**Saving Lives with Answers...**

Why is the Colorado Poison Center important?

An estimated **$19.0 million** in healthcare costs were saved in Colorado by utilizing the Colorado Poison Center to treat poisoning cases at the site of exposure rather than in an emergency department or doctor’s office.

- Poisoning is the second leading cause of unintentional death due to injury in the United States.

- For every dollar spent on poison center services, **$13.39** is saved in medical expenses.

- The Colorado Poison Center staff provides emergency poison treatment information that may prevent an unnecessary hospital visit.

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**2013 Facts...**

- The Colorado Poison Center managed **53,972** cases through its 24-hour hotline.

- **50%** of exposed cases involved children under age 5.

- **71%** of poison exposure calls that came from the public were treated on site where the poisoning occurred saving the time and costs of an emergency department visit.

- **29%** of exposures were referred into a doctor or other healthcare facility for treatment.
Summary of Results—Colorado 2013

Exposure Cases by Age Group

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Cases</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0-5 Years</td>
<td>19,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-12 Years</td>
<td>2,317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13-19 Years</td>
<td>6,132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20+ Years</td>
<td>5,808</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Age Groups</td>
<td>38,583</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top Ten Most Common Poison Categories for Human Exposures

1. Analgesics       | 5,586 |
2. Cosmetics/Personal Care Prod. | 2,886 |
3. Household Cleaning Substances | 2,479 |
4. Sedatives/ Hypnotics | 1,905 |
5. Antihistamines    | 1,534 |
6. Foreign Bodies, Toys | 1,521 |
7. Topical Preparations | 1,376 |
8. Cardiovascular Drugs | 1,337 |
9. Alcohols          | 1,173 |
10. Vitamins         | 1,103 |

Top Ten Most Common Poison Categories for Children 0-5 Years

1. Analgesics       | 2,419 |
2. Cosmetics/Personal Care Prod. | 2,223 |
3. Household Cleaning Substances | 1,391 |
4. Foreign Bodies, Toys | 1,080 |
5. Topical Preparations | 1,078 |
6. Vitamins          | 821  |
7. Antihistamines    | 760  |
8. Plants            | 549  |
9. Gastrointestinal Preparations | 527 |
10. Pesticides       | 484  |

Cases by Type—Colorado 2013

53,972 Cases Managed by RMPDC Professionals

Cases Management Site for 38,583 Human Exposures

71% of cases were managed at home
29% of cases were referred to emergent care