



# OKLAHOMA **POISON** CENTER

**43% OF HUMAN EXPOSURE CALLS INVOLVED CHILDREN 5 YEARS OF AGE OR YOUNGER.**

## **ABOUT US**

The Oklahoma Poison Center is a vital public health service providing emergency management guidance for poison exposures, poison prevention education, and drug information to the residents of Oklahoma.

In 2023, the Oklahoma Poison Center received a total of 34,983 poison-related calls and placed another 33,137 follow-up calls to ensure patient safety and verify outcome.

The center is staffed 24 hours a day by specially trained and certified pharmacists and nurses, under the guidance of one board-certified clinical toxicologist and two board-certified medical toxicologists to manage the **Poison Helpline 1-800-222-1222**.

**OKLAHOMAPOISON.ORG**



**1-800-222-1222**



**1000 NE 13TH STREET, SUITE 3850  
OKLAHOMA CITY, OK 73104**



- The poison center is a source for poison exposure care advice, as well as patient management guidelines for emergency departments and emergency personnel statewide.

- Provides poison prevention education and training programs for the public and health care professionals throughout the state of Oklahoma.



- Engages in training of pharmacy, medicine, nursing, and paramedic students as well as toxicology research. Serves as the toxicology training site for emergency medicine residents.

- Specialists are subject matter experts for the Oklahoma State Department of Health, law enforcement, and other local, state and national agencies in the event of suspected chemical, nuclear and bio-terrorism incidents.



- In 2023 the Oklahoma Poison Center received 260 calls that involved children aged 0-5 years exposed to marijuana in our state. 181 children (70%) of these were treated in a healthcare facility.

By managing 95% of human exposure cases at home, the Oklahoma Poison Center saved \$11.4 million in 2023, as the average emergency room visit in Oklahoma was estimated to cost at least \$1,000.

Data from a recently completed Oklahoma caller satisfaction and insurance survey indicated:

- If not for the Oklahoma Poison Center, 78% of callers would have self-referred to a healthcare facility and 58% would have likely gone to the emergency room.
- 50% of the people assisted by the Oklahoma Poison Center are uninsured or covered by government-sponsored healthcare programs.

SoonerCare	29%
Medicaid	6%
Medicare	7%
TriCare	2%
IHS	1%
Uninsured	5%