

# Victorian Poisons Information Centre

## Annual Report 2005

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## **Introduction**

The Victorian Poisons Information Centre (VPIC) is located at the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH), Melbourne. VPIC commenced operation in 1962; it has been at RCH since 1976. VPIC is directed administratively as part of the RCH Pharmacy Department.

VPIC provides members of the Victorian public with information about:

- first aid in the event of poisoning, suspected poisoning, bites and stings
- the need for medical assessment
- prevention of poisoning
- referral to other information sources.

VPIC provides health professionals with information about:

- the ingredients in products involved in poisoning or exposure
- assessment of the severity of a poisoning or exposure
- potential toxic effects from a poisoning or exposure
- treatment and management advice.

VPIC aims to prevent unnecessary visits to general practitioners and hospitals and to ensure patients who are poisoned receive the most effective treatment promptly.

The VPIC telephone number is 13 11 26. This number can be used Australia-wide for the cost of a local call (excluding mobile phones).

## **Hours of Operation**

VPIC operates Monday to Friday (0800 to 2130 hours), and Saturday and Sunday (0800 to 2100 hours). Outside these times, calls are diverted to the New South Wales Poisons Information Centre, which operates on a 24-hour basis.

## **Staff Members**

### **Director of Pharmacy and the VPIC**

Brian Lilley B. Pharm., Grad. Dip. Hosp. Pharm., M.B.A.

### **Manager, VPIC**

Jeff Robinson B. Pharm., F.S.H.P., Grad. Dip. Hosp. Pharm.

### **Poisons Information Specialists**

Janet Browning B. Pharm., Dip. Hosp. Pharm.

Stephen Gibbins B. Pharm., B. Sc., M.P.H.

Dawson MacLeod B. Pharm., Grad. Dip. Biotech.

Hamish McCracken B. Pharm., Grad. Dip. Psych.

Jeff Robinson B. Pharm., F.S.H.P., Grad. Dip. Hosp. Pharm.

VPIC has access to a range of consultants (toxicologists, emergency physicians, clinical pharmacologists, mycologists, botanists and toxinologists), who can provide specialist advice if needed.

## **Review of Management Protocols**

- The following VPIC management protocols were reviewed during 2005: Accidental Ingestion of Low Systemic Toxicity Hydrocarbons; Eucalyptus Oil Ingestion; Ingestion of Unidentified Fungi.

## **Poisoning Prevention Activities**

- In February, Jeff Robinson was interviewed on Alexandria Radio 9 about the role of VPIC.
- Printed material (pamphlets, telephone stickers, posters, information sheets) was supplied to child care centres, local councils, Maternal and Child Health Centres, GP surgeries etc throughout the year.
- A safety warning notice about dosing errors involving Donnalix Infant Drops was prepared for the Pharmacy Board of Victoria.
- Jeff Robinson reviewed poisoning prevention information to be placed on the Raising Children Network website.

## **Research Activities and Publications**

- Sherrard J, Sweidan M, Robinson J, Killian J, Brennan C, Ozanne-Smith J. Barriers to Child Poisoning Prevention. Why does Child-Resistant Packaging Fail? Melbourne: Monash University Accident Research Centre and the Royal Children's Hospital; 2005. VPIC enrolled patients for this study, which was funded by the Victorian Department of Human Services.
- Gibbs L, Waters E, Sherrard J, Ozanne-Smith J, Robinson J, Young S, Hutchinson A. Understanding parental motivators and barriers to uptake of child poisons safety strategies: a qualitative study. *Injury Prevention* 2005; 11:373-7.
- Data was provided to the National Drugs and Poisons Schedule Committee about exposure calls involving laundry detergents and automatic dishwasher detergents.
- Data was provided to the Australian Venom Research Unit about exposure calls involving blue-ringed octopus, marine sponge and coral cuts.
- Data was provided to other researchers about exposure calls involving mushrooms, oral contraceptives, veterinary vaccines and anticholinergic plants.
- In September, VPIC commenced patient enrolments for the study: Investigating the Risk of Arrhythmias and QT Prolongation in Amisulpride Overdose.

