

The definition of hepatotoxicity after acetaminophen overdose is a serum aspartate aminotransferase or alanine aminotransferase of 1000 international units/L or greater. * Serum AST and ALT. * Serum acetaminophen level.

1. Obtain liver function test (LFT) . Aspartate aminotransferase concentrations begin to rise within 24 hours after an acute ingestion and peak at about 72 hours. Toxicity is defined as serum AST or ALT concentrations greater than 1000units/L. A rapid progression of transaminase values to 3000IU/L or greater reflects severe hepatotoxicity. Including bilirubin and alkaline phosphate concentrations.
2. Acetaminophen may be qualified in blood, plasma or urine as a diagnostic tool in the medicolegal investigation of suspicion deaths
3. Clinical or biochemical evidence of the liver toxicity may develop in one to four days, although, in severe cases, it may be evident in 12 hours. Right upper quadrant tenderness may be present and can aid in diagnosis. Laboratory studies may show evidence of liver necrosis with elevated AST, ALT, Bilirubin and prolonged coagulation times, particularly an elevated prothrombin time