

Oregon Poison Center

The **Oregon Poison Center** provides first aid and treatment recommendations for victims of poisonings. The Center can be reached every day, around the clock, by calling 1-800-222-1222. The staff includes nurses and physicians, all specially trained to respond to poisonings and drug overdoses. Most of the time, the staff is able to manage poison exposures at home by providing close telephone follow-up. Occasionally, a poisoning cannot be treated safely in a home setting. In these cases the staff will supply your doctor or hospital with specific information to assist with your care.

The best treatment for a poisoning is to prevent it from happening. Free poison prevention materials may be obtained at various locations in your area. Information on poison prevention presentations may be obtained by calling the **Oregon Poison Center**.

Do You Know That. . .

Every 30 seconds a child is poisoned in the United States.

- Sixty percent (60%) of all poisonings occur in children under six years of age.
- Many exposures occur during times when the daily household routine is disrupted.
- The most common substances involved in poisoning are: drugs (prescription and nonprescription), cleaning agents, plants and cosmetics.
- Products may have antidote instructions that are incorrect or out of date.
- Childproof caps are not child-PROOF, they are only child-RESISTANT.
- A child who eats a poison once is likely to do it again.
- Beware: Human and animal medications look a lot alike. To err is human, even with pets.

Poison Prevention Tips

Follow these simple instructions to prevent poisonings in the home:

- ✓ Lock up all medicines. Keep them in child-resistant containers.
- ✓ Do not take medicines in front of children.
- ✓ Never call medicine candy.
- ✓ Write the purchase date on all medicines.
- ✓ Clean out old medicines regularly and flush them down the drain or toilet.
- ✓ Keep products in original containers.
- ✓ Read labels on all products carefully before using.
- ✓ Store cleaning supplies out of sight and out of reach of children. Use a lock if your child can climb.
- ✓ Rinse out containers thoroughly before disposing of them.
- ✓ Use Mr. Yuk stickers on all poisonous products in your home.
- ✓ Take your child with you if you leave the room to answer the telephone.
- ✓ Keep the Poison Center number near your telephone.

Poison-Proofing Your Home

Poisonings are most likely to occur in specific areas of your home. Check these areas carefully. Place Mr. Yuk stickers on the common poisons on this checklist, and lock them up or keep them out of the reach of children.

Kitchen

- drain cleaners*
- furniture polish*
- powdered & liquid detergents
- cleanser & scouring powders
- metal cleaners
- ammonia
- oven cleaner*
- rust remover*

Bedroom

- all drugs & pills*
- cosmetics
- perfume
- jewelry cleaner

Laundry

- bleaches
- soaps & detergents
- disinfectant
- stain remover
- bluing, dye

Closets, Attics, Storage Places

- moth balls*/sprays
- batteries*
- rat & ant poisons*

Purse

- all drugs & pills*
- cigarettes
- loose coins
- perfume
- cosmetics

Bathroom

- all drugs & pills*
- nail polish and remover
- shaving lotions
- toilet bowl cleaners*
- bath oil
- rubbing alcohol
- hair remover
- shampoo, wave lotion & sprays

Garage, Basement, Workshop

- lye*
- kerosene*
- lime
- bug killers
- gun cleaners*
- paint remover* & solvents*
- paint
- weed killers
- antifreeze*
- windshield cleaner*
- fertilizer
- lighter fluids*

* Very dangerous items, possibly containing ingredients associated with irreversible trauma or death

Accidental poisoning can happen in any home. The natural impulse is to act at once, but the wrong treatment may be more harmful than none. Be prepared to handle a poisoning by:

→ Knowing the telephone number of the Oregon Poison Center:

1-800-222-1222

→ Checking the Oregon Poison Center website at:

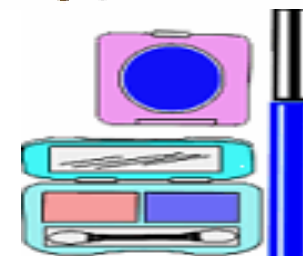
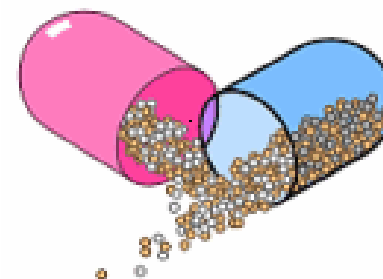
www.oregonpoison.org



Oregon Poison Center

In association with the
Department of Emergency Medicine
at the Oregon Health & Science University

A Guide to Poison Prevention and Treatment



Oregon Poison Center
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, OR 97239-2966
1-800-222-1222

First Aid for Poisoning

Has the person collapsed or stopped breathing?

- ▶ Call 911 or your local emergency number right away.

Poison in the eyes?

- ▶ Rinse eyes with running water for 15 to 20 minutes.
- ▶ Call **1-800-222-1222**.

Poison on the skin?

- ▶ Take off any clothing that the poison touched.
- ▶ Rinse skin with running water for 15 to 20 minutes.
- ▶ Call **1-800-222-1222**.

Inhaled poison?

- ▶ Get to fresh air right away.
- ▶ Call **1-800-222-1222**.

Swallowed the wrong medicine or too much medicine?

- ▶ Call **1-800-222-1222**.

Swallowed something that is not food or medicine?

- ▶ Drink a small amount of milk or water.
- ▶ Call **1-800-222-1222**.

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