

1-800-222-1222

Poison Experts just a
phone call away!

Saving Lives....Saving
Dollars

First Aid for Poisoning

Poison on the Skin

- Remove contaminated clothing.
- Flood skin with water for 10 minutes, then wash gently with soap and water and rinse.
- Call the MPC

Poison in the Eye:

- Flood eye with luke-warm water from cup, faucet or shower for 15 minutes.
- Call the MPC

Inhaled Poison:

- Get victim to fresh air.
- If possible, open doors and windows.
- Call the MPC

Swallowed Poison:

- Gently wipe out mouth and give a small amount of water.
- Do not make the person vomit
- Call the MPC

www.mdpoison.com

What you need to know about Holiday Poison Safety

During the holidays, the Maryland Poison Center (MPC) offers the following safety information:

Food Poisoning:

- Wash hands and counters before preparing food and after handling raw meat, poultry and seafood.
- Do not leave food at room temperature for more than 2 hours.
- Watch for signs of food poisoning: fever, headache, diarrhea, stomach pains, nausea, and vomiting.

Ornaments:

- Some are made from glass and could cause cuts in the mouth and stomach if eaten.
- Family heirloom ornaments and ornaments from other countries may contain lead.
- Icicles and angel hair contain glass particles that can cause cuts in the mouth
- Bubble lights may contain very toxic liquid. Avoid if there are small children in the house.

Alcohol:

- Children can mistake cocktails and punch for juice...clean up drink glasses and punch bowls before going to bed and don't leave drinks sitting where children can reach them.
- Children can become sleepy, silly and wobbly on their feet. Blood sugar can also decrease leading to coma and death.

Plants:

- Poinsettia are safe to have around. Eating too many leaves will cause stomach upset. Sap may cause a skin rash. Pets may develop mild symptoms with smaller amounts.
- Holly berries will cause vomiting and diarrhea if large amounts are eaten
- Some types of mistletoe berries are poisonous, but most mistletoe found in the United States is non-toxic.
- Amaryllis can cause nausea, vomiting and diarrhea. The bulb is most toxic.

Magnets and Button Batteries:

- Small enough to be swallowed without a parent realizing.
- If more than one magnet is swallowed they can attract to each other inside the body. Surgery is sometimes needed to remove magnets and repair internal damage.
- Batteries can get stuck in the esophagus and cause internal burns.

Lamp Oil and Reed Diffusers:

- May smell like food so children are tempted to taste.
- If child gasps while swallowing lamp oil it may get in the lungs.