

Young child goes to ED for medicine poisoning every 10 minutes

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(HealthDay)—The number of children younger than age 6 years treated

at U.S. emergency departments for medicine poisonings has declined in recent years, but there were still nearly 52,000 cases in 2017, a new report says.

That is an average of 142 cases per day or one every 10 minutes, *CNN* reported. Between 2010 and 2016, such emergency department visits fell 32 percent and the number of calls to poison control centers decreased 20 percent, according to the nonprofit group Safe Kids Worldwide.

As part of their report, the authors interviewed 42 parents in Maryland and found that [medicine](#) safety was not a top priority when they childproofed their homes, often because they believed they had stored medicine in safe places such as cabinets or closets, *CNN* reported. The authors said parents should add medicine safety to their childproofing task list, keep all medicines and vitamins out of children's reach and sight, and save poison control numbers on their phones and post them in a visible place at [home](#).

"It's easy to look at your beautiful, [newborn baby](#) and think that he's not going anywhere anytime soon, believing you still have plenty of time to childproof your home," Torine Creppy, president of Safe Kids Worldwide, said in a statement, *CNN* reported. "But we've learned from our research that [parents](#) are all too often surprised by how quickly their [babies](#) grow and change. That's why it's so important to start life-saving habits, like safe medicine storage, well before your baby is on the move."

More information: [CNN Article](#)
[Safe Kids Worldwide Report](#)

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