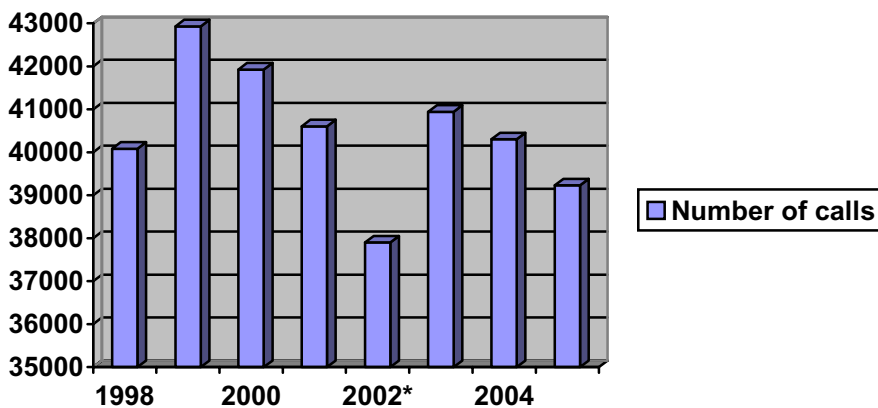
## **Other Activities**

The following additional activities were undertaken during 2005:

- Dr. Teresa Lebel, mycologist from the Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne, presented an update on mushroom ingestions to VPIC staff.
- Meetings of the RCH Clinical Toxicology Service were held monthly.
- Jeff Robinson attended meetings of the Victorian Department of Human Services Chemical Emergency Management Technical Advisory Group (CHEMTAG).
- A new call database was introduced in June.
- VPIC staff attended four of the NSW Poisons Information Centre Clinical Meetings.
- Dr. Ken Winkel and staff from the Australian Venom Research Unit presented two updates on bites and stings to VPIC staff.
- Jan Bowman, Manager of Environmental Health at the Victorian Department of Human Services, presented an update on the role of the Environmental Health Unit to VPIC staff.
- Jeff Robinson was part of a delegation to meet and discuss child and adolescent injury/poisoning issues with Hon. Sheryl Garbutt, Minister for Children.
- Jeff Robinson delivered a lecture on Paediatric Poisoning and the Role of VPIC to visiting Maternal and Child Health Centre nurses.
- An article about the role of VPIC appeared in the Health Section of 'The Age' newspaper on 8th October.
- VPIC operations were demonstrated to visitors from China and Vietnam.

## Calls to VPIC

The centre received 39,230 calls during 2005, an average of 107 calls per day. This was slightly lower than 2004 (40,303 calls, average of 110 calls per day).



\* In 2002, the number of calls received was lower than in previous years due to:

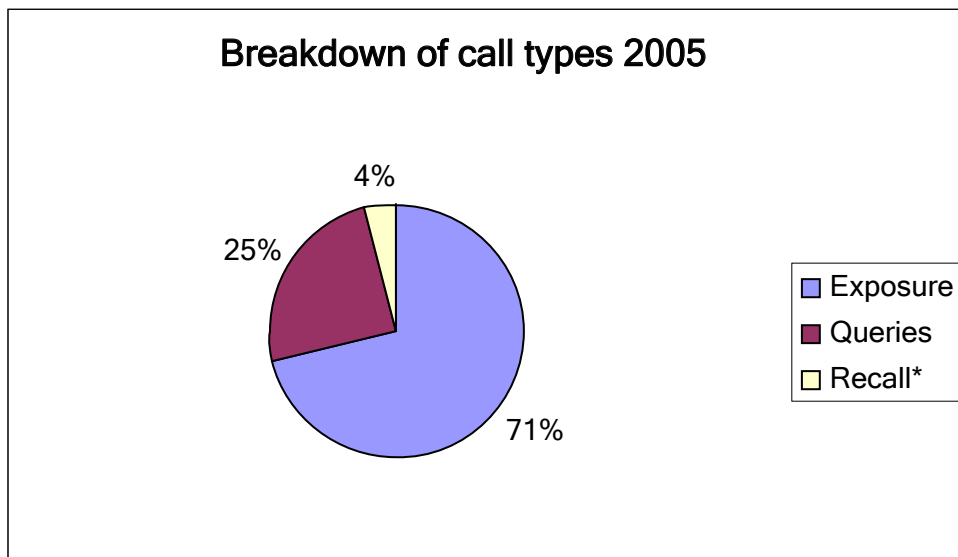
- February and March – reduced hours of operation due to staffing shortages.
- March to August – the telecommunications provider inappropriately diverted some Victorian calls to the New South Wales Poisons Information Centre.

## Call type

Most calls involved an exposure. Just on a quarter of calls were queries.

Call type	Number of calls	%
Exposure to a poison	27854	71
Queries	9806	25
Recall*	1570	4
Total	39230	100

\* A recall is a second or subsequent call about a particular exposure.



\* A recall is a second or subsequent call about a particular exposure.

