

Poison Prevention Transcript

Poison Prevention

Poison Prevention is proudly brought to you by Children's Health Education Center with funding made possible by Kohl's Department Store.

Poison prevention

Products we use every day can be hazardous, and even fatal, to our children when misused. Fortunately accidental poisoning is something you can help prevent.

In the first part of this presentation, we will cover some important facts, then we will review what you can do to help reduce the risk of your child being poisoned.

Do you know?

How many poisonings occur at home?

- 1 in 10
- 4 in 10
- 9 in 10

Actually, it's a lot higher than that. 9 in 10 exposures to poison occur in the home.

Actually, it's a lot higher than that. 9 in 10 exposures to poison occur in the home.

Correct! 9 in 10 exposures to poison occur in the home.

Facts

Each year, there are more than 91,000 nonfatal poisonings to children that result in hospital emergency room treatment.

In 2005, there were nearly 63,000 drug poisonings to children 5 and under.

Products such as cosmetics, cleaning substances, plants, pesticides, art supplies, and alcohol account for more than half of the poisons children 5 and under are exposed to.

For a comprehensive Fact Sheet, click on the Facts button.

Poison Prevention Transcript

What can I do?

Most poisonings occur in the home. Young children and babies are curious and this can lead to accidents. Older children can be exposed to a poison by using a product incorrectly. Whatever her age, there are a number of things you can do to help protect your child from poisons.

Know the poisons in your home

There are numerous items in and around the home that can be a poison risk to your child. They include household items such as cleaners, makeup, adhesives, and insect repellent. Many indoor and outdoor plants are toxic to humans. It is important for you to be aware of what plants you have in and around your home, and their health risks as well.

Know the poisons in your home

Your garage has its own hazards, including gasoline, antifreeze, and pesticides.

Know the poisons in your home

Another common group of poisons includes vitamins, supplements, over-the-counter and prescription medications, alcohol, and tobacco.

Taking medications safely

When giving your child medications, check the dosages carefully each time.

Use a dosing cup or syringe that can be read easily.

Calling medication "candy" in an effort to get your child to take it can cause your child to overdose on medication.

No matter what your child's age, have him take medication, including vitamins, only under your supervision.

Poison Prevention Transcript

Protect your child from poisons

You can protect your child around the house by keeping medications, plants, and harmful products out of your child's reach or locked if possible. Remember products you use every day such as hair products, mouthwash, or dishwasher soap can be harmful.

Child safety latches for cupboards and child-resistant caps on medications can make it more difficult for children to get to poisons. However, children often learn how to climb or how to open safety latches.

Close, constant supervision is your best defense.

Using products safely

Ensure that your older child learns how to use products safely.

Keep products locked or out of reach unless you are present.

Supervise older children closely when they are using products such as cleaning supplies, adhesives, or spray paints.

Visits

Purses and bags can be a source of poisoning when you have guests in your home. Have a safe place for visitors to keep their purses, bags, or luggage.

Discuss keeping poisons out of reach with family, friends, and other caregivers so your child is protected when she is visiting other homes as well.

Poison Prevention Transcript

Do you know?

When was lead-based paint banned in the U.S.?

- 1968
- 1978
- 1988

Unfortunately these paints were used on everything from furniture to home interiors until 1978, although some states restricted its use even earlier.

That's correct. The U.S. finally banned lead-based paint for use in homes in 1978, although some states restricted its use even earlier.

Fortunately the U.S. banned lead-based paint for use in homes in 1978, although some states restricted its use even earlier.

Lead poisoning

Lead poisoning is a leading cause of poisoning in children.

Children under the age of six are most at risk, because they are still growing, their bodies absorb lead more readily, and they often put things in their mouths. However, children of any age - and even adults - can accumulate dangerous levels of lead in their systems.

Common sources of lead

The most common sources of lead are lead paint chips and dust, and lead pipes in the home, especially those built before 1978.

Other sources of lead are products that use lead paint or have lead in them, such as metal blinds, some older pottery, jewelry, dirt outside the home, and toys. For more information about toys that have been recalled for high lead levels, go to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission's web site at <http://www.cpsc.gov>.

Poison Prevention Transcript

Test your child for lead poisoning

Some pediatricians regularly test their patients for lead levels. If you have a home built before 1978, learn how to test your home, reduce contact with lead, and how to contact a professional to eliminate lead from your home.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's web site

<http://www.epa.gov/lead> has more information on home lead removal.

First aid

If you suspect your child has come into contact with a poison, contact your local poison control center at 1-800-222-1222.

It is important that you know as much as possible about what your child may have come in contact with. The product or plant name, a description of the product, the amount of product, and the age and weight of the child, is critical information that will help the operator determine what the next course of action should be.

If you have any doubt about the severity of the poisoning, call 911 immediately.

You can keep your child safe from poisons!

Poisons are dangerous because many of them are common everyday items. However if you reduce your child's access, supervise him closely, and teach him about the dangers, you can create a healthy, safe home.

Thank You

Thank you for visiting us. Please take a moment to share your feedback by clicking on the link below.