Carbon Monoxide Prevention Efforts

In celebration of Poison Prevention Month, the Upstate New York Poison Center is working with partners in our northern regions to alert patients to the dangers of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning. As Federally-Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs), these community-based organizations provide comprehensive primary care and preventive care to persons of all ages in both underserved urban and rural communities. Nationally 36% of these health center patients are uninsured and 40% depend on Medicaid.

With funding provided by the NYS’s Children’s Health Environmental Coalition (CHEC) and in concert with Upstate Medical University’s Coalition, the Poison Center developed a campaign around CO poisoning. In early January, a carbon monoxide prevention message was posted on billboards lining the northern corridor of I-81 to call attention to this important health issue. Funding also allowed for staff training at the North Country Family Health Center located in Watertown and Lewis counties and for staff at the Community Health Center of the North Country located in Malone and Gouverneur, NY. During February and March, staff will provide an educational intervention and distribute 550 carbon monoxide detectors to their patients free of charge, thanks to the CHEC grant funding.

Around the training session, pre and post-tests will be administered to patients in order to gauge the effectiveness of the program in hopes of securing future funding for this project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
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American Association of Poison Control Centers Urges Government Liquid Nicotine Regulation in Wake of Child Death

CHILD NICOTINE POISONING PREVENTION ACT WOULD REQUIRE CHILD-PROOF PACKAGING FOR LIQUID NICOTINE


One teaspoon of liquid nicotine could be lethal to a child, and smaller amounts can cause severe illness, often requiring trips to the emergency department. Despite the dangers these products pose to children, there are currently no standards set in place that require child-proof packaging. By addressing this void, the legislation would work to protect children from ingesting or encountering liquid nicotine.

In 2012, poison centers across the country received 460 exposure calls attributed to liquid nicotine and e-cigarettes. That number more than tripled in 2013 to 1,543 with slightly more than half of those reported exposures occurring in young children under the age of six. By November 2014, the numbers again more than doubled, with 3,638 exposure calls to poison centers through Nov. 30.

To access AAPCC’s e-cigarette and liquid nicotine exposure data, please visit the Alerts section at http://www.aapcc.org/alerts/e-cigarettes/.
Liquid Nicotine E-Cig Refills: Hazardous to Children

A new hazard for children is a sweet-tasting yet highly toxic liquid nicotine sold as e-cig refills. Even a lick from some e-cig liquid refill bottles can be deadly for a child. If exposed:

Call 911 or Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222

Nicotine can cause seizures and vomiting within minutes after a child swallows it.

Nicotine amounts range from:
- Cigarette: 15 to 30 mg, Butts 5-7 mg
- Cigar: 15-40 mg
- Snuff: 1 gm of wet snuff 13-16 mg
- Nicotine gum: 2 or 4 mg
- Transdermal patches: 8.3 – 114 mg

E-cigarette cartridges have weaker solutions of nicotine compared to the refill bottles. Both can be dangerous, but the refill liquid can be fatal if swallowed by a child.

Toxic dose if swallowed by a child:
- 1 cigarette
- 3 cigarette butts
- 1 skin patch
- a lick from e-refill bottle

E-cig refills come in many flavors

Source: FL Poison Information Center – Tampa www.PoisonCenterTampa.org
Unintentional Poisoning Can Happen To You…At Any Age!

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.UPSTATEPOISON.ORG FOR A MORE POISON RESOURCES, INCLUDING BROCHURES, POSTERS, ARCHIEVED NEWSLETTERS AND....