

Palmetto Poison Center
1-800-222-1222
Call for Poison Prevention Information or Emergencies



What is the Poison Control Center?

The Palmetto Poison Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to the prevention of poisonings and providing clinical advice to the public and healthcare community should a poisoning occur. We are staffed by nurses and pharmacists who are formally trained in toxicology and they are specialists in providing poison information. We are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Our calls range from accidental and intentional ingestion of poisonous substances to adverse drug reactions, snake and spider bites, and occupational or biochemical exposures.

What are poisons? How can they harm you?

A poison is a substance that can cause injury or death if it comes into contact with your body. Poisons can enter the body through several ways: by being inhaled, ingested, or by direct skin contact. Poisons come in all different shapes, sizes, and colors. Some poisons are even odorless and colorless. Many people may get confused by poisons that smell or taste good. If you don't know what it is—stay away!

How can you be poisoned?

There are many ways to be poisoned:

- Ingestion- eating or drinking something
- Contact- splashing or spilling something on the skin or in the eyes
- Inhalation- breathing dangerous fumes
- Bites or stings from insects, snakes, or spiders

Young children usually do not understand that they can poison themselves. Children under 5 are very curious about the things around them. All potential poisons should be kept up high and out of reach or under a lock and key.

How do accidental poisonings happen?

- 🍷 Improper storage of poisons: being put where children can reach them
- 🍷 Improper use: mixing household chemicals like bleach and ammonia
- 🍷 Taking medication without reading the label
- 🍷 Children imitating adults (taking medicine in front of children)

Let's poison proof your home:

- 🍷 Look at the list of potential poisons in the home
- 🍷 Locate all potential poisons and make sure they are put up high and out of reach.
- 🍷 Post the number for Poison Control in your home. 1-800-222-1222 (stickers provided)

Let's teach children about poisons....Key Facts

1. You cannot always tell a poison by the way it looks, smells, or tastes!
2. Some candy looks like medicine...Always ask before you eat anything that is not given to you by an adult. (Show pictures)
3. Sometimes things smell good that are poisons. Some types of cleaners smell really good like apples for example but are very harmful if swallowed. (Show pictures)
4. You should not put plants in your mouth. Stay away because you never know if they are poisonous.)
5. You should never put cosmetic type products in your mouth: examples are toothpaste, perfume, antibiotic cream.

Look at the following pictures...Can you see how a child might confuse these products?
(These products were chosen because of the color or packaging.)



Is it Candy or Medicine

When you have questions about poisonings, call the NY State Poison Control Centers. Information is provided free of charge. Translators are available.
1-800-222-1222



Multivitamin



Good N' Fruity®



Amitriptyline



Cinnamon Candy



Dolobid®



Good N' Fruity®



Ferrous Sulfate



Red Hots®



Tegretol®



Smarties®



Children's Vitamins



Tangy Bunnies



Depakene



Good N' Fruity®



Pseudoephedrine



Cinnamon Candy



Ferrous Gluconate



M&M®



Amantadine



Good N' Fruity®



Bethanechol



Sweetarts®



Aspirin



Skittles®



Mesoridazine



M&M® (small)



Simethicone Chewable



Altoid® Mint



Tylenol®



Tic Tac®



Ephedrine



Good N' Plenty®



Phenelzine



Skittles®



Valproic Acid



Good N' Plenty®



Ibuprofen



Good N' Plenty®



Household Check List

Keep These Items Up High and Out of Reach or Stay Away!

Kitchen:

- ✘ Soaps and Detergents (Dishwasher supply also!)
- ✘ Furniture Polish
- ✘ Drain Cleaners, oven cleaners
- ✘ Ant/Roach Killers
- ✘ Mouse/Rat Poison
- ✘ Floor Cleaners
- ✘ Cleaners for the floors and countertops
- ✘ Alcohols

Bathroom:

- ✘ Medications
- ✘ Mouthwash
- ✘ Cleaning Supplies
- ✘ Shampoos, etc...
- ✘ Toothpaste
- ✘ Deodorizers
- ✘ Eye Drops

Bedroom:

- ✘ Cosmetics (perfume, makeup, lotions, etc...)
- ✘ Baby powder
- ✘ Medicines

Laundry Room:

- ✘ Bleach
- ✘ Laundry Detergent
- ✘ Cleaners

Garage or Storage Areas:

- ✘ Antifreeze
- ✘ Pesticides
- ✘ Gasoline
- ✘ Paint Removers
- ✘ Weed Killers
- ✘ Windshield Washer Fluids
- ✘ Gas/Oil treatments

Living Room:

- ✘ Plants
- ✘ Cigarettes
- ✘ Lamp Oil

Outdoor:

- ✘ Plants
- ✘ Mushrooms
- ✘ Snakes
- ✘ Spiders
- ✘ Pesticides
- ✘ Herbicides

Quiz:
How much do you know about Poison Safety Now?

1. The Poison Control Center Provides Free Service
 - a. 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
 - b. Monday-Friday 9am-5pm

2. If someone has been poisoned you should...
 - a. call 911
 - b. call 1-800-222-1222
 - c. drive to the emergency room asap!
 - d. make the person vomit immediately

3. The use of child resistant packaging always prevents accidental poisoning.
 - a. true
 - b. false

4. Cleaning with one product is good, mixing two or more together is even better.
 - a. true
 - b. false

5. Can you get poison in your eyes?
 - a. true
 - b. false

6. Children love to imitate adults therefore we should not take medicine in front of them.
 - a. true
 - b. false

7. The best place to store poisons and keep them away from children is _____.
 - a. in the kitchen cabinet with a child safety lock
 - b. in the garage in storage bins
 - c. up high and out of the reach of children

8. You can always tell a poison by the way it looks or smells.
 - a. true
 - b. false