## Query type

The types of queries received are shown below.

Query type	Number of calls	%
Poisons information	4610	47
Drug information	2548	26
Prevention of poisoning/safety	882	9

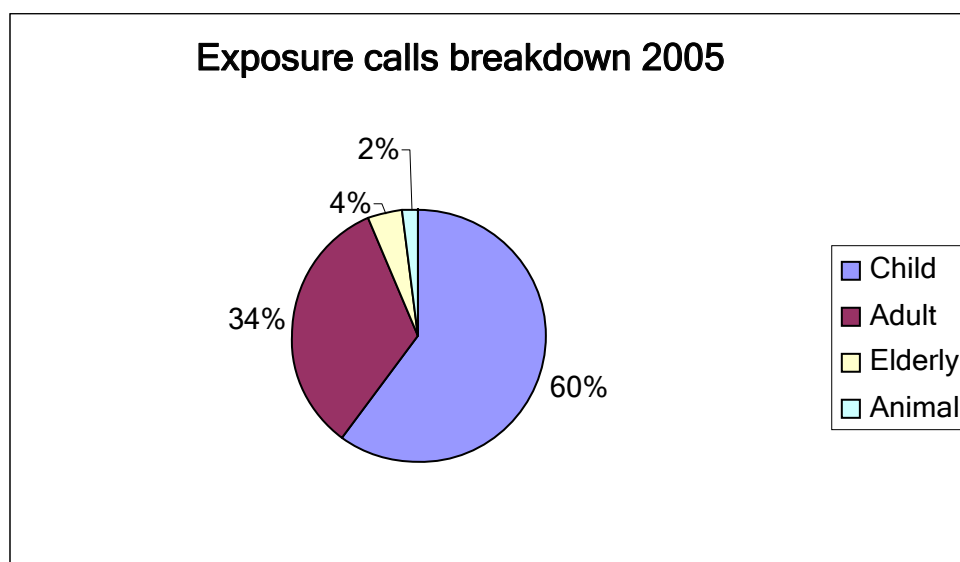
Medical	598	6
Environmental	572	6
Pregnancy	295	3
Breastfeeding	195	2
Occupational	106	1
Total	9806	100

### Person exposed

The majority of calls about exposure to a poison involved children.

Person exposed	Number of calls	%
Child (<16 years)	16720	60
Adult (>16 years but <65 years)	9465	34
Elderly (>65 years)	1115	4
Animal*	554	2
Total	27854	100

\* Callers phoning about an exposure involving an animal were referred to their vet



### Person calling (animal exposures excluded)

The majority of calls about exposure to a poison were received from members of the public.

Person calling	Number of calls	%
Family member	17200	63
Self	4104	15
Doctor	2232	8
Nurse	1423	5
Friend	820	3
Carer	546	2
Pharmacist	332	1
Ambulance	296	1
Counselling service	170	<1
Other medical professional, eg psychologist, social worker	92	<1
Other, eg police, teachers	85	<1
Total	27300	100

**Type of exposure (animal exposures excluded)**

The majority of calls about exposure to a poison involved accidental exposures.

<b>Type of exposure</b>	<b>Number of calls</b>	<b>%</b>
Accidental	22746	83
Intentional	2189	8
Therapeutic error	1638	6
Workplace acute	561	2
Environmental	91	<1
Workplace chronic	50	<1
Other	25	<1
<b>Total</b>	<b>27300</b>	<b>100</b>

**Route of exposure (animal exposures excluded)**

The majority of calls about exposure to a poison involved ingestion.

<b>Route of exposure</b>	<b>Number of calls</b>	<b>%</b>
Ingestion	20620	76
Bite/sting	2457	9
Ocular	1638	6
Inhalation/nasal	1214	4
Dermal	1187	4
Parenteral	146	<1
Aural	29	<1
Vaginal	5	<1
Rectal	4	<1
<b>Total</b>	<b>27300</b>	<b>100</b>

**Handling calls - children**

The majority of children exposed to a poison could be managed at home.

<b>Handling calls - children</b>	<b>Number of calls</b>	<b>%</b>
Stay at home	13875	83
Hospital refer	1171	7
In hospital	1013	6
GP refer	324	2
At GP surgery	240	1
Other	97	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>16720</b>	<b>100</b>

**Handling calls - adults**

The majority of adults exposed to a poison could be managed at home.

<b>Handling calls - adults</b>	<b>Number of calls</b>	<b>%</b>
Stay at home	4922	52
Hospital refer	1904	20
In hospital	1335	14
GP refer	853	9
At GP surgery	380	4
Other	71	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>9465</b>	<b>100</b>

### Handling calls - elderly

The majority of elderly people exposed to a poison could be managed at home.

