

# Goldfrank's Toxicologic Emergencies, 10e

TABLE 36–1.Colchicine Poisoning: Common Clinical Findings, Timing of Onset, and Treatment

Phase	Time <sup>a</sup>	Signs and Symptoms	Therapy/Follow-Up
I	0–24 hours	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea  Salt and water depletion  Leukocytosis	Antiemetics  Consider GI decontamination  IV fluids  Close observation for leukopenia
II	1–7 days	Risk of sudden cardiac death (24–48 hours)  Pancytopenia  Acute kidney injury  Sepsis  Acute respiratory distress syndrome  Electrolyte imbalances  Rhabdomyolysis	ICU admission and -appropriate resuscitation  G-CSF  Hemodialysis  Antibiotics  Oxygen, mechanical ventilation  Repletion as needed  IV fluids, hemodialysis
III	>7 days	Alopecia (may not develop for 2–3 weeks)  Myopathy, neuropathy, or myoneuropathy	Follow-up within 1–2 months  EMG testing, biopsy and neurologic follow-up as needed

<sup>a</sup>The interval time course is not absolute, and overlap of symptom presentation may occur.  
EMG = electromyography; G-CSF = granulocyte-colony stimulating factor; GI = gastrointestinal; ICU = intensive care unit; IV = intravenous.