



Wisconsin
Poison Center

POISON
Help
1-800-222-1222

2017
Annual
Report

Wisconsin Poison Center, located in Milwaukee, is a valuable statewide resource that provides 24-hour, toll-free poison information. Statistics from 2016 have been compiled and reported to illustrate our mission and communicate the latest poison trends. For more information about the WI Poison Center, please visit wisconsinpoison.org.

1-800-222-1222



We make sure patients are safe

Wisconsin Poison Center handled 36,445 cases in 2016, but that number does not tell the whole story.

Besides receiving approximately 100 calls per day, toxicology trained pharmacists and nurses also follow up on patients to ensure safety and the highest quality of care. Hospital patients are checked an average of twice a day until they are discharged to provide continuity of care and adjust treatment recommendations as needed. Patients calling from home and exposed to certain substances are called back to monitor for potential symptoms and provide reassurance.

- Quality of care includes teaching toxicology to the next generation of physicians and health care providers. Poison Center physician-toxicologists provide toxicology education for pharmacy students, medical students and Emergency Medicine fellows and residents, helping ensure quality patient care for future poisoned patients.
- Patients are very satisfied with Poison Center services – 99 percent say they would recommend the service to a friend.
- The quality of the patient data is queried monthly in order to ensure complete and accurate records.
- With 24/7/365 access to board certified toxicologists, the Poison Center is an invaluable public and professional state resource.
- Studies show that calling the Poison Center helps avoid unnecessary trips to the emergency room.

Hospital membership program update

The Wisconsin Poison Center Network hospital membership program has been in effect for over three years. The network was established to allow Wisconsin hospitals to assist in financially supporting this statewide service and ensuring the best treatment collaboration on poisoned and drug overdosed patients.

Over 96 percent of Wisconsin hospitals were members of the program in 2016. Members pay an annual fee for unrestricted access to nationally certified poison information nurses, pharmacists and toxicologists as

well as poison prevention education materials for their patients.

Older Adult Medication Safety Program

Developed by poison prevention educators, pharmaceutical experts and the American Association of Poison Control Centers, the program aims to increase medication safety awareness by educating small groups of older adult participants (65 years +). Groups discuss scenarios that deliver five core behavioral medicine safety messages.

Core Messages:

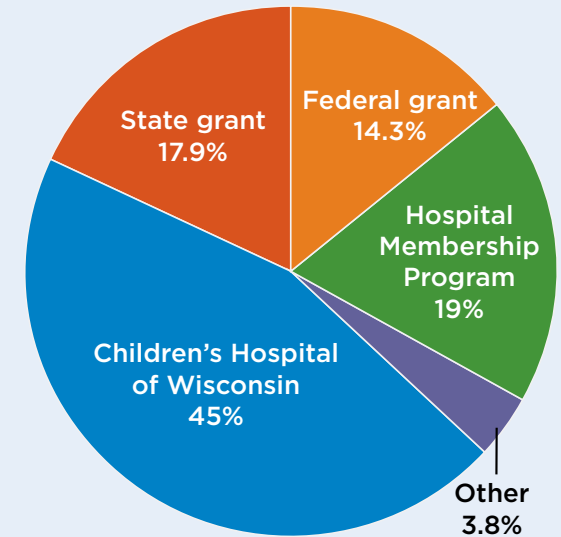
1. Be an active, assertive participant in your own health care.
2. Always read and follow the label instructions on ALL medicines.
3. Keep an up-to-date list of all the medicines you take, including over the counter medicines.
4. Storing and disposing of medicine safely.
5. Be prepared for medicine mishaps by knowing who to call and having phone numbers available.

The Wisconsin Poison Center was selected from among the nation's 55 poison centers to pilot this new program to teach seniors simple techniques to track their daily medication regimen and maximize medication safety. The program was implemented in December 2016. Staff presented the program at senior centers and independent senior housing complexes. Anyone interested in scheduling a Medication Safety presentation can contact Cathy Smith at Csmith@chw.org.

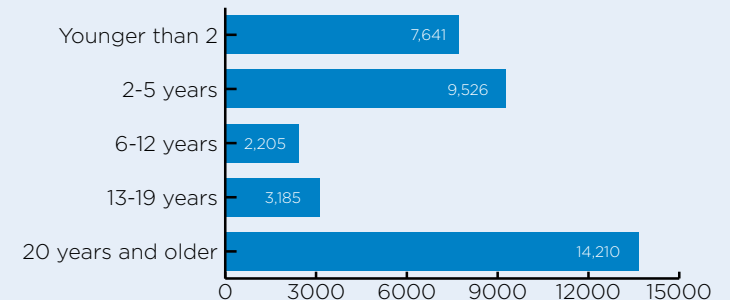
Joining forces with health care professionals in Belize

Dr. Amy Zosel is spearheading a task force of toxicology and global health professionals from the Medical College of Wisconsin who are investigating how the Wisconsin Poison Center can support emergency medicine physicians in Belize City. Dr. Zosel has traveled to the country twice in the past year to facilitate discussions that focus on providing physicians in Belize with treatment recommendations for poisoned patients.

