# Poison Prevention: A Prescription for a Safer Home

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Poisonings can happen to anyone and poison centers are for everyone.

Free, Fast Expert
Help 24 hours a day,
7 days a week –
1-800-222-1222.





Each year, over 2 million people – many age 5 and younger - swallow or have contact with a poisonous substance. Since 2008, poisoning has been the leading cause of injury-related death in the United States.





**About Poison Centers** 

Over half of the exposure cases managed by poison centers involved children ages 5 and younger, but the more serious cases occurred in adolescents and adults.







# Nearly 80% of the poison exposures were unintentional.







# 59% of human exposures involved medications or pharmaceuticals.







94% of human exposures reported to the KS poison center occurred at a residence, but they can also occur in the workplace, schools, outdoors and anywhere else.







About 70% of the exposures reported to the poison center were treated at the exposure site, which can save a trip to the doctor or emergency room, saving millions of dollars in medical expenses.







Nearly 25% of our calls come from health care facilities, so health care professionals also rely on us to help in the treatment of poisoned patients.





















Who Is At Risk?







Why Are Children At Greater Risk?

# If you can't tell the difference, how will a child?



















# What poisons are you carrying around?



















There are poison dangers in each room of the house. Whether it's oven cleaner in the kitchen or medications in the bathroom, many products can be harmful when used in the **wrong way**, in the **wrong amount** or by the **wrong person**.





# **Poison Prevention**



### **Medicine Safety**

- Keep all medicines stored out of reach and sight every time.
- Remember child-resistant packaging is not childproof. Put medicine away immediately after every use, even if you have to give another dose in a few hours.





### **Medicine Safety**



- Read and follow medicine labels before each use – make sure it's the right medicine, at the right time, in the right amount.
- Use a metric dosing device, never use household spoons to measure medicine.
- Never call medicine "candy" or make a game out of taking it.





## **Medicine Safety**



- Write clear instructions for other people who give your child medicine.
- Safely dispose of expired or unneeded medicines.
  - www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/ pubdispsearch
  - www.rxdrugdropbox.org





# **Household Cleaner & Chemical Safety**



- Read and follow directions before using products every time they are used.
- Never mix chemicals, doing so can create a poisonous gas.
- Turn on fans and open windows when using strong chemicals.





# **Household Cleaner & Chemical Safety**



- Keep all chemicals in their original containers.
   Do not use food containers to store household cleaners or yard chemicals.
- Store all chemicals away from food, up and out of reach of children.
- Discard any old or outdated products.
  - http://www.kdheks.gov/waste/about\_hhw. html





### **Plant Poison Safety**



- Find out the names of the plants in your house and yard. If you have young children or pets, consider removing those that are poisonous.
- Teach children to never eat any plants, mushrooms or berries that grow in the yard.



### **Alcohol & Nicotine Poison Safety**





- Alcohol is very dangerous for small children. Children are naturally curious and mimic adult behaviors, so take special care to keep the wine, beer, liquor and mixed drinks up and away.
- If you use an e-cigarette, keep the liquid nicotine refills locked up out of children's reach. A small amount of liquid nicotine swallowed can be fatal to a child.





# **Other Poison Safety**





- Be aware of where button batteries are within your home. Places can include remote controls, key fobs and watches. Keep away from children, these can cause severe injury when swallowed.
- Install carbon monoxide detectors on every level of your home, especially near sleeping areas.











- If the person is:
  - ✓ Not breathing
  - ✓ Unconscious
  - ✓ Having convulsions or seizuresCall 911 right away
- If the person has mild or no symptoms, call the Poison Help line, 1-800-222-1222 right away.





- Swallowed poison: Remove anything remaining in the person's mouth. Do not make the person vomit. Do not use syrup of ipecac. Call Poison Help, 1-800-222-1222.
- Poison on the skin: Remove any contaminated clothing using gloves. Rinse the skin with a mild soap and water. Call Poison Help, 1-800-222-1222.
- Poison in the eye: Gently flush the eye with cool or lukewarm water. Call Poison Help, 1-800-222-1222.
- Inhaled poison: Get to fresh air as soon as possible. Call Poison Help, 1-800-222-1222.



# First Aid for Poisoning





What to Expect When You Call

#### **Poison Prevention for Child Care Providers**



- In-person & online training program available for 2 KDHE credit hours
- www.kccto.org





# **Home Safety Checklist – Is Your Home Poison Safe?**









# **Hunter & Scout's Poison Patrol Program**



To learn more & order program materials: <u>www.kansashealthsystem.com/poisonpatrol</u>



# **Prevention Resources**

#### **Congratulations On Your New Baby!**



To order FREE postcards go to: <a href="https://www.kansashealthsystem.com/poisonmaterials">www.kansashealthsystem.com/poisonmaterials</a>



# **Prevention Resources**

## **Medication Safety Packet**

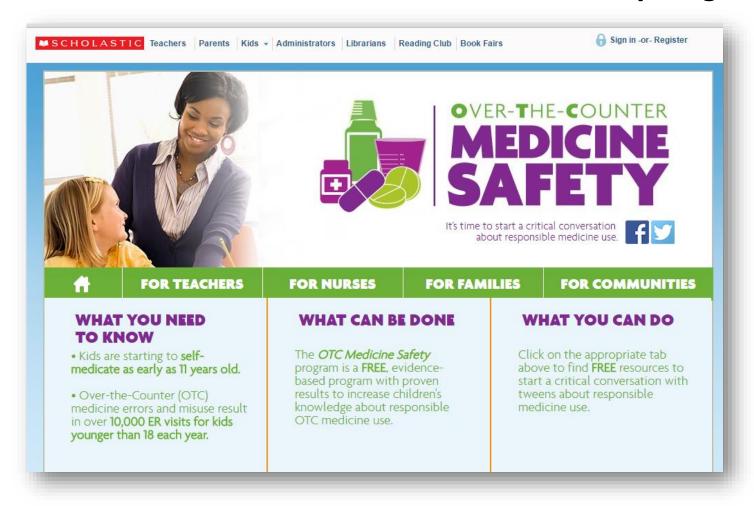


To order FREE Medicine Safety Packets, complete the online form: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MedSafetyPackets">https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MedSafetyPackets</a>





#### **OTC Medication Safety Program**



FREE DOWNLOADABLE AND INTERACTIVE RESOURCES: www.scholastic.com/OTCmedsafety





# Are you taking your medicines safely?





# Follow us on Facebook & Twitter for prevention tips & alerts!

Facebook: @PCCatKUH

Twitter: @KSPoisonControl









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