



NEWS RELEASE

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State Health Department Urges Use of National Poison Control Phone Number

BISMARCK, N.D. – The North Dakota Department of Health is reminding parents and caregivers to use the national poison control phone number for emergency poison consultation.

The national phone number – 800.222.1222 – was established in 2003 to allow 24-hour, 7-day-a-week access to poison control services anywhere in the nation through a single toll-free phone number.

“Unfortunately, an outdated phone number is listed in the yellow pages of some new phone directories, as well as on a postcard attached to the phone directories,” said Carol Meidinger, director of the North Dakota Department of Health’s Injury Prevention Program. “Consumers who call the old phone number receive a recording directing them to the new phone number.”

The national phone number is answered at certified poison control centers located throughout the nation and staffed by nurses and pharmacists. Hennepin Regional Poison Control Center in Minneapolis, Minn., is the certified center that receives phone calls from North Dakota callers.

North Dakotans can contact the North Dakota Department of Health at 800.472.2286 (press 1) to receive telephone stickers and refrigerator magnets with the new national toll-free number.

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