



Ethylene Glycol (EG) Contamination

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News Context: The Telangana DCA issued a "stop use" notice for **Almont-Kid Syrup** (pediatric) after detecting toxic Ethylene Glycol, a repeat of recent global scandals.

- **What is Ethylene Glycol?** A colorless, odorless, sweet-tasting chemical primarily used as an **industrial antifreeze** and in the manufacture of polyester fibers.
- **Why is it in Syrups?** Unscrupulous manufacturers sometimes use it as a cheap, illegal substitute for **Glycerin** or **Propylene Glycol**, which are safe solvents for cough syrups.
- **Toxicity:** Once ingested, the liver metabolizes EG into **Glycolic acid and Oxalic acid**, which causes:
 1. **Metabolic Acidosis:** Increased acidity in the blood.
 2. **Acute Kidney Injury (AKI):** Formation of calcium oxalate crystals that "plug" the kidneys, leading to death.
- **Wholistic Insight:** This is a major regulatory challenge for the **CDSCO** (Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation). Following incidents in Gambia and Uzbekistan linked to Indian-made syrups, India has mandated **testing of all exported cough syrups** at government labs.