Shellfish Poisoning Symptoms Dichotomous Key

1a. Patient noticed symptoms within minutes or within hours
2a. Patient was a healthy adult
3a. Symptoms did not include diarrhea or abdominal pain4 3b. Symptoms included diarrhea and nausea pain9
4a. Patient experienced short term memory loss and dizziness
5a. Headache, confusion, and disorientation occurred75b. No dizziness, confusion, or disorientation occurred6
6a. Loss of limb function occurred7 6b. Slurred speech, vertigo, and convulsions occurredNeurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning
7a. Patient felt tingling of lips, tongue, fingers, and toes
8a. The patient experienced seizures9 8b. Paralysis of chest and abdomen occurred Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning
9a. Ultimately, the patient slipped into a coma Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning 9b. The patient recovered once the toxins were naturally flushed from the bodyDiarrhetic Shellfish Poisoning