mater Newcastle, Telephone: 02 4921 4950, Email: [hnelhd-hrec@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au](mailto:hnelhd-hrec@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au)

**Thank you for taking the time to consider this study.**

**If you wish to take part in it, please sign the attached consent form. This information sheet is for you to keep. More information, concerns and complaints:** If you have any questions at any time please contact Dr Colin Page (QLD) on 0404044732.





**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM**  
**Australian TOxicology Monitoring (ATOM) Study**  
**Study Information Sheet**

1. I,.....  
of.....  
agree to participate in the study described in the participant information statement set out above
  
2. I acknowledge that I have read the participant information statement, which explains why I have been selected, the aims of the study and the nature and the possible risks of the investigation, and the statement has been explained to me to my satisfaction.
  
3. Before signing this consent form, I have been given the opportunity of asking any questions relating to any possible physical and mental harm I might suffer as a result of my participation and I have received satisfactory answers.
  
4. I understand that I can withdraw from the study at any time without prejudice to my relationship to The Sydney Children’s Hospital Network
  
5. I agree that research data gathered from the results of the study may be published, provided that I cannot be identified.
  
6. I understand that if I have any questions relating to my participation in this research, I may contact Dr Angela Chiew on telephone 0412575580 who will be happy to answer them.
  
7. I acknowledge receipt of a copy of this Consent Form and the Participant Information Statement.
  
8. I understand that there may be occasions for the research staff to request copies of information from my medical records that will allow the completion of the study datasheets and associated information for the study. Specifically I consent to the hospital providing the details of this admission after the event when they are contacted by the research staff.

Complaints may be directed to contact Dr Nicole Gerrand, Manager, Research Ethics and Governance, Hunter New England Local Health Network, Telephone: 02 4921 4950, Email: hnehrec@hnehealth.nsw.gov.au

**Signature of participant**

**Please PRINT name**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of witness**

**Please PRINT name**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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**Signature of investigator**

**Please PRINT name**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

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**PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET AND CONSENT FORM**  
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**REVOCAION OF CONSENT**

I hereby wish to **WITHDRAW** my consent to participate in the study described above and understand that such withdrawal **WILL NOT** jeopardise any treatment or my relationship with the Prince of Wales Hospital.

**Signature of participant**

**Please PRINT name**

**Date**

\_\_\_\_\_

The section for Revocation of Consent should be faxed to **(02) 80160860**