

# E-CIGARETTE POISONING

E-cigarettes contain a liquid nicotine solution that can be poisonous. These products come in bright colors and appealing flavors and scents, making them particularly attractive to young children.

## Lethality<sup>1</sup>

Nicotine is an **acute toxin**



Liquid nicotine can be harmful if **swallowed** or **absorbed through the skin**

### Symptoms include:

Nausea  
Vomiting  
Increased heart rate  
Increased blood pressure  
Seizures  
Death



Just a few drops of liquid nicotine could result in a **trip to the ER**



Lethality depends on the **weight** of the child and the **concentration** of the liquid nicotine

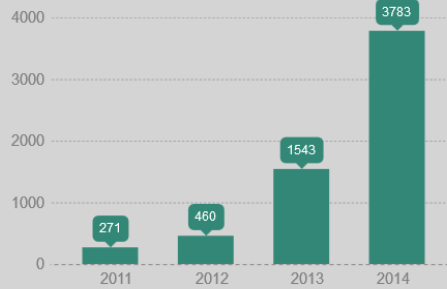


Ingesting less than **1/4 of a teaspoon** of 1.8% concentrated liquid nicotine can be fatal to a 50 pound child



## A Growing Problem<sup>2</sup>

Poison control centers reported a **145% increase** in calls involving e-cigarettes and liquid nicotine between 2013 and 2014



E-Cigarette and Liquid Nicotine Exposures Reported to Poison Centers

More than half of these exposures occurred in **children ages 5 and under**



## Safety Tips



Keep liquid nicotine and e-cigarettes locked up, out of sight, and out of reach

Make sure liquid nicotine is stored in child-resistant containers



Protect your skin when handling liquid nicotine

Program the poison control number into your phone and call immediately if skin contact or ingestion occurs



**1 (800) 222-1222**

For detailed sources and resources:  
[childrenssafetynetwork.org/infographics/e-cigarette-poisoning](http://childrenssafetynetwork.org/infographics/e-cigarette-poisoning)

July 2015

# E-Cigarette Poisoning

---

E-cigarettes contain a liquid nicotine solution that can be poisonous. These products come in bright colors and appealing flavors and scents, making them particularly attractive to young children.

## Lethality<sup>1</sup>

Nicotine is an acute toxin

Liquid nicotine can be harmful when swallowed or absorbed through the skin

Symptoms include:

- Nausea
- Vomiting
- Increased heart rate
- Increased blood pressure
- Seizures
- Death

Just a few drops of liquid nicotine could result in a trip to the ER

Lethality depends on the weight of the child and the concentration of liquid nicotine

Ingesting less than a quarter of a teaspoon of 1.8% concentrated liquid nicotine can be fatal to a 50 pound child

## A Growing Problem<sup>2</sup>

Poison control centers reported a 145 percent increase in calls involving e-cigs and liquid nicotine between 2013 and 2014

E-Cigarette and Liquid Nicotine Exposures Reported to Poison Centers				
	2011	2012	2013	2014
Calls	271	460	153	3783

More than half of these exposures occurred in children ages 5 and under

## Safety Tips

Keep liquid nicotine and e-cigarettes locked up, out of sight, and out of reach

Make sure liquid nicotine is stored in child-resistant containers

Protect your skin when handling liquid nicotine

Program the poison control number into your phone and call immediately if skin contact or ingestion occurs: 1 (800) 222-1222

---

<sup>1</sup> Tobacco Control Legal Consortium. (2015). *Policy Approaches to Prevent Liquid Nicotine Poisonings*. Retrieved from: <http://publichealthlawcenter.org/sites/default/files/resources/tclc-fs-e-liquid-nicotine-poisonings-2015.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> American Association of Poison Control Centers. *E-Cigarette Devices and Liquid Nicotine*. Retrieved from: <http://www.aapcc.org/alerts/e-cigarettes/>