



The New Jersey Poison Information & Education System

Serving New Jersey Since 1983

Designated regional poison center
for New Jersey by New Jersey
Department of Health and Senior
Services and the American
Association of Poison Control
Centers

**Please distribute to the public; your local radio, magazines and newspapers;
websites; etc.**

PRESS RELEASE

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Warning:

Acetaminophen Overdoses Can Lead to Hospitalizations

Newark, New Jersey- A young adult ignored the dosing instructions (like many of us) on a bottle of over-the-counter pain reliever and landed in the emergency room of a local hospital. Being hospitalized was the result of taking too many tablets in too short of a time period. Her treatment required antidotal therapy and a hospital stay of 2 weeks.

Consumers need to be cautious when taking products containing acetaminophen. Acetaminophen is the active ingredient in many over-the-counter fever, cough and cold, and pain relievers. Many of these products also contain ingredients other than acetaminophen. If a person is using more than one product containing acetaminophen, it is important that the total dose of acetaminophen be calculated so as not to exceed the recommended dosing for that drug. According to the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES), accidental acetaminophen overdoses happen quite often and many cases require hospitalization.

The Poison Control Center Hotline number, **1-800-222-1222**, can be used for treatment advice for emergency poisonings as well as for non-emergency questions regarding medications, household products, plants, or environmental contaminants. The hotline is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week! Remember, **Help Is Just a Phone Call Away!**

located at University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey