

Poison Prevention

Every Child should be Injury Free!

Children are at significantly greater risk from poisoning death because of their smaller size, high metabolic rate and the strength of the substances ingested. The American Association of Poison Control Centers and the US Product Safety Commission say that for every 10 poison exposures, approximately 9 occur in the home. Approximately 50 percent of poisonings are by products like cosmetics, cleaning substances, plants, toys, pesticides, and art supplies.



- Store all medicines, including over-the-counter medications, out of sight and reach of children. Make sure they are in child-resistant bottles and in locked cabinets.
- Be sure that tops of medicine bottles and household products are always on tight. Do not remove child-resistant caps.
- Never call medications or vitamins or "candy."
- Keep purses and other bags with medications out of reach of children. Remind visitors to do the same.
- Do not take medicine or give medicine to others in front of children.
- Check the garage, basement, and all cabinets for household products and chemicals. Store all household products and chemicals out of reach of children. Be sure to return them to a safe place immediately after use.
- Store all household products in the containers they came in with the labels on them. Do not put them in other containers such like soda cans, milk cartons, or water jugs.
- Throw away old medicine and household products that are not used anymore.
- Use cabinet latches to stop children from getting to household products and medications.
- Never leave a child alone with medicines or household products.
- Know which plants in your home may be toxic. Keep toxic plants out of reach of children.
- Make sure that there is no peeling or chipped paint around areas where children eat, sleep or play.
- Put smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors near sleeping areas.
- Teach children to stay away from things that could be poisonous.
- Teach grandparents, other relatives and friends to clear away dangers before children visit their homes.

Keep the poison control number near all telephones: 1-800-222-1222.

If a poisoning occurs, stay calm.

If the poison is swallowed:

- ✓ Do not give the child anything to eat or drink.
- ✓ Do not make the person throw up or give Syrup of Ipecac unless directed by the poison center or a doctor.

Immediately contact the poison control center.

If the poison is inhaled:

- ✓ Move the child to fresh air.

Immediately contact the poison control center.

If the poison is on the skin:

- ✓ Remove clothing that contains poison.
- ✓ Rinse the skin with water for 10 minutes.

Contact the poison control center.

If the poison is in the eye:

- ✓ Flush the eye with water for 15 minutes, and then contact the poison control center.

When contacting the poison control center at 1-800-222-1222, have the following information ready:

- ✓ Time the poisoning occurred
- ✓ Product that the child was exposed to; have the container nearby
- ✓ How much the child ingested
- ✓ Any treatment given
- ✓ Child's age, weight, and condition
- ✓ Any preexisting medical problems
- ✓ Your name and telephone number