

Poison Control Center: Medicines and Children

A 15 month old child was recently hospitalized after swallowing his grandmother's diabetes medication. Since the child's grandmother was only visiting for a couple of days, she thought it would be okay to leave her medications out on the nightstand by the bed. To make matters worse, some of these medications were moved from their original containers to non-child-resistant containers. The easy accessibility turned this into a perfect scenario for disaster. Unfortunately, this is an all-to-common occurrence in homes across New Jersey.

The New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES) warns parents and grandparents of the importance of keeping medicines and personal toiletries away from children. Always offer your visitors a safe place to store their medications and personal materials. The following are some helpful tips for travelers:

- ✓ Store medication and personal supplies in locked suitcases or containers
- ✓ Always keep medications and supplies in their original, child-resistant containers.
- ✓ Do not refer to medicine as "Candy".

The Poison Control Center Hotline number, **1-800-222-1222**, can be used for treatment advice for emergency poisonings as well as for non-emergency questions regarding medications, household products, plants, or environmental contaminants. The hotline is accessible 24 hours per day, everyday! Remember, **Help Is Just a Phone Call Away!**

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