The California Poison Control System has four divisions located throughout California. The following administrative addresses and phone numbers are listed for your convenience.

**Central Office**
School of Pharmacy  
University of California San Francisco  
Box 1262  
San Francisco, CA  94143-1262  
Administration (415)502-8600  
Fax (415)502-8620

**Fresno/Madera Division**
at Valley Children’s Hospital  
9300 Valley Children’s Place, MB 15  
Madera, CA  93638-8762  
Administration (559)622-2300  
Fax (559)622-2322

**Sacramento Division**
at UC Davis Medical Center  
2315 Stockton Boulevard  
Sacramento, CA  95817-2201  
Administration (916)227-1400  
Fax (916)227-1414

**San Diego Division**
at UC San Diego Medical Center  
200 West Arbor  
San Diego, CA  92103-8925  
Administration (858)715-6300  
Fax (858)715-6323

**San Francisco Division**
at San Francisco General Hospital  
1001 Potrero Avenue  
San Francisco, CA  94110-3518  
Administration (415)502-6000  
Fax (415)502-6010

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WHERE DO THE CALLS COME FROM?

- Home: 81%
- Health Care Facility: 14%
- Work Place: 1%
- Other: 4%

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**Poison Hotline**
1-800-876-4766  
*California Only*

**Education Materials & Programs**
1-800-582-3387  
*(voice mail)*

**Website**
www.calpoison.org

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**What is the California Poison Control System (CPCS)?**
The CPCS is a statewide network of trained experts who provide the public and health professionals with toll-free hotline telephone information and advice about treating poisoning exposures 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Interpreting services in more than 100 languages make the emergency/information telephone number accessible to all California residents.

Calling the Poison Control Center first will prevent unnecessary trips to the Emergency Department. Statistics show that only 20% of poisonings are actually severe enough to require referral to hospitals. Our experts are able to quickly assess the severity of an exposure and can manage the majority of them at home.
PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
The CPCS provides continuing education presentations in the recognition and management of poisoning and toxicologic emergencies for physicians and other health care providers.

PUBLIC EDUCATION
CPCS health educators offer outreach programs throughout the state to increase poison awareness and promote poison prevention. The toll-free education phone line and website make it easy for the public to request educational materials and services. Printed and audio-visual education materials are available in a variety of languages for minimal fees.

DATA COLLECTION
CPCS maintains computerized medical records of all calls. This data provides indicators of new trends in poisonings and helps determine patterns of service usage. Data is submitted annually to the American Association of Poison Control Centers' national data control system, which collects similar information from poison centers nationwide. The California Poison Control System requires all patient information to be maintained in confidence. Only statistical incidence reports are provided to outside sources.

DEMOGRAPHICS
The California Poison Control System receives approximately 300,000 calls a year (about 820 a day). Of these, about 230,000 involve exposures to a drug or poison. The remaining calls are requests for information.

WHAT ELSE DOES THE SYSTEM OFFER?
- Educational materials and programs about the prevention and treatment of poison exposures for children, parents, teachers, organizations and health professionals.
- Information about hazardous toxic chemicals and assistance to on-scene personnel during chemical spill disasters.
- Public alerts during community wide emergencies such as food poisonings, adverse reactions to new drugs or product tampering.
- An up-to-date reference library and computerized information system about poisons, drugs and toxic substances.
- Access to a network of board-certified physicians who provide immediate consultation for poison center staff.
- Internet website with downloadable information for the general public and health professionals.

WHAT IS THE MOST COMMON POISONING?

- Medicines: 43%
- Cleaning Products: 18%
- Cosmetics: 18%
- Foods & Mushrooms: 6%
- Insecticides & Pesticides: 9%
- Other: 9%

SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT
- University of California San Francisco School of Pharmacy
- State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority
- Corporate contracts and contributions
- Individual contributions
- In-kind contributions from host facilities

Tax deductible contributions are appreciated and can be mailed to:
California Poison Control System
UCSF School of Pharmacy, Box 1262
San Francisco, CA 94143