Sever Gastrointestinal Caustic Injury and Surgical Treatment

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Abstract:
Approximately 20% of caustic ingestions result in some degree of esophageal injury. Alkaline materials are the most frequent corrosive materials ingested.

Common caustic substances ingested are shown in bellow table:

caustic substance	Type	Commercially available form
Acids	sulfuric	Batteries, Industrial cleaning agents Metal plating
Acids	Oxalic	
	Hydrochloric	Toilet and Drain cleaners …
Alkali	phosphoric	Toilet cleaners …
	Sodium hydroxide	Drain cleaners
	Potassium hydroxide	Oven cleaners, Washing powders
Ammonia	Ammonium hydroxide	Household cleaners
Detergents, Bleach	Sodium hypochlorite	Household bleach, cleaners
	Sodium polyphosphate	
Condy's crystals	Potassium permanganate	Disinfectants, Hair dyes

The physical form and PH of ingested materials play a critical role in the site and type of gastrointestinal injury (PH > 12 or PH < 1.5, crystalline drain cleaners).
Unlike Alkaline solutions, strong acids are bitter, burn on contact and usually produce vomiting but when swallowed pass rapidly through the esophagus and damage the antrum of the stomach.
I will present the results of 5 cases of gastric out let obstruction after acid ingestion (subtotal gastrectomy and billroth 1) and 4 patients with extensive esophageal damage and perforation (Total esophagectomy and gastric pull up).

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