### TABLE 1 Comparison of CaNa$_2$EDTA and Succimer for the Treatment of Lead and Zinc Intoxications

<table>
<thead>
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<th>CaNa$_2$EDTA</th>
<th>Succimer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Trade names and formulations</strong></td>
<td>Calcium Disodium Versenate (3M); 200 mg/mL</td>
<td>Chemet (Sanofi-Synthelabo); 100-mg capsules</td>
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| **Routes of administration**  | ▶ Slow IV infusion; IM or SC injection  
▶ Dilution with saline or 5% dextrose needed if given IV | Oral                                      |
| **Advantages**                | ▶ Rapid absorption  
▶ Can chelate lead and zinc | ▶ Oral administration  
▶ Not nephrotoxic  
▶ Does not chelate essential minerals such as manganese and copper  
▶ More rapid clinical improvement in lead intoxication  
▶ More effective at removing lead from soft tissues |
| **Disadvantages**             | ▶ Need for repeated IM or SC injections  
▶ Pain at injection site  
▶ Potential nephrotoxicity; need to monitor renal function regularly  
▶ Chelation of essential minerals such as zinc, manganese, and copper with long-term use  
▶ Potential to worsen central nervous system signs as a result of lead redistribution | ▶ Less effective chelation of zinc; efficacy uncertain in zinc intoxication  
▶ Regurgitation noted in cockatiels  
▶ Potentially narrow margin of safety |
| **Recommended dosage**        | 10 to 40 mg/kg bid; 5- to 10-day treatment intervals interspersed with 3- to 5-day rest periods | 20 to 40 mg/kg bid; rest period not essential, but periodic reassessment of lead and zinc concentration is recommended |
| **Toxicity**                  | Doses of up to 270 mg/kg bid for 15 days caused increases in AST, LDH, CPK, and uric acid in domestic pigeons but no other abnormalities $^{30}$ | ▶ 80 mg/kg bid caused death in cockatiels $^{31}$  
▶ 270 mg/kg bid not lethal for domestic pigeons (some increase in uric acid) $^{30}$ |

*AST = aspartate aminotransferase, CPK = creatine phosphokinase, LDH = lactate dehydrogenase*