

MINNESOTA POISON
CONTROL SYSTEM

2008
ANNUAL
REPORT

POISON
HeipTM



1-800-222-1222



Minnesota Poison Control System 2008

The Hennepin Regional Poison Center (HRPC) is designated by the Minnesota Department of Health to provide poison information and toxicology consultant services to the entire state of Minnesota as the Minnesota Poison Control System. HRPC is located in the Hennepin County Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The HRPC has met stringent criteria set for the by the American Association of Poison Control Centers, earning the designation of an Accredited Poison Center.

The Minnesota Poison Control System provides various services to the citizens of the State of Minnesota including:

Poison Help Hotline (1-800-222-1222)

Nationally Certified Specialists in Poison Information provide exposure assessment and treatment recommendations to the general public and to health care professionals. The service is provided via a national toll-free telephone number accessible by both voice and TTY and is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Interpretive services are also available in most languages.

Toxicosurveillance

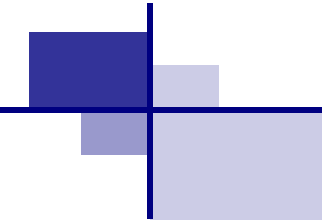
In partnership with the Minnesota Department of Health, American Association of Poison Control Center and federal agencies, the Minnesota Poison Control System provides real-time surveillance looking for early warning signs of a public health event.

Public and Professional Education

Public education is offered on our website, www.mnpoison.org, and includes: an automated poison prevention material ordering system, a video lending library, and poison prevention information in PDF format for downloading and reproduction. The Minnesota Poison Control System partners with various public health agencies and other community-based safety and health entities to promote prevention education, awareness of the Poison Help number, and the services offered.

Professional education activities include:

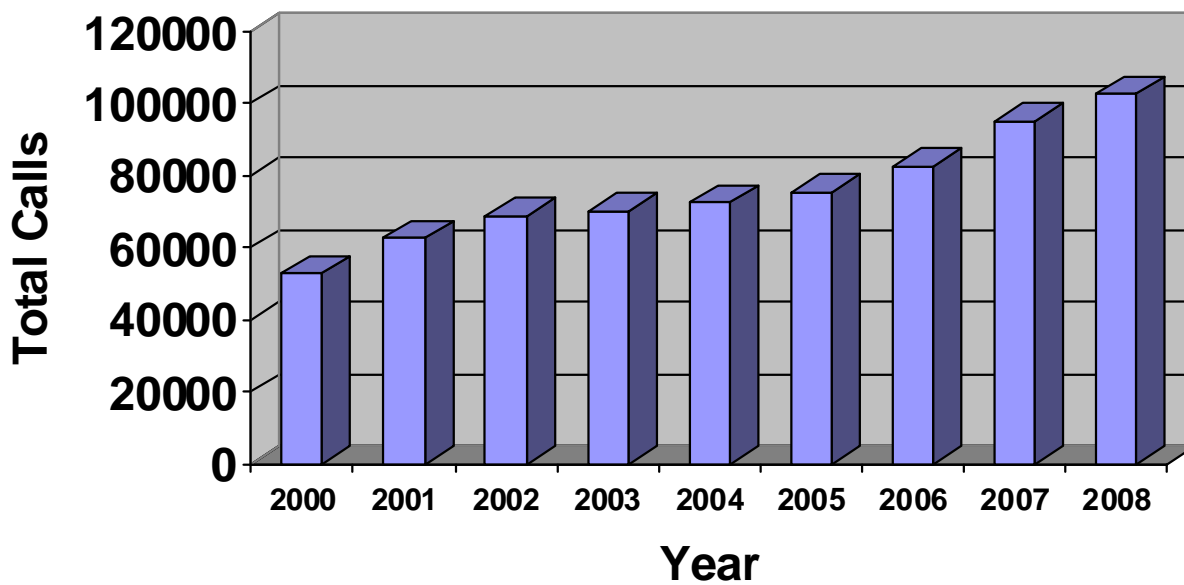
- ❖ University of Minnesota College of Pharmacy Clerkship for fourth-year students
- ❖ On-site toxicology instruction to emergency medicine, pediatric, and family practice medical residents, medical students, physicians assistants, nurses and paramedics
- ❖ An accredited physician toxicology fellowship program in conjunction with Regions Hospital
- ❖ Lecturing



