

TEXAS HAS A POISONING PROBLEM...



AS A MEDICAL PROFESSIONAL DID YOU KNOW:

- Each year, the Texas Poison Center Network (TPCN) handles approximately **165,000** cases of possible human poisonings with an additional **120,000** information calls.
- 75% of calls originate from homes with over **90%** of these human exposure incidents **handled at home**.
- Poisonings are the **leading cause of unintentional deaths** and up to **80% of poisonings** are unintentional.
- **Children younger than 6 years** of age account for **ONLY** about half of all poison exposure calls. Unintentional poisonings affect all age groups.
- **The top five substances most frequently involved in human poisonings** are analgesics, cosmetics/personal care products, household cleaning substances, sedatives/hypnotics/antipsychotics, and foreign bodies/toys.
- The substances most frequently associated with the **largest number of fatalities** are sedatives, hypnotics, antipsychotics, cardiovascular drugs, and opioids.
- **Poison centers are often the first to identify emerging public health issues** like contaminated food and medicine, new trends in drugs of abuse and environmental hazards.
- Instead of calling the poison center, **people are turning to the internet for poisoning advice** where they often find questionable, non-scientific advice.

www.poisoncontrol.org

TEXAS HAS A POISON SOLUTION!

POISON
Help **p**®
1-800-222-1222

THE TPCN HELPS YOU AND YOUR PATIENTS.
CALL TODAY!

- **Specialists in the TPCN respond** to calls from emergency departments, EMS personnel, physicians, law enforcement, and the general public.
- Provides **access to toxicology trained** physicians, registered nurses and pharmacists 24/7.
- Provides **expert medical consultation** in both acute and chronic cases, assistance with case management, and follow-up.
- Provides you and your patients a **safe and effective alternative to calling 9-1-1**.
- **Saves tax dollars and resources** by reducing unneeded ED visits and shortening hospital stays.
- Using their statewide healthcare facility database, can **identify the nearest appropriate facility for specialized treatment** (ex. snake antivenom).
- Provides **educational materials at no cost** for your office display, health fair or patient education efforts through convenient online service.
- **Answers information calls** about drugs, recalls, chemicals, potential environmental hazards and other toxicological issues.
- Provides **active surveillance and information** for emerging drug, poison, and disease trends (ex. west nile virus).

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