Handling calls - elderly	Number of calls	%
Stay at home	827	74
Hospital refer	90	8
GP refer	87	8
At GP surgery	58	5
In hospital	42	4
Other	11	1
Total	1115	100

### Symptom severity at the time of the call (animal exposures excluded)

The majority of human exposures were asymptomatic at the time of the call to VPIC.

Poisoning severity score*	Number of calls	%
None	19373	71
Minor	7308	26
Moderate	574	2
Severe	45	<1
Fatal	0	0
Total	27300	100

\* Symptom severity scoring is based on the Poisoning Severity Score. Persson HE, Sjoberg GK, Haines JA, Pronczuk de Garbino J. Poisoning severity score. Clin Tox 1998; 36(3): 205-13.

### Ten substances that generated the most calls

The ten substances that generated the most calls to VPIC during 2005 are shown below.\*

Substance	Number of calls
Paracetamol	1140
Benzodiazepines	842
Spider bites (other than Redback, White-tailed spiders)	764
Bleach (hypochlorite based)	586
Silica gel	557
Cough and cold preparations (without paracetamol or aspirin)	511
All purpose/hard surface cleaners	505
Selective serotonin re-uptake inhibitor antidepressants	498
Detergent: hand dish/sink	488
Rodenticides	392

\*These are not necessarily the most toxic, but rather may be the most accessible.

## Exposures to non-medicine, non-drug products

Substance/product	Number of exposures
<b>HOME PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>Adhesives, glues, cements, pastes</b>	
Cyanoacrylates	185
Epoxy resins	13
Model glues, cements	12
Non-toxic glues, pastes	27
Adhesive, glue, cement, paste: other/unknown	33
<b>Art, craft, hobby, writing products</b>	
Chalk	19
Correction fluid	44
Crayon	26
Glazes	2
Paint: artists' paints, non-water colour	4
Paints: artists' paints, water colours	13
Paper/cardboard	10
Pencil	17
Pens/ink (including stamp pad ink, textas)	195
Printer ink/cartridge	8
Art, craft, writing products: other/unknown	16
<b>Batteries</b>	
Automotive	12
Disc/button battery	69
Penlight/dry cell	87
<b>Cleaners, bleaches, detergents etc</b>	
Bleach (hypochlorite based)	586
Bleach: other/unknown	8
Cleaner: all purpose/hard surface	505
Cleaner: ammonia based	22
Cleaner: baby bottle	10
Cleaner: carpet	52
Cleaner: drain	23
Cleaner: floor	59
Cleaner: glass/window	141
Cleaner: industrial	89
Cleaner: leather/vinyl/upholstery	4
Cleaner: nappy	81
Cleaner: other/unknown	116
Cleaner: oven	145
Detergent: anionic/non-ionic (not hand dish type)	31
Detergent: automatic dishwasher liquids	20

Detergent: automatic dishwasher powders/tablets	272
Detergent: automatic dishwasher rinse agents	25
Detergent: cationic (not disinfectants)	8
Detergent: hand dish	488
Detergent: laundry	256
Disinfectant	232
Dry cleaning agent	2
Fabric softener	20
Ironing aid/starch	5
Laundry additive	18
Pre-wash stain remover	137
Rust remover: hydrofluoric acid type	2
Rust remover: other/unknown	12
Sugar soap (sodium carbonate)	10
Tape head cleaner	2
Toilet bowl cleaner/deodoriser: cage type	173
Toilet bowl cleaner: powder/liquid	49
Vaporiser cleaning tablet	18
<b>Fire extinguishers</b>	
BCF/Halon	1
Dry powder	49
Foam	4
<b>Food products, food poisoning</b>	
Artificial sweeteners	2
Ciguatera	5
Food additives	120
Food allergy	50
Food poisoning	131
Food recall/food scare	8
Food spoilage	284
MSG ("Chinese Restaurant Syndrome")	2
<b>Garden products</b>	
Fertiliser: house plant food	30
Fertiliser: outdoor	67
Soil/potting mix	68
<b>Miscellaneous home products</b>	
Air fresheners	121
Blu-tack	20
Bubble blowing solution	143
Charcoal	4
Christmas decorations	2
Cigarettes and tobacco products	124

