

First Aid: Poisoning



Poisoning Prevention & Safety Tips

- Any household product or medicine used incorrectly can be a poison risk to children.
- Store household cleaning products (e.g. disinfectants, dishwashing tablets), cosmetics (e.g. perfumes, colognes, nail polish) and medicines in a secure place out of reach of young children.
- Ensure that cleaning products and medicines are clearly labelled and kept in their original containers.
- Baby proof cupboards, drawers, and storage units with child safety locks.
- Install baby gates around your home where necessary.
- Ensure that any guests in your home do not leave bags (which may contain medicines) within reach of children.
- Do not store cleaning products near food.



Poisoning First Aid

What does poisoning look like?

Poisoning can occur when the poison is swallowed, inhaled, enters the eye, makes contact with the skin, or is injected. Signs and symptoms will depend on the type of poison and may include nausea and vomiting, burning pain in the mouth or throat, headache, difficulty breathing, or burns to the skin, eyes, mouth, nose, and throat.

First Aid:

If you suspect your child has been exposed to a poison, do not delay seeking medical care.

If possible, find out what poison is involved (and how much), keep the container, and call the Victorian Poisons Information Centre 13 11 26 for first aid advice.

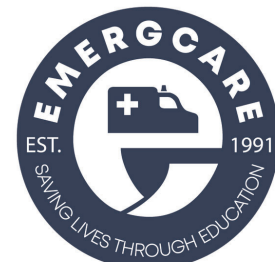
If your child has difficulty breathing, stops breathing, or has a seizure, call Triple Zero (000) immediately and follow instructions from the call taker.

Remember:

- Follow DRSABCD.
- Call Triple Zero (000) for an ambulance.
- Continue to monitor the child until the ambulance arrives.

More Information:

- Royal Children's Hospital (Kids Health Information Fact Sheets): www.rch.org.au
- Kidsafe Victoria: www.kidsafevic.com.au
- Learn these skills by booking into a first aid course: www.emergcare.com.au



This information is not a substitute for first aid training or medical advice. Whilst all care has been taken in preparing this information, Emergcare takes no responsibility for its use by other parties or individuals, and recommends attending a first aid course.