



The drug information and poison control center

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> **Objectives:**
-Not given

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> **Revised**

[Color index : **Important** | **Notes** | Extra | [Editing file](#)]

Poison Center

Poison Control Centre:

is a facility that provides **immediate, free, and expert treatment advice and assistance** in case of exposure to poisonous or hazardous substances.

Poison control center answer questions about **potential** poisons in addition to providing treatment management advice about **household products, medicines, pesticides, plants, bites and stings, food poisoning, and fumes**

in the **west** More than 72% of poison exposure cases are managed simply by phone, greatly reducing the need for costly emergency room and doctor visits

GOALS:

why do we have a poison center ?

- 1- source of **rapid access to information** for physicians which is valuable in assessing and treating poisonings timely and accurately **they help with providing information when the patient ingest uncommon material or toxins**
- 2- Provides **toxicological laboratory services** for therapeutic as well as forensic investigation **they help with the investigation in criminal cases or suicidal attempt**
- 3- In developing contingency **plans for chemical disaster** with other responsible bodies. The centre responds to chemical disasters. **like radiation or chemical exposure**
- 4- The center carries out **epidemiological and experimental studies** to find out the toxic risks and mechanisms and their prevention. **they collect data for research**

difference between PIC and DIC

the doctor said no need to read this

	PIC (poison information control)	DIC (drug info. control)
clientele	88% of poison center call are placed by public directed toward the community	9-10% placed by public mostly by health care professional Directed towards physicians mainly
call volume	103 calls per day it ranges from 33-213 calls per day depending upon service population size , poison center awareness in that area , poisoning rates	fewer than 7 calls per day
hours of operation / cost	24 hours a day more expensive	9 am - 5 pm less expensive
staff	they use wider variety of health care professional	they rely on pharmacist
funding	public funding	sponsored by hospital and medical center

The data elements that are currently being tracked through the TESS¹ include:

- **General epidemiological data**- date and time of call, reason for exposure
- **Caller characteristics**- site of caller, city and state
- **Patient characteristics**- age and sex, pregnancy status
- **Exposure characteristics**- substance, route of exposure, site of exposure, amount of exposure, time elapsed
- **Clinical course**- clinical manifestations and therapeutic interventions recommended and performed and outcome of exposure

RESOURCES: used as reference for exposures

the doctor didn't focus on this part

- **Micromedex's poisindex**(a database of more than 8,00,000 household products, chemicals, and medications)
- General product formulations are found in Clinical Toxicology Of Commercial Products by Gosselin, Smith, and Hodge.
- In addition they often maintain manufacture files with recent product formulations
- Internal protocols, journals, medical literatures
- Information required stems from a specialized branch of toxicology

POISON INFORMATION SPECIALISTS

- They directly interact with the public and health care professionals
- Poison information specialists must be both clinicians and counselors. They must elicit a complete history, correctly assess the potential severity of exposure using the most appropriate management plan to the caller.
- In addition, poison information specialists must be able to focus callers who are unable to give cohesive history.
- Specialists should be able to communicate in a calm , reassuring manner at all levels of education.
- Both nurses and pharmacists are suitable poison information specialists
- A national certification examination for specialists in poison information is offered each may through the American Association Of Poison Control Centers.

KKUH poison centre

- The Pharmacy Services Department of King Khalid University Hospital (KKUH) established a Poison control service in conjunction with their drug information center in October 1983

- Contact Detail 71500

Riyadh Poison Control Center (MOH)

- Phone Center: +966 112324189 / 112324180
- Drug Information Unit Ext: 108
- Fax Center: Ext: 106
- Email: pcc-riyadh@moh.gov.sa

Table 1. The most common type of poisoning involving children <5 years old, 6-12 years old, and adults.

Categories	Substance ingested	Children <5 years (%)	Children 6-12 years (%)	Adults (%)
Drugs	CNS depressants	7.0		30
	Birth control pills	7.6		
	Iron/multivitamins	7.6		
	Paracetamol	5.7		
	NSAID	5.7	7.6	30
	Unknown	2.6	23	
	Antibiotics	2.6		
Household products	Others	27	27.4	
	Cosmetics			
	Chlorox	5.1		
	Disinfectant/deodorizers	3.2		
	Elemental mercury	3.2		
	Naphthalene	2		
	Others	4.4		7
Industrial products	Bites/stings	1.2	30.4	9
	Food poisonings and plants	<1		12
Plants			7.6	