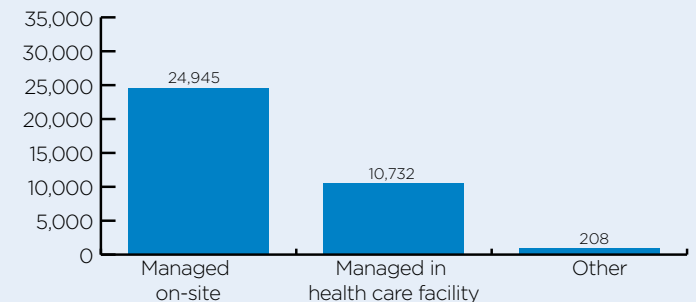
Funding sources



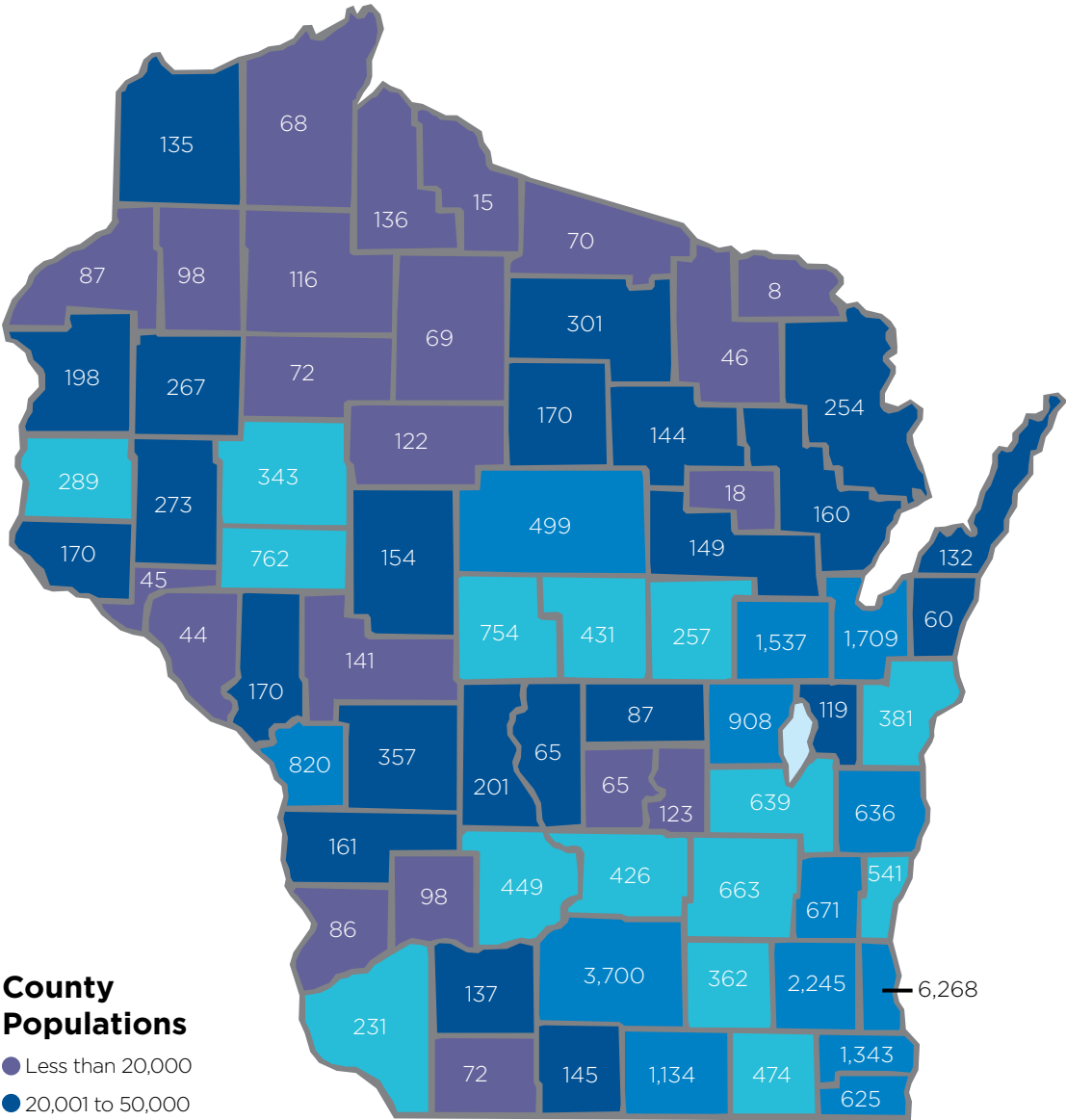
Age of exposed patient



Treatment site



Number of cases handled by county



County Populations

- Less than 20,000
- 20,001 to 50,000
- 50,001 to 100,000
- More than 100,000

Top 10 substances involved in poisonings

Age 5 and younger

1. Personal care products
2. Household cleaning agents
3. Pain medications
4. Products applied to skin
5. Foreign bodies/toys
6. Plants
7. Vitamins
8. Cough/cold products
9. Pesticides
10. GI preparations

Age 6 to 19

1. Pain medications
2. Antidepressants
3. Cough/cold products
4. Sedatives/antipsychotics
5. Stimulants & street drugs
6. Personal care products
7. Foreign bodies/toys
8. Antihistamines
9. Cleaning products
10. Heart medications

Age 20 and older

1. Pain medications
2. Sedative hypnotics/antipsychotics
3. Antidepressants
4. Cleaning products
5. Heart medications
6. Alcohols
7. Personal care products
8. Fumes & gases
9. Chemicals
10. Pesticides

Since 2009, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control reports the No. 1 cause of injury deaths for adults ages 25-64 as unintentional poisoning. Health care facilities are treating increasing numbers of severely overdosed patients.

10 Leading Causes of Injury Deaths by Age Group, United States - 2015

Age groups

Rank	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Total
1	Unintentional Suffocation	Unintentional Drowning	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional Poisoning	Unintentional Poisoning	Unintentional Poisoning	Unintentional Poisoning	Unintentional Fall	Unintentional Poisoning
2	Homicide Unspecified	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional Drowning	Suicide Suffocation	Homicide Firearm	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional MV Traffic
3	Homicide Other Spec., classifiable	Homicide Unspecified	Unintentional Fire/Burn	Suicide Firearm	Unintentional Poisoning	Homicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Unintentional Fall