Coins	79
Cyalume light sticks/glow necklaces	209
Desiccants: other/unknown (not silica gel)	13
Dyes: fabric	9
Dyes: food	4
Dyes: other/unknown	9
Fire starters	52
Foreign body	291
Fragrant oil/pot pourri oil	54
Freezer/cold packs	39
Glass	28
Incense	4
Massage oil	28
Matches	12
Pet food	28
Plastic/polystyrene	42
Pot pourri	3
Room deodoriser	42
Silica gel	557
Thermometer: mercury	119
Thermometer: mercury	17
Toys	106
Household products: other/unknown	185
<b>Photographic products</b>	
Photographic chemicals	3
Photographic products: other/unknown	1
<b>Polishes and waxes</b>	
Polish/wax: car	12
Polish/wax: floor (including sealers)	9
Polish/wax: furniture	37
Polish/wax: metal	22
Polish/wax: shoe/boot	10
<b>Swimming pool and aquarium products</b>	
Aquarium products	28
Pool chlorine	84
Pool test kits/solutions	2
Pool products: other/unknown	10
<b>BUILDING/HANDYMAN PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>Building products</b>	
Asbestos	5
Asphalt/bitumen	2
Caulking compounds and construction putties	8
Cement/concrete/lime	40
Clay	3

Fibreglass	11
Insulation	5
Methyl ethyl ketone peroxide	3
Soldering flux	1
Sugar soap (sodium carbonate)	8
Building/handyman products: other/unknown	127
<b>Paints and paint strippers</b>	
Copper chrome arsenate (wood preservative)	20
Creosote (wood preservative)	12
Paints: oil-based	60
Paints: water-based house type	83
Paint strippers: methylene chloride based	15
Paint strippers: other/unknown	9
Paint thinner	41
Paints: other/unknown	80
Varnishes and lacquers	12
Wood stains	17
<b>CAR/BOAT PRODUCTS</b>	
Car products: antifreeze	13
Car products: brake fluid, transmission fluid etc	36
Car products: other/unknown	43
<b>CHEMICALS</b>	
<b>Alcohols</b>	
Alcohol ethanol (beverage)	240
Alcohol ethanol (non-beverage)	149
Alcohol higher (butanol, propanol etc.)	3
Alcohol: other/unknown	2
Isopropanol	9
Methanol	5
<b>Essential oils</b>	
Camphor	13
Clove oil	8
Eucalyptus oil	189
Tea tree oil	55
Essential oil: other/unknown	136
<b>Fumes, gases, vapours</b>	
Carbon dioxide	2
Carbon monoxide	36
Chlorine	13
Chlorine gas (mixing household cleaning agents)	42
Helium	4

Lacrimators (Mace spray, tear gas etc –not fumigants)	7
Methane and natural gas	40
Polymer fume fever	4
Propane and other simple asphyxiants	23
Smoke/toxic products of combustion	46
Fume/gas/vapour: other/unknown	74
<b>General chemicals</b>	
Acetone (not nail polish removers)	11
Acids: other/unknown	67
Alkalis (not cleaners)	63
Ammonia (not cleaners)	17
Borates (not insecticides)	12
Copper sulfate	12
Corrosives: other/unknown	6
Cyanide	2
Ethylene glycol and other glycols	12
Formaldehyde/formalin	8
Hydrochloric acid	44
Hydrofluoric acid	15
Hydrogen peroxide (non-medical)	20
Iodine (non-medical)	5
Methylene chloride (not paint strippers)	2
Nitrates and nitrites	12
Phenol and other phenolics	7
Potassium permanganate	10
Strychnine	1
Sulphur	1
Toluene diisocyanate	4
Chemicals: other/unknown	140
<b>Heavy metals</b>	
Aluminium	3
Chromium salts	2
Copper	9
Lead	29
Mercury (not thermometers)	22
Metal fume fever	25
Selenium	3
Heavy metals: other/unknown	6
<b>Hydrocarbons</b>	
Hydrocarbons: aliphatic	40
Hydrocarbons: aromatic	1
Hydrocarbons: halogenated	26
Hydrocarbons: other/unknown	16
Kerosene	29

Lamp oil	25
Lighter fluid	3
Oils: lubricating/engine/machine	68
Petrol	207
Toluene/xylene	15
Turpentine mineral	195
<b>BITES AND STINGS</b>	
<b>Insects</b>	
Ant	61
Bee	169
Caterpillar	11
Centipede/millipede	20
Mosquito	4
Scorpion	40
Tick	9
Wasp/hornet	221
Insect bites: other/unknown	156
<b>Mammals</b>	
Dog/cat bite	9
Animal bite: other/unknown	24
<b>Marine</b>	
Fish stings: other/unknown	47
Jellyfish and other <i>Coelenterate</i> stings	45
Stingray	11
Marine bites/stings: other/unknown	9
<b>Reptiles and amphibians</b>	
Lizard	2
Snake	43
<b>Spiders</b>	
Redback spider	201
White-tailed spider	209
Spider bite: other/unknown	764
<b>COSMETICS AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>Cosmetics</b>	
Antiperspirants	12
Baby oil	49
Baby wipes	10
Bath oil/bubble bath/bath preparations	166
Cleanser: skin	22
Creams/lotions/make-up	190
Deodorants	97
Depilatories	48
Lipstick/lip balms	36

Perfume/cologne/aftershave	228
Soap	141
Sunscreen/suntan products	54
Talc and other external powders	58
Cosmetics: other/unknown	24
<b>Dental/oral care products</b>	
Denture cleaning agents	19
Mouthwash: ethanol containing	44
Mouthwash: non-ethanol containing	5
Mouthwash: other/unknown	2
Toothache drops	5
Toothpaste with fluoride	68
Toothpaste without fluoride	3
Dental care products: other/unknown	5
<b>Hair care products</b>	
Hair colours (not peroxide)	61
Hair colours (peroxide)	67
Hair conditioner	18
Hair gel/mousse	25
Hair rinses/perms	5
Hair spray	17
Shampoo antidandruff: selenium based	8
Shampoo antidandruff: zinc pyrithione	11
Shampoo antidandruff: other	5
Shampoo non-medicated	74
Hair care: other	23
<b>Nail products</b>	
Nail hardeners	8
Nail polish	110
Nail polish remover: acetone-based	49
Nail polish remover: non-acetone-based	45
Nail polish remover: other/unknown	24
Nail primer	6
Nail products: other/unknown	23
<b>VETERINARY PRODUCTS</b>	
Veterinary: animal vaccines	57
Veterinary: dog heart worm preparations	20
Veterinary: external medicines	120
Veterinary: flea collars/insecticidal washes	4
Veterinary: internal medicines	161
<b>PESTICIDES/HERBICIDES/FUNGICIDES</b>	
<b>Baits</b>	
1080/monofluoroacetate	1
Rodenticides: anticoagulant (warfarin type)	35

Rodenticides: anticoagulant (long-acting)	278
Rodenticides: other/unknown	79
Baits: other/unknown	13
<b>Carbamates</b>	
Carbamates	16
Carbamates in combination with other pesticides	40
<b>Chlorinated hydrocarbons</b>	
Chlorinated hydrocarbons	1
<b>Fumigants</b>	
Bromides	4
Phosphine	2
Fumigants: other	4
<b>Fungicides</b>	
Carbamate type	3
Copper type	5
Fungicides: other/unknown (non-medical)	7
<b>Herbicides</b>	
Glyphosate	301
Herbicides: chlorphenoxy type (2,4 D; MCPA etc.)	52
Herbicides: triazine type	5
Paraquat/diquat	23
Herbicides: other/unknown	85
<b>Insecticides/pesticides</b>	
Borates/boric acid pesticides	259
Insect coils	7
Insect repellants containing DEET	153
Insect repellants not containing DEET	9
Pyrethrins/pyrethroids	379
Snail/slug bait: iron edetate	7
Snail/slug bait: metaldehyde	38
Snail/slug bait: methiocarb	8
Pesticides: other/unknown	49
<b>Moth repellents</b>	
Naphthalene moth repellants	42
<b>Organophosphates</b>	
Organophosphates	102
Organophosphates in combination with other pesticides	2

<b>PLANTS AND MUSHROOMS</b>	
Mushrooms	166
Plants: amaryllidaceae	12
Plants: amygdalin/cyanogenic glycosides	22
Plants: anticholinergic	27
Plants: cactus	3
Plants: capsaicin	24
Plants: cardiac glycosides	19
Plants: daphne	2
Plants: dermatitis	33
Plants: dieffenbachia	2
Plants: euphorbiaceae	19
Plants: gastrointestinal irritants	17
Plants: grayanotoxins	6
Plants: hallucinogenic	2
Plants: lantana	3
Plants: non-toxic	91
Plants: oxalate	156
Plants: philodendron	5
Plants: solanine	28
Plants: toxalbumins	6
Plants: toxicodendrol	4
Plants: other/unknown	124
<b>MISCELLANEOUS NON-MEDICINE, NON-DRUG EXPOSURES</b>	
Blue-green algae	5
Faeces/urine	48
Snail/slug	13

