Wisconsin Poison Center, located in Milwaukee, is a valuable statewide resource that provides 24-hour, toll-free poison information. Statistics from 2021 illustrate our mission to consistently deliver comprehensive and accurate information to callers about any potential poison or drug. For more information, please visit wisconsinpoison.org.

24-hour hotline: 1-800-222-1222

SERVING PEOPLE OF ALL AGES
New Medical Toxicology Clinic opens at Children’s Wisconsin!

After many years of collaboration and planning, a new Medical Toxicology Clinic was opened on the campus of Children’s Wisconsin Hospital in Milwaukee in November 2021. The first of its kind in Wisconsin, the clinic’s medical director is Dr. Jillian Theobald, who is also associate medical director of the Wisconsin Poison Center and assistant professor of emergency medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin. The clinic is staffed by board-certified medical toxicologists that also staff the Wisconsin Poison Center. The clinic is now accepting appointments. The Medical Toxicology Clinic is happy to see patients (children and adults) with any toxicological problem – in particular, patients with lead poisoning, hospital follow-up after a toxicological exposure or overdose, pharmacogenomic evaluations, and those in need of medication therapy/toxicological management. Patients can make an appointment by calling Central Scheduling at (414) 607-5280.

If you have any questions about the appropriateness of a patient for the Medical Toxicology Clinic, please call the Wisconsin Poison Center and speak to the on-call toxicologist at 1-800-222-1222.

Health care professionals can also call the Wisconsin Poison Center (WPC) 24/7 with questions regarding any poison-exposed patient. The WPC received reports on over 35,000 exposures in 2021, with approximately one-third of the calls generated from health care providers. Calls are answered by nurses and pharmacists specially trained in toxicology.

Hospital membership program update

This program allows patient providers from all hospitals throughout the state of Wisconsin an opportunity to collaborate with toxicologists to ensure the most current treatment and best outcomes for the poisoned or drug-overdosed patient. In exchange for a membership fee, all member facilities gain 24/7/365 access to board-certified toxicologists, as well as toxicology-trained nurses and pharmacists.

The program is in its seventh year, and over 99 percent of Wisconsin hospitals chose to be members in 2021.

TOTAL EXTERNAL FUNDING SOURCES FOR 2021

- Hospital membership program: 13.1%
- State funding: 72.3%
- Federal funding* (includes CHIP): 0.6%
- Other: 14.0%

*includes CHIP

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Poison Center case volumes in 2021

Wisconsin Poison Center (WPC) helped manage 35,861 exposure and confirmed non-exposure cases in 2021. The WPC also received 2,530 requests for information where no suspected exposure took place. However, those numbers only tell half of the story.

Besides receiving an average of 105 new cases per day, toxicology-trained pharmacists and nurses also call back to follow up on exposed patients to ensure their safety and provide the highest quality of care. Hospital patients throughout the state are monitored 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 who are exposed to certain substances are also called back to monitor for potential symptoms and provide reassurance or additional guidance.

### 2021 CALL/CASE VOLUMES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2021 Exposures</th>
<th>2021 Follow-ups</th>
<th>2021 Informational</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-25,000</td>
<td>35,861</td>
<td>39,114</td>
<td>2,530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,001-50,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,001-75,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75,001-100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,001 and above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2021 NUMBER OF CASES/TREATMENT SITE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Managed on-site</th>
<th>Managed in a health care facility</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-25,000</td>
<td>22,571</td>
<td>12,387</td>
<td>773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25,001-50,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50,001-75,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75,001-100,000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100,001 and above</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2021 AGE OF EXPOSED PATIENT

- **younger than 1**: 46.9%
- **1-5 years**: 33.3%
- **6-12 years**: 10.3%
- **13-19 years**: 10.3%
- **20 years and older* *includes unknown age**: 0.2%

### TOP 10 SUBSTANCES INVOLVED IN POISONINGS IN 2021

**Age 5 and younger**
1. Household cleaning products
2. Personal care products
3. Pain medications
4. Dietary supplements
5. Vitamins
6. Plants
7. Topical preparations (creams and lotions)
8. Antihistamines
9. Pesticides
10. Anticonvulsants

**Age 6 to 19**
1. Pain medications
2. Antidepressants
3. Street drugs/stimulants
4. Antihistamines
5. Sedatives/antipsychotics
6. Cardiovascular medications
7. Dietary supplements
8. Household cleaning products
9. Personal care products
10. Anticonvulsants

**Age 20 and older**
1. Pain medications
2. Antidepressants
3. Cardiovascular medications
4. Sedatives/antipsychotics
5. Street drugs/stimulants
6. Alcohols
7. Anticonvulsants
8. Household cleaning products
9. Antihistamines
10. Hormones and hormone-blocking agents
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 overdose patients.

### 10 LEADING CAUSES OF INJURY DEATHS, UNITED STATES - 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE GROUPS</th>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>All Ages</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>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unintentional Suffocation</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12,044</td>
<td>1,542</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>1,208</td>
<td>1,560</td>
<td>1,542</td>
<td>1,208</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>1,542</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional MV Traffic</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>10,331</td>
<td>1,243</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>1,142</td>
<td>1,447</td>
<td>1,243</td>
<td>1,142</td>
<td>371</td>
<td>1,243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unintentional Drowning</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>16,931</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>2,476</td>
<td>2,947</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>2,476</td>
<td>755</td>
<td>2,083</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional Firearm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7,929</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>1,542</td>
<td>1,086</td>
<td>1,215</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>1,086</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional Poisoning</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>4,839</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>1,650</td>
<td>625</td>
<td>1,349</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>625</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional Homicide</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3,215</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>1,278</td>
<td>1,593</td>
<td>454</td>
<td>1,278</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>454</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>1,265</td>
<td>269</td>
<td>986</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>269</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poisoning</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>1,493</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>992</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>760</td>
<td>52</td>
<td>197</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>627</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>489</td>
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<td>150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Land</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,012</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>409</td>
<td>552</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>409</td>
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<td>134</td>
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</table>

**Poisoning deaths**
