

# Xenobiotics or other substances for which activated charcoal is not or very rarely recommended.

**Alcohols** : methanol, ethylene glycol, etc.

- Rapid intestinal absorption and low binding capacity by activated charcoal.

**Cyanide**

- Low binding capacity (less than 4%). Indeed, 1g of activated charcoal adsorbs only 35mg of cyanide. However, administration of activated charcoal may be indicated to in some cyanide poisoning involving potentially lethal doses.

**Hydrocarbons**

- Volatil xenobiotics associated with a risk of aspiration. Administration of activated charcoal could increase this risk and aggravate it.

**Ions** : sodium, potassium, etc.

- Not adsorbed by activated charcoal.

**Lithium**

- Not adsorbed by activated charcoal.

**Heavy metals** : copper, iron, mercury, lead, etc.

- Not adsorbed by activated charcoal.

**Caustics** : Sulfuric acid, ammonium hydroxyde, etc.

- Activated charcoal is contraindicated because it interferes with the interpretation of endoscopy results. Also, most caustics are not adsorbed by activated charcoal.

**Références**

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