

Poison Prevention Antidote



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The Minnesota Poison Control System Turns 50!

Since 1972, the Minnesota Poison Control System has operated the 24-hour poison emergency treatment information service, providing assistance and expertise in the medical diagnosis and management of human poisonings.

The Minnesota Poison Control System is one of the 55 poison centers nationwide accredited by the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC).

The Poison Center provides free, timely advice and information to anyone including parents, childcare providers, pharmacists, nurses, and doctors. It has a significant role in reducing the cost of treatment and the severity of poisonings where time is of the essence. The Poison Center is a training site for health care professionals and serves the state by coordinating outreach and education programs to increase awareness of poison prevention and first aid.

The Poison Center is housed at Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, MN. It is staffed with dedicated, highly trained professionals including physicians, toxicologists, registered nurses, registered pharmacists, and health educators.

Upcoming events

- March 20-26, 2022: National Poison Prevention Week

Did you Know?

Alice Lange became the mother of poison control for the state of Minnesota and affectionately known as "Poison Alice." Poison Alice went to work in January 1972 and took 70 calls the first month answering the phone in the Emergency Room at Minneapolis General Hospital. There was no training back then so she had to teach herself, working with the doctors and nurses in the ER. Alice noticed that plants caught the attention of children so she designed and made what she called a Poison Garden, a display made of artificial flowers. The Poison Garden traveled to many health fairs to teach safety precautions to be used with plants. She went on to write a Poison Plant Book which was used by poison control centers throughout the country. Alice was a feisty and brave pioneer who took on the unknown challenge of poison control and left a legacy that is recognized throughout the country.



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