

POISON ANTIDOTE

Utah Poison Control Center
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Child Resistant...NOT Child Proof

The Poison Prevention Packaging Act (PPPA) of 1970 states that in order for a product to be considered child-resistant (CR), 80% of children under age five will not be able to open it within 10 minutes. Studies have shown that the PPPA has reduced fatal and nonfatal poisoning rates in young children by about 40%. It is important to utilize CR packaging, but they can create a false sense of security. Eventually most children are able to open CR packaging. There is no such thing as child-proof when it comes to poisonings. CR packaging gives parents and other care-givers a couple of extra minutes to catch the child in the act, hopefully before a poisoning occurs. Basic poison prevention strategies are needed to help prevent poisonings.

To help keep children safe

- Store household chemicals and medicine out of sight and out of reach.
- Close CR lids tightly (be especially cautious of sticky syrups that can build up residue. Clean off before replacing the lid).
- Never call medicine 'candy'.
- Do not take your own medicine in front of children.
- Be aware when visiting other homes that may not use poison prevention strategies.
- Use extra caution when a product is in use. This is when most poisonings occur.
- If a poisoning does occur call Utah Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

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Save Money...Call Utah Poison Control

Utilizing the services offered at the Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC) can save you money. Calls to the UPCC are free. When you call, a specialist will rapidly assess the situation and determine whether it is safe to manage at home. The UPCC manages nearly 80% of all calls on-site with telephone follow-up. National research shows that for every dollar spent funding poison control centers; \$7 is saved in medical care costs.

What to do if you suspect a poisoning

If a poisoning is suspected, call Utah Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222. The UPCC is staffed 24 hours a day with registered pharmacists, nurses, and physicians. If after calling the UPCC, it is determined necessary for you to go to the hospital, our specialists will call ahead, inform the emergency department of the situation, and offer expert treatment recommendations.

What to expect when you call

The specialist will ask you several questions. To facilitate assisting you quickly, please be ready to provide the following information:

- Exact name of the product
- Amount taken
- When the poisoning happened
- The name, age, weight, and general health of the person
- How the person is doing
- Phone number where you can be reached

Calling the UPCC is FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.

