

# POISON ANTIDOTE

## Utah Poison Control Center

585 Komas Drive  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108  
1-800-222-1222



### National Poison Prevention Week 50th Anniversary!

March 18-24, 2012 marks the 50th anniversary of Poison Prevention Week. Held the third week in March each year, this nationally designated week established by US Congress in 1961, highlights the dangers of poisonings and how to prevent them. The Poison Prevention Week Council coordinates this annual event and promotes poison prevention. Utah Poison Control celebrates National Poison Prevention Week each March and this year will be no exception.

The Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC) is dedicated to poison prevention through outreach education. The UPCC was established in 1954, making it one of the first poison centers in the United States. Originally a service for just physicians, it developed into a regional poison center serving both the public and health professional in 1971. Initially called the Intermountain Regional Poison Control Center, it was one of the first poison centers to become certified in the United States. The name was changed to Utah Poison Control Center in 1992.

We invite you to join with Utah Poison Control in celebrating the 50th anniversary of Poison Prevention Week by becoming actively involved in helping ensure the safety of children and adults in the home and the community. Contact the UPCC to acquire free education material for your family and community and to find out how you can help spread the poison prevention message 1-800-222-1222.



### The Internet...Friend or Foe?

Most people are familiar with and accustomed to surfing the internet for answers to questions. However, this can be a very dangerous method of gathering information when it comes to poisonings. Utah Poison Control Center (UPCC) specialists, who answer the emergency hotline, report an increasing number of callers who are trying to "treat" the poison victim first before calling in for help. The internet contains some unreliable and potentially dangerous advice on poisonings.



Calling the Utah Poison Control Center is easy, reliable and free of charge. The highly trained specialists answering the phones are pharmacists, nurses, and doctors with extra toxicology education. They can help you quickly and can reduce the stress and anxiety which often accompanies a poison emergency. In 2010, the UPCC managed 78% of calls on site with a telephone follow-up call. This not only saved money, but also time and stress from an unnecessary trip to the emergency room. Don't hesitate or spend time surfing the web when a poisoning occurs, call poison control right away. Waiting is very risky. The UPCC is available 24 hours a day 7 days a week at 1-800-222-1222. All calls are confidential.

