

# Medication Safety in the Home: Protect Your Children & Prevent Accidental Ingestions

## 6 Tips to Safely Store Medicine

**In ER** visits for medicine poisonings, parents often say that they only turned their back for **ONE MINUTE**.

### *Out of Reach of Curious Climbers*

In about half of over-the-counter poisoning cases, the child climbed on a chair, toy, or other object to reach medicine.

**LESS THAN 1 IN 4** caregivers use safe storage practices for medication at home.<sup>1</sup>

### *Up and Away*

Keep prescriptions and over-the-counter medications up and away, in a locked container or medication safe.

### *Know What's in the House*

Ask family and guests if they have medication in their purse or luggage so you can put it away safely while at your home.

**NEARLY 1 IN 6** of all child fatalities and near fatalities in Kentucky were related to the ingestion of substances.<sup>2</sup>

**800-222-1222**

Program the Poison Control Center Number in your phone and keep it posted on your refrigerator.



### *Child-Resistant ≠ Childproof*

Research suggests about half of accidental poisonings involved child-resistant packaging.

**EVERY 9 MINUTES**, a young child goes to the ER because they got into medicine.

### *Keep Track*

of the number of pills/strips you have in your medication bottle so you can know how many a child may have ingested.

Scan the QR code for more resources and supplies!



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<sup>1</sup> Salzman, M, Cruz, L, Nairn, S., Bechmann, S., Karmakar, R. & Baumann, B.M. (2019). The prevalence of modifiable parental behaviors associated with inadvertent pediatric medication ingestions. Western Journal of Emergency Medicine, 20(2), 269-277.

<sup>2</sup> Kentucky Child Fatality and Near Fatality External Review Panel 2020 Annual Report