## Exposures to medicines and drugs

Medicine/drug	Number of exposures
<b>ANAESTHETICS</b>	
Anaesthetics: inhalation	2
Anaesthetics: topical/local	13
Anaesthetics: other/unknown	2
Nitrous oxide	1
<b>ANALGESICS</b>	
Aspirin/narcotic combination analgesic	8
Aspirin/salicylates	69
Codeine	11
Dextropropoxyphene	4
Fentanyl	2
Morphine	46
Oxycodone	40
Paracetamol	1140
Paracetamol/narcotic combination	336
Pethidine	2
Tramadol	80
Analgesics: other/unknown	20
<b>ANTICHOLINERGICS</b>	
Benztropine	4
Anticholinergic drugs: other/unknown	93
<b>ANTICOAGULANTS</b>	
Heparin	2
Warfarin	45
Anticoagulants: other/unknown	3
<b>ANTIHISTAMINES</b>	
Cetirizine	40
Dexchlorpheniramine	25
Fexofenadine	33
Loratadine	42
Pheniramine	8
Promethazine	68
Antihistamines: other/unknown	83
<b>ANTIMICROBIALS</b>	
<b>Antibiotics</b>	
Antibiotic combinations (Augmentin, Bactrim etc.)	28
Cephalosporins	104
Macrolides	61
Penicillins	181

Quinolones	3
Tetracyclines	20
Antibiotics: other/unknown	24
<b>Antifungals</b>	
Antifungal drugs (ketoconazole, fluconazole etc)	24
<b>Antiparasitics/anthelmintics</b>	
Anthelmintics	76
Antianaerobes (metronidazole, tinidazole etc)	20
<b>Antituberculars</b>	
Antitubercular drugs	3
<b>Antivirals</b>	
Antiviral drugs	20
<b>ANTIMIGRAINE DRUGS</b>	
Ergot alkaloids	7
Triptans (naratriptan, sumatriptan etc)	4
Migraine preparations: other/unknown	16
<b>ASTHMA/RESPIRATORY DRUGS</b>	
Bronchodilators	40
Leukotriene receptor antagonists (montelukast, zafirlukast etc)	32
Preventors	35
Theophylline and other xanthines	5
Asthma drugs: other/unknown	3
Respiratory drugs: other/unknown	32
<b>CARDIOVASCULAR DRUGS</b>	
ACE inhibitor/diuretic combinations	7
ACE inhibitors	74
Adrenaline	20
Angina preparations	12
Angiotensin II antagonist/diuretic combinations	36
Angiotensin II antagonists	46
Antiarrhythmic agents	14
Antihypertensives: other (not diuretics)	15
Antiplatelet agents: other (clopidogrel, dipyridamole etc)	8
Beta blockers	116
Calcium antagonists	76
Cardiac glycosides	23
Diuretics	40

Diuretics: potassium sparing	8
HMG CoA reductase inhibitors (statins)	49
Lipid lowering agents: fibrates (gemfibrozil, fenofibrate etc)	3
Lipid lowering agents: other	6
Vasodilators	7
Cardiovascular drugs: other	14
<b>CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM DRUGS</b>	
<b>Antidepressants</b>	
Mianserin	6
Mirtazapine	98
Monoamine oxidase inhibitors	21
Selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (citalopram, escitalopram, fluoxetine etc.)	498
Tricyclic antidepressants	80
Venlafaxine	111
Antidepressants: other/unknown	23
<b>Antiepileptics</b>	
Carbamazepine	105
Gabapentin	15
Phenytoin	24
Sodium valproate	164
Antiepileptics: other/unknown	71
<b>Antipsychotics</b>	
Amisulpride	13
Aripiprazole	14
Clozapine	20
Olanzapine	134
Phenothiazines (chlorpromazine, trifluoperazine etc)	106
Quetiapine	133
Risperidone	55
Antipsychotics: other/unknown	16
<b>CNS depressants</b>	
Barbiturates	2
Benzodiazepines	842
Chloral hydrate	4
Sleep aids - over-the-counter	10
Zolpidem	73
Sedative/hypnotic: other/unknown	24
<b>CNS stimulants</b>	
Amphetamines (for ADHD, not street drugs)	71
Caffeine	26

