

Title	IMDG Code 2016 / SUPPLEMENT / MFAG / Table 6
Effective Date	1-1-2012
Invalid from	1-1-2014
Note	Incorporating Amendment 35-10

TABLE 6

TOXIC MENTAL CONFUSION

Exposure to chemicals and solvents including alcohol and illicit substances may result in disorientation in time and space. In these circumstances, the casualty will usually develop the signs and symptoms within 15 to 30 minutes of exposure. Sudden cessation of heavy alcohol consumption may also cause toxic mental confusion.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

The casualty confuses the day of the week, the month of the year or where they are at that moment in time

TREATMENT

- There is a risk of loss overboard. The person should be kept under close observation in a locked well lit cabin and given repeated reassurance.
- After removal of the casualty from the polluted atmosphere no specific treatment is usually necessary.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Agitation (Mental agitation, aggressive and sometimes violent behaviour)

TREATMENT

- If the casualty is difficult to manage, give diazepam 10 mg as rectal solution.*
- Repeat, if necessary, 10 mg diazepam 30 minutes later if medical advice is not immediately available and **SEEK RADIO MEDICAL ADVICE**.

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Agitation, convulsions

Excessive exposure to chemicals may lead to convulsions (fits).

TREATMENT

- Protect the airway from being blocked by the tongue or secretions.
- Give diazepam 10 mg as rectal solution.*
- **RADIO FOR MEDICAL ADVICE**

Further advice on treatment of convulsions: See Table 5

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

Hallucinations (hearing voices and/or seeing terrifying images)

Sometimes mental illness may confuse the issue. Schizophrenia often results in hearing voices that are not there.

TREATMENT

- If the casualty is difficult to manage, give diazepam 10 mg as rectal solution.*
- Repeat, if necessary, 10 mg diazepam 30minutes later if medical advice is not immediately available and SEEK RADIO MEDICAL ADVICE.
- If there is a history of previous mental illness: SEEK RADIO MEDICAL ADVICE.

* Note: If administration of diazepam as rectal solution is not possible, give haloperidol 5 mg intramuscularly. Haloperidol (e.g. HALDOL™) may be available in the ship's ordinary medicine chest.