



The New Jersey Poison Information & Education System

Serving New Jersey Since 1983

Designated regional poison center
for New Jersey by New Jersey
Department of Health and Senior
Services and the American
Association of Poison Control
Centers

PRESS RELEASE

Date: HALLOWEEN 2007
Contact: Alicia Gambino, MA, CHES
973-972-9280

Halloween

Parent Ground Rules for "Trick or Treating"

Halloween night is around the corner and *CANDY* is on the minds of every trick or treater. Parents/Guardians pay attention to the following Halloween safety tips to reduce the risk for childhood poisoning injuries.

- Children should be accompanied by an adult when "trick or treating".
- Go only to homes of people known to you.
- Homemade treats are nice, but unless the maker is well known, should never be eaten.
- Use non-toxic makeup to paint faces and body parts.
- Teach children not to consume food items, drinks or treats that may be offered, until an adult has thoroughly checked them.
- Throw away any spoiled, unwrapped or suspicious treats.
- Make sure any items that can cause choking, such as hard candy, are given to children of an appropriate age to avoid choking.
- Do not let children give treats to pets; *chocolates* and *raisins* may be poisonous to animals.
- Dispose of tin foil and cellophane candy wrappers properly to avoid children and pets choking on them if swallowed.
- Keep all medicines out of children's reach.
- Teach you child that medicine is not candy.

The New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) reminds parents, grandparents and other child care providers that poisonings often occur when children mistake pills for candy. Post the Poison Control Center Hotline number by your telephone. **1-800-222-1222**. Call the Poison Control Center Hotline at any time, day or night. Trained medical professionals will provide you with the most up to date emergency treatment advice, and will answer any drug or poison information question you may have. *It's Not Just Poisons! The Poison Control Center is here for Information and Questions Too!*

Remember, Help is Just a Phone Call Away!
Poison Emergency? Call 1-800-222-1222
Questions about Poisons? Call 1-800-222-1222
Questions about Poison Prevention? Call 1-800-222-1222
Hearing Impaired May Call 1-973-926-8008
located at University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey