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**Poison Prevention**

\*\*Post the Poison Help number **1-800-222-1222** on the emergency list next to every phone in your home and in your cell phone\*\*

**How to poison-proof your home:**

* Store drugs and medications in locked medicine cabinet out of reach
  + Do not keep toothpaste, soap or shampoo in the same cabinet
* Keep medications in their original containers with child safety caps
  + Put cap on completely after each use
  + Child safety cap does not mean childproof – only that it takes longer for a child to open!
* Do not take medicine in front of small children – they may try to imitate you later
* Never tell a child that medicine is “candy”
* Check the label each time you give your child medicine to ensure proper dosage
  + For liquid medicine, use the dosing device that came with the medication
  + Call your pediatrician if you are unsure of the dose
* Store hazardous products in their original packaging in locked cabinets out of reach
  + i.e. pesticides, paint/varnish, cleaning supplies, laundry products
* Do not keep detergents/cleaning products under the kitchen or bathroom sink – unless they are in a cabinet with a safety latch that locks every time your close the cabinet
* Never put poisonous or toxic products in containers that were once used for food/drink
* Safety latches that automatically lock when you close a cabinet door can help keep your child away from dangerous products
  + There is always a chance the device will malfunction – store products somewhere your child cannot reach
* If you carry a purse, keep potential poisons out of your purse
  + Keep your child away from other people’s purses
* Keep alcohol in locked cabinet
* Empty and rinse all glasses immediately after gatherings where alcohol is served
* Keep coal, wood or kerosene stoves in safe working order
* Maintain working smoke and carbon monoxide detectors
* Secure remote controls, key fobs, greeting cards, and musical children’s books – these and other devices may contain small button-cell batteries that can cause injury if ingested

**More than one million American children under six suffer poisoning each year!**

**Possible Poisoning Symptoms & Immediate Treatment**

**Signs of possible poisoning:**

* Telltale odor
* Unexplained stains on clothing
* Burns or stains around the mouth
* Open or empty container of a toxic substance
* Vomiting

**\*\*If your child is unconscious, not breathing, or having convulsions or seizures due to poison contact or ingestion, call 911 immediately\*\***

**Immediate Treatment:**

* **Swallowed poison:**
  + Take item away from child
  + Have child spit out any remaining substance
  + Do not make child vomit
  + Do not use syrup of ipecac
* **Skin poison:** 
  + Remove child’s clothes
  + Rinse skin with lukewarm water for at least 15 minutes
* **Eye poison:** 
  + Flush child’s eye by holding the eyelid open and pouring steady stream of room temperature water into the inner corner for 15 minutes
* **Poisonous fumes:**
  + Take child outside or into fresh air immediately
  + If child has stopped breathing, start CPR and do not stop until child breaths or until someone can take over
* If your child has come in contact with poison and has mild or no symptoms, call **Poison Help**