

Poisoning

Arsenic and thallium



Well known in toxicology

Other elements less well-known



Analysis is rarely done

Barium poisoning

Very uncommon



Few people have access to barium compounds

DNA

Fingerprints

Fibre Analysis

Poison

Blood

Marie Robards

Poisoned her father
with barium acetate



Father died



No foul play suspected



Marie Robards

Marie Robards

Went to University



Studied the play "Hamlet"

Murder of Hamlet's father



Marie affected



Confessed to a friend

Investigation

Victim exhumed



Presence of barium in his body

Marie Robards convicted



Barium was stolen from school chemistry lab

Use of Barium

Medical X-rays



Soft tissues do not show up on X-rays

DNA

Fingerprints

Fibre Analysis

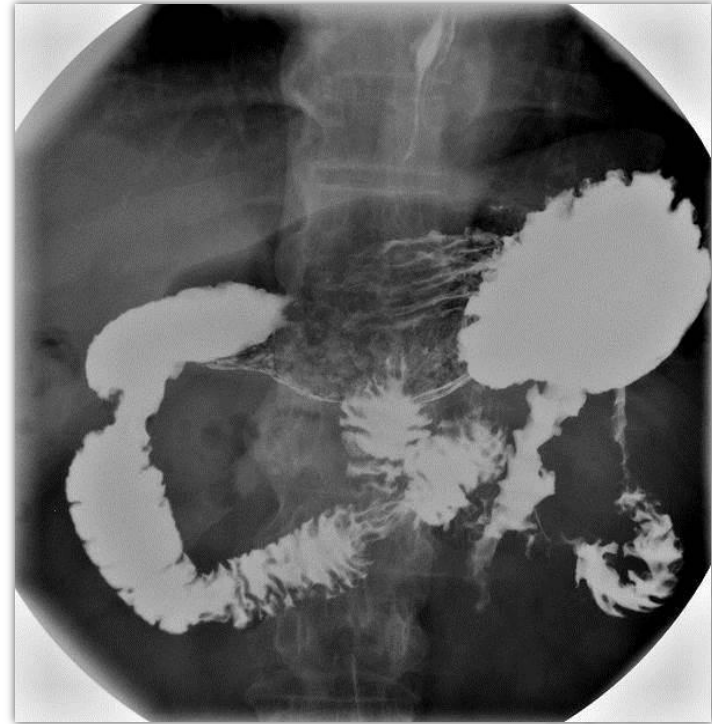
Poison

Blood

Barium meal

Contains Barium

Show up digestive system on X-rays



X-ray after barium meal

Barium meal

Why doesn't it poison the patient?

- ➔ Barium sulfate is insoluble in water
- ➔ Not absorbed by the body
- ➔ Excreted