4	Unintentional MV Traffic	Unintentional Suffocation	Homicide Firearm	Homicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Suicide Firearm	Suicide Suffocation	Suicide Suffocation	Unintentional Fall	Unintentional Unspecified	Suicide Firearm
5	Undetermined Suffocation	Unintentional Fire/Burn	Unintentional Other Land Transport	Unintentional Drowning	Suicide Suffocation	Suicide Suffocation	Homicide Firearm	Suicide Poisoning	Suicide Poisoning	Unintentional Suffocation	Homicide Firearm
6	Unintentional Drowning	Unintentional Pedestrian, Other	Unintentional Suffocation	Unintentional Other Land Transport	Unintentional Drowning	Suicide Poisoning	Suicide Poisoning	Homicide Firearm	Suicide Suffocation	Unintentional Poisoning	Suicide Suffocation
7	Homicide Suffocation	Homicide Other Spec., Classifiable	Unintentional Natural/Environment	Unintentional Fire/Burn	Suicide Poisoning	Undetermined Poisoning	Undetermined Poisoning	Unintentional Fall	Unintentional Suffocation	Adverse Effects	Unintentional Unspecified
8	Unintentional Fire/Burn	Homicide Firearm	Unintentional Pedestrian, Other	Unintentional Poisoning	Homicide Cut/Pierce	Unintentional Drowning	Unintentional Fall	Undetermined Poisoning	Unintentional Unspecified	Unintentional Fire/Burn	Unintentional Suffocation
9	Undetermined/Unspecified	Homicide Suffocation	Unintentional Poisoning	Unintentional Suffocation	Undetermined Poisoning	Homicide Cut/Pierce	Unintentional Drowning	Unintentional Suffocation	Homicide Firearm	Suicide Poisoning	Suicide Poisoning
10	Four Tied	Unintentional Fall	Unintentional Struck By or Against	Suicide Poisoning	Unintentional Fall	Unintentional Fall	Homicide Cut/Pierce	Unintentional Drowning	Two Tied: Undetermined Poisoning & Unintentional Fire/Burn	Suicide Suffocation	Unintentional Drowning

■ Poisoning deaths

Data source: National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS), National Vital Statistics System.

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PO Box 1997, MS C660
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1997
1-800-222-1222
wisconsinpoison.org