

# Poisoning



***In 2006 in Miami-Dade County, poisoning caused 473 visits to the Emergency Department and 59 hospitalizations among children under 6.***

- Children under 6 are at the greatest risk for poisoning.
- Nearly 3/4 of these poisonings were due to medications.
- Over 1/4 of these poisonings were caused by household cleaners, gasoline and pest control substances.

## Tips to Prevent Poisoning

- Closely supervise children when cleaning or using other toxic substances.
- Store poisonous products in their original containers; never put them in food or drink containers.
- Install safety latches on cabinets to lock up harmful products; keep them out of sight and reach of children.
- Keep purses out of reach of children including those belonging to visitors.



Data from Miami-Dade County Injury Surveillance system, Unintentional Poisonings in Children 0-6: 2006

See other side for more safety tips

# Safety Tips



- Store all medicines in containers with safety caps and throw away unused medication.
- Never call medicines candy. Kids may want to eat them in large amounts like candy.
- To ensure proper dosage, check the label each time you give a child medicine.
- Test carbon monoxide and smoke alarms every month.
- Keep the Poison Control Center's number (1-800-222-1222) next to the telephone for information or emergencies.



## RESOURCES FOR POISONING PREVENTION:

**Florida Poison Information Center Miami:**  
**1-800-222-1222 / [www.miamipoison.org](http://www.miamipoison.org)**  
**Injury Free - Miami:**  
**(305) 243-3928 / [www.jhsmiami.org/injuryfree](http://www.jhsmiami.org/injuryfree)**  
**American Academy of Pediatrics: [www.aap.org](http://www.aap.org)**