

**The Northern New England Poison Center  
State of Maine  
July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011**

**Executive Summary**

**Exposure Calls**

- The NNEPC managed over 66,000 Maine calls; 14,266 were human exposures. The exposures resulted in more than 10,500 follow-up calls.
- Maine's statewide penetrance is 11; the national average is 8.
- More than 42% of exposure calls involved children under 6 years of age; 30% involved children less than 2 years of age.
- Suspected suicide attempts accounted for 11% (n = 1,510) of exposures.
- Substance abuse-related calls accounted for 3% (n = 449) of exposures.
- "Bath salts"-related calls accounted for 97 cases, 70 of which were poisonings.
- Adults 60 years of age and older accounted for 7% (n = 1,024) of exposures.

**Poison Information Calls**

- The NNEPC answered over 50,600 Maine poison information calls (5% decrease from the same period of the prior grant year).
- Washington County had the greatest increase in medication verification (often substance abuse-related) penetrance.
- Most substance abuse-related questions involved the category of opioids. Among opioids, oxycodone was most common, followed by hydrocodone.

**Education Activities**

- Over 30,000 educational materials were distributed.
- Poison Center staff conducted 74 educational sessions, reaching nearly 2,500 people. Of these sessions, 41 were for health care professionals.
- The Maine educator began working with key contacts to develop targeted outreach for hard-to-reach populations.