

The Northern New England Poison Center State of Maine Annual Report July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014

Executive Summary

Exposure Calls

- The NNEPC managed more than 37,000 Maine calls during this period; 12,395 were human exposures. The exposures generated more than 14,000 follow-up calls.
- Maine's penetrance was 9.1; the 2012 national penetrance was 7.2.
- About 38% of exposure calls involved children under 6 years of age; 27% involved children 2 years of age or younger.
- Suspected suicide attempts accounted for 13% of exposures (n = 1,536). This was a 3% decrease from the 2012-13 grant year.
- Substance abuse-related poisonings accounted for 3% of exposures (n = 403). This was a 17% decrease from the 2012-13 grant year.
- Adults 60 years and older accounted for 9% of exposures (n = 1,102).

Poison Information Calls

- The NNEPC answered 24,236 Maine poison information calls. This was an 18% decrease from the 2012-13 grant year. The continued decrease is largely related to reduced funding, which required changes that led to fewer staff and longer waiting times for information calls.

Education Activities

- The NNEPC provided more than 40 direct education sessions and media interviews, providing outreach to the general public, health care providers, social service providers and others.
- Education activities were primarily funded by a grant from the Health Services and Resources Administration and focused on hard-to-reach populations, including older adults, those in rural areas, Native Americans and those with limited English proficiency.