



Poison Prevention

A small child is constantly growing and exploring new things each day. Even when items such as medicines and detergents are stored out of reach to a child, what was previously inaccessible to them can change very quickly.

In 2018, U.S. poison control centers received more than 1 million calls regarding potential poison exposures in children¹. Poisoning can occur when a child swallows prescription drugs, personal care or cleaning products. By knowing which items are dangerous to children and storing and using them appropriately, you can prevent the risk of accidental poisoning.



INFORMATION

- Poisoning is the **third leading cause of unintentional injury** among children ages 1-19 years old.
- Every year about **50,000 children** visit the ED because they have ingested something dangerous.
- About 9,000 of these children need to be hospitalized each year, and **some die from this poisoning**.
- Today, **opioids are the most common substance** contributing to fatal poisonings among children age 5 and under.



SAFETY TIPS

STORAGE

- Use locks for anything within reach of children, especially when not childproofed.
- Store cleaning, personal care, and medicinal products out of reach and sight of children.

USAGE

- When giving your child medicine, learn over a counter or table to prevent droppage of medication and accidental ingestion.
- Keep track of how many pills are in the bottle and write the start date on the label.

USAGE

- Know basic first aid and keep the Poison Control phone number in your phone.
- Poison Control: **1.800.222.1222**

1. Gummin, D. D., Mowry, J. B., Spyker, D. A., Brooks, D. E., Beuhler, M. C., Rivers, L. J., Hashem, H. A., & Ryan, M. L. (2019). 2018 Annual Report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers' National Poison Data System (NPDS): 36th Annual Report. Clinical toxicology (Philadelphia, Pa.), 57(12), 1220–1413. <https://doi.org/10.1080/15563650.2019.1677022>



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