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Slow-release clomipramine acute poisoning with radio-opaque gastric bezoar

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A 48-year-old woman with depression was intubated on admission to the intensive care unit for deep coma of unknown origin. Post-intubation chest X-ray showed the intragastric presence of a radio-opaque pharmacobezoar with 22 tablets (Fig. 1). Toxicology screening results and information from the family confirmed a witnessed intake of a slow-release preparation of clomipramine (Anafranil-Retard 75 mg, depot tablets) 12 h before admission.

Slow-release clomipramine is known to produce a radio-opaque pharmacobezoar that can be removed by gastroscopic examination [1, 2]. This observation

Fig. 1 Radio-opaque gastric pharmacobezoar with 22 tablets (see arrow) on post-intubation chest X-ray

confirms that chest X-ray can disclose the cause of a coma related to severe intoxication.

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