Wisconsin Poison Center, located in Milwaukee, is a valuable statewide resource that provides 24-hour, toll-free poison information. Statistics from 2017 have been compiled and reported to illustrate our mission which is to consistently deliver comprehensive and accurate information to callers presented with complications or potential toxicity from any poison or drug. For more information about the WI Poison Center, please visit www.wisconsinpoison.org.

24 hr hotline: 1-800-222-1222
We make sure patients are safe
Wisconsin Poison Center managed 36,640 cases in 2017, but that number tells only half the story.
Besides receiving over 100 reported cases per day, toxicology trained pharmacists and nurses also make calls to follow up on patients to ensure their safety and the highest quality of care. Hospital patients throughout the state are checked an average of twice a day until they are discharged. This provides continuity of care and allows for adjustment of treatment recommendations as needed. Patients calling from home and exposed to certain substances are called back to monitor for potential symptoms and provide reassurance.

- Patients are very satisfied with poison center services - 99 percent say they would recommend the service to a friend.
- The quality of patient data is queried monthly in order to ensure complete and accurate records.
- With 24/7/365 access to board certified toxicologists, the Wisconsin Poison Center is an invaluable statewide medical and public resource.
- Studies show that calling the poison center helps people avoid costly and unnecessary trips to a hospital emergency department.
- Poison center physician-toxicologists provide toxicology education for pharmacy students, medical students, emergency medicine fellows and residents, helping ensure quality patient care for future poisoned patients.

Hospital membership program update
The Wisconsin Poison Center Network hospital membership program has been in effect for over four 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 97 percent of WI hospitals were members of the program in 2017. Member hospitals pay an annual fee for unrestricted access to nationally certified poison information nurses, pharmacists and physician toxicologists as well as poison prevention education materials for patients.

New education materials for older adults and rural communities
The Poison Center created a simple brochure with adult poison prevention and medication safety tips, which was vetted by health literacy experts. It is distributed during medication safety programs and community events.

Rural communities face unique and dangerous risks beyond common household products. For that reason the From Farm to City brochure was updated and also translated into Spanish. It was distributed to every health department in the state with many departments requesting additional copies.

These and all of our other educational materials are available by going to the Poison Center website at www.wisconsinpoison.org and clicking the Order Materials tab at the bottom of the website homepage.
### Top 10 substances involved in poisonings

#### Age 5 and younger
1. Personal care products
2. Analgesics
3. Household cleaning products
4. Foreign bodies
5. Topical preparations (creams and lotions)
6. Vitamins
7. Antihistamines
8. Dietary supplements
9. Plants
10. Pesticides

#### Age 6 to 19
1. Analgesics
2. Antidepressants
3. Sedatives/antipsychotics
4. Antihistamines
5. Stimulants/street drugs
6. Cardiovascular medications
7. Personal care products
8. Cough and cold preparations
9. Household cleaning products
10. Foreign bodies/miscellaneous

#### Age 20 and older
1. Analgesics
2. Sedative hypnotics/antipsychotics
3. Antidepressants
4. Cardiovascular drugs
5. Alcohols
6. Household cleaning products
7. Anticonvulsants
8. Hormones and hormone blockers
9. Gases and fumes
10. Antihistamines
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

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

Poisoning deaths

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