



INFORMATION IN ENGLISH

Poison Information Centre
Children's Hospital "P & A Kyriakou"
Athens 11527

Greece

Director Dr P. Neou,

Emergency number: (0030) 2107793777

Fax: 00302107486114 Email: poison_ic@aglaiakyriakou.gr

available for consultation 24 hours/day, to medical professionals and the public

Call if you need doctor advice on the treatment of poisoning or when you suspect toxic exposure

You will get information on:
Treatment, toxic properties
Symptoms of poisoning,

In case of poisoning or poisoning risks, call a physician or a Poison Control Centre, and try to provide the following information, needed for an individual assessment of risk and adequate treatment advice:

Who Age, weight, sex of person involved, phone number for call-back

What All you can tell about the agent involved

How much Try to estimate the maximal possibly absorbed dose

When Try to estimate the time elapsed since the incident

What else First symptoms observed? First aid given?

Athens Teratology Information Centre

**Children's Hospital P&A Kyriakou
Athens 11527
Greece
Director Dr P. Neou,**

Tel Number: (0030) 2107793777

available for consultation 9:30am - 13:00, Monday to Friday to obstetricians, midwives and pregnant or lactating women

The Greek National Poison Information Centre

PIC in Athens is unique in Greece and was established in 1975 in "P&A Kyriakou" Children's Hospital Complex because 46% of calls annually refer to children up to 14 years old.

The staff consists of trained health professionals: pediatricians and physicians of internal medicine, pharmacists, and nurses experienced in prevention education strategies and a secretary

The number of calls from 4.000/per year in 1975 has risen over the years to about 40.000/per year.

The primary task is to provide instant information and supervision on risks, symptoms and treatments of poisoning.

It is FUNDED by the Government; it belongs to the National Health System and is LOCATED in P&A Kyriakou Children's Hospital (one of the two biggest children's hospitals in Greece).

Our customers are health professionals and the public.

Total No of staff are 12 employees.(when all places are occupied) Our total annual enquiries include:

Total No of calls per year are 42,000.

Total calls per one hundred thousand inhabitants: 420.

Average No of calls per day: 120.

Average annual No of calls per employ: 6000

The calling back services are restricted partly to hospitals for selected cases. Official language is greek.

Fundamental aspects in Athens' PIC work:

Telephone service: The main responsibility of the centre is to inform about risks, symptoms and treatment in cases of acute poisoning.

The service is on a 24 hour basis open to the public as well as to health professionals and to Emergency Services of National Health System. The telephone number is written in all marketing products and drugs in Greece. Separately it exists a unique line for hospital calls.

Inquiries are received from hospitals and physicians as well as from the general public.

The centre is the only unit of this kind in Greece and serves a population of 11 million inhabitants.

Antidote programme: The poison centre gives advice on the selection and amount of antidotes to be stored in hospitals all over the country. An updated list on the use of antidotes with treatment instructions is also issued by the centre. In Athens the total antidotes' supply is one hundred bt per year. Also we provide, on emergency basis 24h daily, recommendation for use and handling of antidotes in Medical Units.

Teratology Information Centre: Athens Teratology Information Centre (TIS Athens) provide information to doctors, midwives and pregnant or lactating women about potential teratogenic action of drug and the effect of other substances during pregnancy and with the objective of preventing birth defects. At the same time the Centre receives questions about medications taken during breastfeeding.

It has been in operation since 1991 as part of Poison Information Centre and is member of European Teratology Information Service (ENTIS, www.entis-org.com)

The TIS Athens receives calls every day Monday to Friday 9:30 am to 13:00 pm.

Education: The centre participates in several different education programmes

- Postgraduate courses for physicians and other medical personnel; □
- □ Students of Medical and Nursing School of Athens. University; □
- Parents of infants in kindergarten for poisoning prevention; □
- Teachers of elementary school to teach the pupils in the field of health education. □
- In progress is educational program for public and professionals in rural areas about safe use of agrochemical products.

Publications: Publications are written by the centre on regular basis; annual epidemiologic report, booklet on poisoning prevention in childhood, scientific papers and books.

The centre also publishes articles in medical journals, books etc.



Sources of information: Poisindex (Micromedex) is used as basic information source. In addition literature documents for plants and agrochemicals as well as information by networking collaboration with other PICs, manufacturers (chemical industry and cosmetic industry) and national agencies, are used for specific cases. Toxicological and medical data is collected from different sources and processed to be used in the telephone service. The means and ways of poisoning are continuously changing which makes it very important to update the information.

Product information and documentation: The Poison Information Centre is the accredited by Greek law centre to accept and use confidential product declarations. Information on pharmaceuticals due to be registered is continuously received from the industry. On the same conditions the Ministry of agricultural development as well as the industry provides the centre with information on pesticides.

The product information is kept strictly confidential and is only used for evaluation of acute toxicity. In the information service the product composition is never revealed except in those cases it is of importance for medical reasons to inform a physician about the ingredients that will influence the treatment.

All the chemical products must be registered to [Greek General Chemical State Laboratory](#). In order to deposit the cleaning products which according to CLP have to be registered in Greek Poison Information Centre, you must contact our [site](#) and follow the instructions [there](#). The registration has to be done electronically, there is no other way and it is free of charge. The instructions are written in Greek and the language you must use is only Greek, except of the composition and the trade name, which can be written in English also. The data are used by Greek medical personnel, that is why we consider that it would be convenient to have a Greek representative. Additionally, we have to inform you that the Greek Poison Information Centre doesn't have any secretarial assistance in order to reply in all requirements of companies of foreign countries by e-mail or by phone calls.

Information the Poisons Centre needs

We ask information about all cleaning products on the market. All the ingredients shall be declared according to the provisions of Regulation 648/2004/EC ,Annex VII part 3 such as:

Ingredient data sheet

The following provisions shall apply to the listing of ingredients on the data sheet referred to in Article 9 (3).

The data sheet shall list the name of the detergent and that of the manufacturer.

All ingredients shall be listed in order of decreasing abundance by weight, and the list shall be sub-divided into the following weight percentage ranges:

-10% or more

-1% or over, but less than 10%

-0,1% or over, but less than 1%

-less than 0,1%

Impurities shall not be considered to be ingredients.

"Ingredient" means any chemical substance, of synthetic or natural origin, intentionally included in the composition of a detergent. For the purpose of this Annex, a perfume, an essential oil, or a colouring agent shall be considered to be a single ingredient and none of the substances that they contain shall be listed.

The common chemical name or IUPAC name and, where available, the INTC name, the CAS number, and the European Pharmacopoeia name, shall be given for each ingredient.

Additionally all the ingredients classified for acute toxicity cat 1-4, corrosive should be declared with their actual concentration. It is also important to provide the pH value for liquid products as such and for solid products 10% w/w solution.

Please make sure that the name of the product in the product information is exactly the same as on the package. This is very important since it is the product name that is indicated when calling the Poisons Centre after poisoning incidents. To facilitate the Poison Centre in handling product information, please specify the field of application of the products (e.g. surface cleaning agent, liquid laundry detergent, capsules, softeners, paint strippers, bleaching agents etc.) and also whether they are intended for household or industrial use.

Cosmetics/ Products for personal care – Information to manufactures and suppliers: Poisoning incidents with cosmetic or for personal care products represent approximately 5,7% of the inquiries to the Poison Centre (about 1934 the year 2007).