



## American Association of Poison Control Centers

---

### News Release

#### For Immediate Release

December 23, 2019

#### For More Information, Contact:

Yasmine Harding, Associate Manager,  
Public Education & Communications  
[harding@AAPCC.org](mailto:harding@AAPCC.org); 703-894-1865

### AAPCC Publishes 36<sup>th</sup> Annual National Poison Data System Report

**Arlington, VA** – The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers' (AAPCC) National Poison Data System (NPDS) reveals that in 2018, someone called a poison control center about every 15 seconds. Poison control centers managed 2.5 million cases, and approximately 2.1 were human exposure cases.

“The staff of the nation’s poison control centers assist in the treatment of patients exposed to opioids as well as other new and emerging drugs of abuse,” said Dr. Mark Ryan, PharmD, AAPCC Board of Directors President. “The data collected by our specialists and uploaded into NPDS help provide valuable surveillance by monitoring the causes, scope and locations of drug abuse in the U.S. The landscape is changing for drugs of abuse and this latest report shows that non-opioid drugs have emerged causing both serious injury and death. In addition to our timely treatment recommendations, centers have strategic education departments raising awareness about the dangers of these new threats.”

As in previous years, a majority of exposures were reported from residences, but poison control centers also received a significant number of calls from places of work, school, and healthcare facilities. About 66% of exposures reported to poison centers were treated at the exposure site, saving millions of dollars in medical expenses.

AAPCC maintains NPDS, the only poison information and surveillance database in the United States, providing real-time monitoring of unusual poisoning patterns, chemical exposures and other emerging public health hazards. NPDS contains information on more than 70 million poison exposures.

The full report contains a comprehensive overview of cases managed by poison control centers and can be accessed [here](#).

#### About American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC)

AAPCC supports the nation’s 55 poison center members in their efforts to treat and prevent drug, consumer product, animal, environmental and food poisoning. Members staff the Poison Help hotline at 1-800-222-1222 that provides free, confidential, expert medical advice 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. AAPCC partners with federal agencies such as HRSA, CDC, FDA and EPA, as well as private industry. **Be prepared for a poison emergency and download poison control’s contact information today. Text “poison” to 797979.**

To learn more, visit [www.aapcc.org](http://www.aapcc.org), like us on Facebook, and follow us on Twitter (@AAPCC).

##