2008 TOTAL CALLS

54,294	Poison Exposures (Human)
<u>48,238</u>	Information Requests
102,532	Callers Served

Annual Call Volume 2000-2008





CALL VOLUME BY MONTH

HRPC received a total of 102,532 calls to the Poison Help hotline.
Of this total, 54,294 were regarding poison exposure cases.

Month	Exposure Calls	Information & Prevention Calls	Total Calls
January	4,644	3,632	8,264
February	4,284	3,516	7,780
March	4,521	4,076	8,587
April	4,325	4,127	8,439
May	4,621	4,210	8,802
June	4,564	3,883	8,433
July	4,866	3,957	8,810
August	4,719	3,970	8,680
September	4,761	4,169	8,921
October	4,496	4,555	9,030
November	4,198	4,417	8,602
December	4,295	3,327	7,614
TOTALS	54,294	48,238	102,532

TOTAL CALLS BY COUNTY

Fifty-one percent of calls came from the seven county metropolitan area (shaded counties).

AITKIN	321	LYON	263	WATONWAN	93
ANOKA	6,098	MAHNOMEN	699	WILKIN	133
BECKER	912	MARSHALL	79	WINONA	697
BELTRAMI	2,394	MARTIN	312	WRIGHT	1,841
BENTON	440	MCLEOD	567	YELLOW	
BIG STONE	46	MEEKER	279	MEDICINE	163
BLUE EARTH	778	MILLE LACS	919	UNSPECIFIED	5,044
BROWN	299	MORRISON	680		
CARLTON	1,675	MOWER	463		
CARVER	1,115	MURRAY	71	TOTAL	102,532
CASS	1,303	NICOLLET	359		
CHIPPEWA	140	NOBLES	204		
CHISAGO	954	NORMAN	90		
CLAY	830	OLMSTED	1,797		
CLEARWATER	294	OTTER TAIL	775		
COOK	80	PENNINGTON	227		
COTTONWOOD	110	PINE	405		
CROW WING	1,216	PIPESTONE	110		
DAKOTA	5,241	POLK	599		
DODGE	183	POPE	82		
DOUGLAS	567	RAMSEY	8,879		
FARIBAULT	93	RED LAKE	84		
FILMORE	209	REDWOOD	236		
FREEBORN	358	RENVILLE	297		
GOODHUE	705	RICE	831		
GRANT	84	ROCK	92		
HENNEPIN	26,451	ROSEAU	220		
HOUSTON	112	SAINT LOUIS	7,424		
HUBBARD	306	SCOTT	1,661		
ISANTI	591	SHERBURNE	1,066		
ITASCA	1,271	SIBLEY	145		
JACKSON	101	STEARNS	2,649		
KANABEC	307	STEELE	465		
KANDIYIOHI	699	STEVENS	121		
KITTSOON	32	SWIFT	88		
KOOCHICHING	142	TODD	293		
LAC QUI PARLE	63	TRAVERSE	32		
LAKE	127	WABASHA	248		
LAKE OF THE WOODS	32	WADENA	218		
LE SUEUR	303	WASECA	235		
LINCOLN	61	WASHINGTON	3,254		





REASON FOR THE EXPOSURE

UNINTENTIONAL EXPOSURES

Accidental	32,051
Environmental	2,008
Occupational	1,028
Therapeutic Error	6,119
Misuse	1,985
Bite/Sting	374
Food Poisoning	817
<u>Unknown</u>	<u>72</u>
Sub-Total	44,454