<b>CNS – miscellaneous</b>	
Antidementia agents (donepezil, galantamine, rivastigmine)	16
Antiparkinsonian agents	25
Clonidine	65
Lithium	41
CNS drugs: other/unknown	5
<b>COUGH/COLD PREPARATIONS</b>	
Antitussives	40
Cough/cold preparations with paracetamol	106
Cough/cold preparations without paracetamol/aspirin	511
Pseudoephedrine	28
Throat lozenges with local anaesthetic	7
Throat lozenges without local anaesthetic	10
<b>DRUGS USED IN ADDICTIVE DISORDERS</b>	
Buprenorphine	10
Bupropion	23
Disulfiram	1
Methadone	16
Naltrexone	4
Antismoking products: other (nicotine patches, gum etc)	25
<b>EAR PREPARATIONS</b>	
Ear drops	51
Ear ointments	9
<b>EYE PREPARATIONS</b>	
Contact lens preparations	11
Eye drops: imidazoline-based	4
Eye drops: other/unknown	40
Eye ointment	2
<b>GASTROINTESTINAL PREPARATIONS</b>	
Antacids	85
Antidiarrhoeals: diphenoxylate/atropine	15
Antidiarrhoeals: loperamide	11
Antiemetics	88
Antispasmodics	20
Histamine- antagonists (cimetidine, ranitidine etc.)	30
Laxatives	88
Proton pump inhibitors	91
Gastrointestinal preparations: other/unknown	63

<b>METABOLISM</b>	
<b>Electrolytes/minerals</b>	
Calcium salts	21
Fluoride	12
Iron (not multivitamins)	90
Potassium salts	13
<b>Vitamins</b>	
Folic acid	37
Vitamin A	3
Vitamin B group	21
Vitamin C	37
Vitamin D	16
Vitamins compound with iron	183
Vitamins compound without iron	32
Vitamins: other	20
<b>Other metabolic</b>	
Antihormones	2
Antithyroid preparations	5
Bisphosphonates	9
Corticosteroids	120
Diet aids/anorectics – over-the-counter	8
Diet aids/anorectics – prescription	15
Hypoglycaemics, oral: biguanides (metformin)	39
Hypoglycaemics, oral: glitazones	2
Hypoglycaemics, oral: Sulphonylureas (glibenclamide, gliclazide etc)	29
Insulin	16
Oestrogens/progestagens (not oral contraceptives)	15
Oral contraceptives: oestrogen and progestagen	259
Oral contraceptives: progestagen only	28
Thyroxine	92
Thyroid preparations: other/unknown	19
Hormones: other/unknown	4
<b>NONSTEROIDAL ANTI-INFLAMMATORY DRUGS AND GOUT MEDICATIONS</b>	
Allopurinol	16
Celecoxib	10
Colchicine	9
Diclofenac	140
Ibuprofen	379
Ibuprofen plus codeine	68
Indomethacin	12
Mefenamic acid	12

Naproxen	25
NSAIDs: other/unknown	59
<b>NOSE PREPARATIONS</b>	
Nose drops/sprays: imidazoline-based	7
Nose drops/sprays	4
Nasal preparations: other/unknown	9
<b>STREET DRUGS</b>	
Amphetamine and related drugs	43
Amyl nitrite and other volatile nitrites	2
Cocaine	1
Ecstasy and other hallucinogenic amphetamines	25
Gamma hydroxybutyrate	9
Heroin	13
Inhalant abuse (chroming)	15
LSD	6
Marijuana	14
Hallucinogenics: other/unknown	2
Street drugs: other/unknown	45
<b>TOPICAL PREPARATIONS</b>	
Acne preparations	20
Antidandruff shampoo: selenium-based	5
Antidandruff shampoo: zinc pyrithione	3
Antidandruff shampoo: other	1
Antipruritics (calamine lotion etc)	30
Capsaicin	6
Chest rubs	85
Hydrogen peroxide	8
Lice/scabies preparations	133
Liniments	95
Lotions/creams/ointments: other/unknown	10
Nappy rash products	367
Talc and other external powders	53
Teething gels	48
Toothache drops	3
Topical antibiotics	5
Topical antifungals	76
Topical antiseptics	248
Topical antivirals	4
Topical corticosteroids	121
Wart/corn preparations	12
Topical preparations: other/unknown	72
<b>MISCELLANEOUS MEDICINE/DRUG EXPOSURES</b>	
Antineoplastics	3

Chloroquine/hydroxychloroquine	12
Diagnostic agents	1
Herbal preparations	74
Homeopathic preparations	47
Immunosuppressants	4
Methotrexate	20
Muscle relaxants	16
Neuromuscular blockers	1
Quinine	8
Urinary antiseptics	2
Vaccines/toxoids/antivenoms	8
Vaporiser fluids and inhalants	287
Other over-the-counter-medicines	65
Other prescription medicines	87