

Washington Poison Center

Helpline: 1-800-222-1222

Washington's free service for medical advice on poisoning and drug overdoses

Poison emergencies:

Call the Washington Poison Center (800) 222-1222 for medical help with poisoning emergencies.

Our specialists will tell you if it is safe to remain at home or if you need to seek emergency care.

If someone is not breathing, unconscious, or having a seizure call 911.



Definition of a poison:

A poison is **any substance** that can be harmful if it is used the **wrong way**, in the **wrong amount**, or by the **wrong person**.

The Washington Poison Center is always here to help:

- Open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
- Trained medical experts answer your phone calls
- Calling is free and confidential
- Free language interpretation is available
- Poison help for all ages
- Nonprofit organization

For more information visit the Washington Poison Center website wapc.org or call 1-800-222-1222

Common reasons to call the Washington Poison Center:

- Accidents with household and industrial products
- Mistakes with medications and drugs
- Intentional poisoning
- Questions about taking medicines safely
- Poison safety advice

Our only concern is your health:

Our specialists will ask you what happened, the substance, symptoms, and relevant medical history. They will also ask for your name and phone number for follow-up care. They will not ask about immigration or legal status.



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Medical Care in the United States

In the United States there are different levels of medical care depending on your needs:

Primary care provider:

- Routine and preventative care
- Appointment is required
- Examples: physical exam, chronic conditions, vaccinations, health screenings, referrals

Hospital emergency room:

- Serious illnesses or conditions that require immediate medical care
- Usually open 24 hours a day, seven days a week
- Examples: trouble breathing, chest pain, large cuts, numbness on one side, seizures, loss of consciousness, severe illness

Urgent care:

- Illnesses or conditions that are uncomfortable but not deadly
- Hours vary by location
- Examples: sprains, minor fractures, small cuts, upper respiratory infection, sinus infection, urinary tract infection

Your provider is required

to offer language assistance and interpretation when requested.

Call 911 if someone needs an ambulance or paramedic for a serious medical situation.

Call 988 if someone is having a mental health crisis.

Call (800) 222-1222 (Washington Poison Center) for emergencies or questions regarding contact with poisons/toxins.



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