INTENTIONAL EXPOSURES

Suspected suicide	4,393
Misuse	1,292
Abuse	1,134
<u>Unknown</u>	<u>856</u>
Sub-Total	7,675

OTHER

Contamination/tampering	57
Malicious	233
<u>Withdrawal</u>	<u>43</u>
Sub-Total	333

ADVERSE REACTIONS

Drug	1,423
Food	104
<u>Other</u>	<u>121</u>
Sub-Total	1,648

UNKNOWN 184

TOTAL 54,294



EXPOSURE SITE

Eighty-five percent of all poison exposures originating in the home were managed in the home. Home management saves health care dollars by reducing unnecessary visits to emergency departments, urgent care facilities, and clinics.

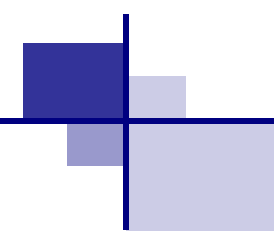
SITE	CALLS	PERCENT
Own Residence	48,140	88.7
Other Residence	1,741	3.2
Workplace	1,333	2.5
Health Care Facility	435	0.8
School	873	1.6
Restaurant/Food Service	176	0.3
Public Area	484	0.9
Other	767	1.4
Unknown	345	0.6
TOTAL	54,294	100.00



MANAGEMENT SITE

Certified Specialists in Poison Information (CSPI's) determine the safest and most appropriate site to manage exposures based on information gathered during the initial call to the Poison Center. The majority of calls are managed at home or in a non-health care facility. CSPI's also provide the hospital staff with recommendations on treatment and document the outcome of the case.

EXPOSURE SITE	CALLS	PERCENT
Managed On-Site/Non Health Care Facility	40,781	75.1
Health Care Facility		
Treated/Evaluated and Released	5,087	9.4
Admitted to Critical Care Unit	2,263	4.2
Admitted to Non-Critical Care Unit	1,475	2.7
Admitted to Psychiatric Facility	1,139	2.1
Lost to Follow-Up or Left AMA	2,249	4.1
Unknown	1,300	2.4
TOTAL	54,294	100.00



5 MOST COMMON NON-PHARMACEUTICAL AND PHARMACEUTICAL SUBSTANCES INVOLVED IN EXPOSURES

Fifty-six percent of substances involved in poisoning exposures are pharmaceutical products.

SUBSTANCE	TOTAL EXPOSURES
Non-Pharmaceutical	
Cosmetic/Personal Care Products:	4,996
Household Cleaning Products:	4,120
Foreign Bodies/Miscellaneous:	3,132
Alcohols:	2,228
Pesticides:	1,672
Pharmaceutical	
Analgesics:	7,793
Sedative/Hypnotics/Antipsychotics:	3,635
Antidepressants:	3,139
Topical Preparations:	2,401
Cardiovascular Drugs:	2,004



WHY IS THE POISON CENTER IMPORTANT?

Poison Control Centers are cost efficient and effective. They play a critical role in poison education and prevention activities and provide a valuable resource to both the general public and health care providers.

- Poisoning is the second leading cause of unintentional death due to injury in the United States.
- 85% of the poison exposure calls that came from the public were helped onsite where the poisoning occurred, saving families and individuals the time and costs of an emergency department visit.
- For every \$1 spent to fund the Hennepin Regional Poison Center, \$7 is saved in unnecessary healthcare costs.* In 2008, this resulted in a savings of \$16 million for Minnesotans.
- Hennepin Regional Poison Center provided 103 professional toxicology-related education opportunities to over 8300 health care professionals, fellows, residents, and students.
- Hennepin Regional Poison Center conducted 91 public poison prevention events attended by over 11,100 Minnesotans. 260,194 pieces of poison prevention materials were distributed in 2008.

*Cost of Poisoning in the United States and Savings From Poison Control Centers: A Benefit-Cost Analysis. *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, 29; 2, 239-245, T. Miller, D. Lestina



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* CSPI – Certified Specialist in Poison Information

* PIP – Poison Information Provider