







A letter from the Connecticut Poison Control Center

If someone gets a poison in or on their body, call the Connecticut Poison Control Center right away. Don't guess, be sure. Call **1-800-222-1222**. Poison specialists who are doctors, nurses, and pharmacists answer the hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Callers get immediate treatment advice - it's free and confidential. The poison center takes calls in all languages (we simply get a live interpreter on the line) and from relay services and our TDD line (**1-866-218-5372**) for deaf and hard of hearing individuals.

A poisoning can happen if a product or medicine is used in the wrong way, the wrong amount, or by the wrong person. A poison can enter the body through the mouth, skin, eyes, or nose. Potential poisons include prescription medication, over-the-counter medication, herbals and natural supplements, carbon monoxide, plants and berries, household cleaners, automotive products, pesticides, button batteries, and many others.

Most poisonings happen to children less than 6 years old. Curious children often take a lick, taste or touch of something but tend to not suffer lasting effects. They are most likely to get into household cleaners, cosmetic and personal products, and medicines. Adults, on the other hand are not so lucky. Adults die from prescription painkillers more than from motor vehicle crashes. In fact, in Connecticut, poisoning is the leading cause of injury death.

The Connecticut Poison Control Center has been serving Connecticut for over 50 years. Our mission is to enhance and protect the public health by providing optimized toxicology-related patient care, information and education for all people of the State of Connecticut as well as their present and future healthcare providers. Check out our website poisoncontrol.uchc.edu for more information on poisons, interactive games, educational materials, prevention tips and more!

Author

Kevin Borrup wrote this comic series to help educate children and parents on childhood safety issues while still having fun.

Illustrator

Scott DaRos is an illustrator and animator who is best known for his work in stop-motion animation and comics. For further information on the illustrator go to: www.scottdaros.com

Colorist

Alexis Deprey is an illustrator, graphic designer and dance instructor. For further information on the colorist go to: www.alexiseve.com

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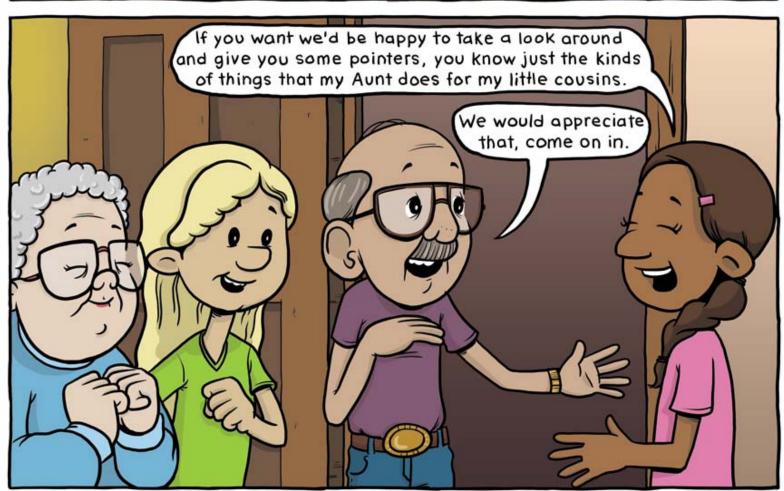


























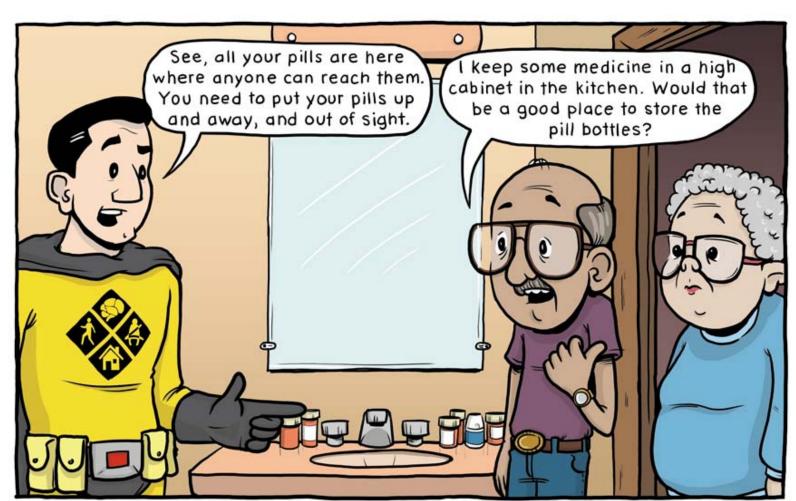
















You have a lot of old pill bottles. Your old unused pills are a possible poison. People should know that taking pills not meant for them, or taking too many pills, could make them sick, or even something worse.













I see the second poison hazard. If swallowed, button batteries can get stuck in the throat or in your intestines, causing burns, bleeding, or something worse.









Taking a look at page 4, find all the hazards listed below. Match each hazard to the correct danger type, drawing a line to connect them. More than one hazard may be connected to each danger type.

HAZARD

- 1. No battery in smoke detector.
- 2. Button batteries within reach.
- 3. Edge of carpet turned up.
- 4. Too many plugs in electrical outlet.
- 5. Bottles of cleaning supplies within reach.
- 6. Mop bucket full of water.
- 7. Pills within reach.
- 8. Cluttered stairs.
- 9. No screen on fireplace.
- 10. Lipstick in purse.

DANGER TYPE









Answers: 1. Fire, 2. Poison, 3. Falls, 4. Fire, 5. Poison, 6. Drowning, 7. Poison, 8. Falls, 9. Fire, 10. Poison

What is a poison?

A poison is any medicine or product that hurts you if used in the wrong amount, by the wrong person or in the wrong way. Poisons can get into and on your body through your eyes, skin, mouth, nose and lungs. Most poisonings happen in the home and to children under the age of 6.

Where can poisons be found?

Poisons are everywhere! They can be in every room of the house - basements, garages, kitchens, bedrooms, bathrooms, yards, purses and even diaper bags.

What are some common household poisons?

Medicines & vitamins, cleaning products, cosmetics, perfume & aftershave, mouthwash, glue, paint, alcohol, gardening products, cigarettes, plants, batteries, toothpaste, mothballs, nail polish and remover, bleach, gasoline, and motor oil. These are a few examples of poisons. More poisons exist and we could not possibly list them all.

How can poisonings be prevented?

- · Put all poisons out of reach of children.
- · Make sure to keep products in their original containers.
- · Never refer to medicine as "candy" to get a child to take it.
- Keep the poison center number (1-800-222-1222) near your telephone and program it into your cell
 phone in case of emergency.

What do I do if I think someone has been poisoned?

Call the poison control number (1-800-222-1222) if you suspect someone has been poisoned, but be sure to call 911 first if the person is unconscious, having seizures, or not breathing.

Provided by the Connecticut Poison Control Center

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