Safe Kids at Home: Medicine Safety

Simple Steps to Keep Kids Safe Around Medicine
Look what I can do!
Why is Medication Safety important? Nationwide...

Every 9 minutes a child goes to an Emergency Room for medication poisoning

Kids are getting into medicine nearly 500,000 times per year

Every 12 days, a young child dies from medication poisoning
What is Important? Nationwide...

- Toddlers and Teens are Most At-Risk
- The increase of medicines in the home since 1980 is staggering
- Today there are 3 times as many prescriptions filled in the U.S. and 5 times as many dollars spent on over-the-counter medicines.
More than 800 children were seen in emergency departments for accidental poisoning in the last 5 years.

Approximately 64% of accidental poisoning ED visits were due to medication.

It’s preventable!
What can we do?

• Store medicines safely

• Give medicines safely

• Get rid of expired or unused medicines safely

• Talk to family and friends about medication safety
What is medicine?

- Adult medicines and vitamins
- Children’s medicines and vitamins
- Eye drops
- Diaper rash remedies
Store medicines safely

- Keep medicines and vitamins up and away and out of sight, where children can’t see or reach them
- Put medicines up and away after *every* use
In ER visits for medicine poisonings, parents often say that they only turned their back for a minute.
Research indicates in about half of over-the-counter poisoning cases, the child climbed on a chair, toy or other object to reach medicine.
Where is your medicine?

- In your purse or backpack?
- On a table or nightstand?
- On kitchen or bathroom counters?
- In low cabinets or drawers?
Set reminders

Give Suzy antibiotic at 6:30 pm
Store medicines safely

- Store medicine in original container

- Buy medicine in child-resistant packaging when available and close it tightly after each use
Research suggests that about half of accidental medicine poisonings in young children involve child-resistant packaging.
Give medicines safely

- Read and follow the label
  - Know the active ingredients in your child’s medicine
  - Don’t give your child more than one medicine with the same active ingredient
  - Read the warnings, know the side effects, and understand when to stop taking the medicine and call a doctor
Give medicines safely

- Check the dosing
  - Make sure you give the right dose at the right time
  - When measuring liquid medicine, use the dosing device that comes with the medicine you are giving
  - Teaspoon (tsp.) vs Tablespoon (tbsp.)
Avoid double dosing

• Write down your child’s medicine schedule
  • Child’s name
  • Date and time medicine should be given
  • Amount of medicine that should be given
  • If the scheduled dose was given
Getting help

If you have questions about your child’s medicine, call the:

Child’s Doctor

Pharmacist

Poison Control Center

1-800-222-1222
Poison control centers

Know the number – put it in your home and cell phones
• 1-800-222-1222

When can you call the poison center?
• 24 hours a day, 7 days a week
• It’s free and confidential

Who answers the poison center number?
• Nurses, pharmacists, doctors and other poison experts
**Poison control centers**

**When should you call the poison center?**
- If you have questions about giving medicine
- If your child was given the wrong amount of medicine
- If your child has taken medicine that he or she was not supposed to take

**When should you call 911?**
- If your child stops breathing
- If your child collapses
- If your child has a seizure
Medication Disposal
Take-back program

National Prescription Drug Take Back Day (2 x per year)

- Local Police Departments and County Sheriffs’ Offices
- Last Saturday in April and October
- Safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs.
- Take-Back Day in April 2019 brought in more than 900,000 pounds of unused or expired prescription medication.

https://takebackday.dea.gov/
# Drop-off sites

## ESCALON
- **Escalon Police Dept.**
  - 2040 McHenry Ave.
  - Escalon, CA 95320
  - (209) 838-7093

- **Vineyard Pharmacy and Gifts**
  - 1900 McHenry Ave #202
  - Escalon, CA 95320
  - (209) 838-0511

## LATHROP
- **Know a location that takes this material?**
  - Call us at 468-3066

## LINDEN
- **Know a location that takes this material?**
  - Call us at 468-3066

## LOCKEFORD
- **Lockeford Drug**
  - 14090 E. Highway 88
  - Lockeford, CA 95237
  - (209) 727-5527

## LODI
- **Community Medical Centers,**
  - 2401 W. Turner Road, Suite 450
  - Lodi, CA 95242
  - (209) 370-1700

- **Fairmont Pharmacy**
  - 1121 W Vine St, Suite 13
  - Lodi, CA 95240
  - (209) 625-8633

- **Lodi Police Dept.**
  - 215 Elm St.
  - Lodi, CA 95240
  - (209) 333-6727

- **Walgreens # 296175**
  - N. Ham Ln.
  - Lodi, CA 95240
  - (209) 369-8575

## MANTECA
- **Community Medical Center**
  - 200 Cottage Ave Ste. 103
  - Manteca, CA 95336
  - (209) 624-5800

- **Manteca Police Dept.**
  - 1001 W. Center St.
  - Manteca, CA 95337
  - (209) 239-8401

## RIPON
- **Ripon Police Department**
  - 259 N. Wilma Ave.
  - Ripon, CA 95366
  - (209) 599-2101
Drop-off sites

STOCKTON

Angkor Pharmacy  
4555 N. Pershing Ave., Ste #7  
Stockton, CA 95207  
(209) 473-4706

Community Medical Centers, Channel  
701 E. Channel Street  
Stockton, CA 95202  
(209) 944-4700

Community Medical Centers, Waterloo  
1031 Waterloo Road  
Stockton, CA 95205  
(209) 940-5600

El Dorado Drug Store  
2005 East Mariposa Rd.  
Stockton, CA 95205  
(209) 464-7722

Kaiser Permanente Pharmacy  
7 373 West Ln, 1st Floor  
Stockton, CA 95210

Stockton Police Department  
22 E Market Street  
Stockton, CA 95202  
(209) 937-8377

San Joaquin County Household Hazardous Waste Facility 7  
850 R.A. Bridgeford Street  
Stockton, CA 95206  
(209) 468-3066

TRACY

Abala Pharmacy  
550 – B  
West Eaton Ave.  
Tracy, CA 95376  
(209) 832-7080

Grant Line Pharmacy  
2160 W. Grant Line Rd., #205  
Tracy, CA 95377  
(209) 832-2999
Share the information

Whose Medicine Are Kids Getting Into?

- Grandparents – 48%
- Parents – 38%
Share the information

- Talk to caregivers, babysitters, and grandparents about storing and giving your child medicines safely
- Ask guests and family members, especially grandparents, to keep their medicine up and away when they are visiting
- Give a copy of your child’s medicine schedule to caregivers who will be giving your child medicine
- Know the Poison Control Center phone number: 1-800-222-1222
Thank you!