

## Annual Report 2019



**Healthcare Professional Line:** 01 837 9964 / 809 2566 (24hr)

**Public Poisons Line:** 01 809 2166 (8am-10pm)

**E-mail:** [npicdublin@beaumont.ie](mailto:npicdublin@beaumont.ie) **Website:** [www.poisons.ie](http://www.poisons.ie)



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## A Snapshot of the NPIC Activity in 2019

### NPIC Enquiries

In 2019 NPIC received a total of 11,835 enquiries representing a 10.5% increase on 2018



- 97.3% enquiries related to human poisoning
- 2.1% enquiries were for non-emergency information
- 0.6% enquiries were about poisoning in animals
- The busiest month was August
- The busiest times of the day were from 4pm to 9pm

### Source of enquiries to the NPIC

- 48% of enquiries were from healthcare professionals in primary care, hospitals, community pharmacies and veterinary practices
- 51% of enquiries were from members of the public
- 1% of enquiries came from other sources



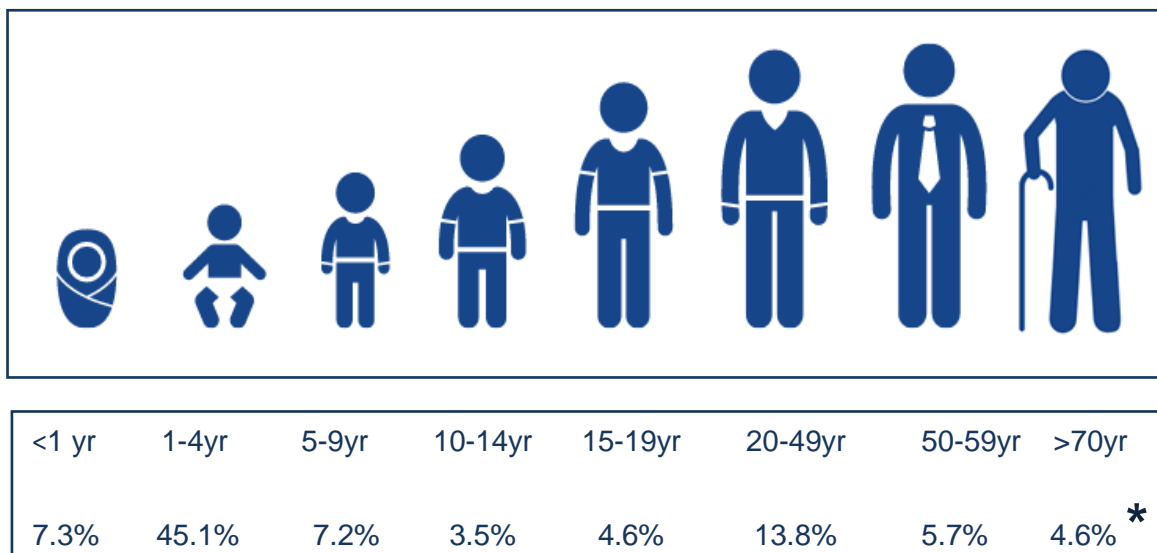
### Poisoning circumstances

- 65.8% enquiries related to accidental poisonings
- 18.8% enquiries were due to medication errors
- 10.5% enquiries were for intentional poisonings
- 1.2% enquiries related to recreational drug abuse
- Circumstances were unknown for 1.6% enquiries
- 0.4% enquiries concerned adverse reactions
- 1.7% enquiries related to other circumstances



## Poisoning demographics

The majority of enquiries involved children and teenagers (66%). The peak age group for poisoning enquiries was 1-4 years (45.1%). The age was not defined in 8.2% of enquiries.

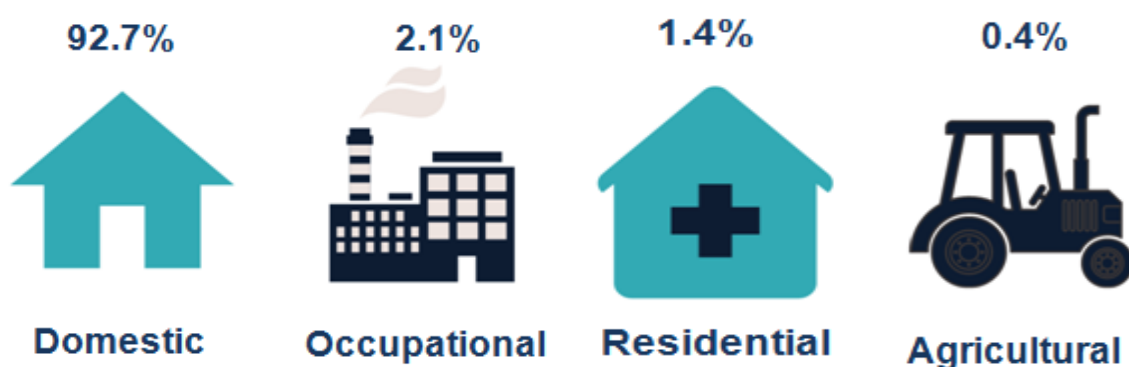


\*8.2% age was not defined

## Incident location

Most human poisonings occurred in the home or in a domestic setting (n= 10,674, 92.7%).

A smaller number of poisonings occurred in an occupational setting (n=245), nursing home/care home/residential facilities (n=164), schools/crèches (n=69), hospitals (n=70), agricultural workplaces (n= 50), public places (n=80) and other places (n=164).



## Foreword



It is a pleasure to share the 2019 Annual Report for the National Poisons Information Centre (NPIC) in Ireland.

The NPIC operates 365 days a year and provides a 24-hour service to health care professionals. The NPIC staff answers queries from 8am to 10pm every day and the UK National Poisons Information Service (NPIS) is contracted to answer our calls from 10pm to 8am every night. The NPIC also operates a Public Poisons Line and provides poison information to members of the public from 8am to 10pm seven days per week.

The Annual Report is based on data collected on enquiries to the NPIC from members of the public, healthcare professionals and others. Overall, there were 11,835 enquiries to the NPIC in 2019, an increase of 10.5% compared to 2018. Similar to previous years, the majority of enquiries concerned pharmaceutical drugs and paracetamol was the most common drug.

Many enquiries have a seasonal component to them, for example we received approximately 30 calls concerning mushroom poisoning over the autumn months. Some of these caused severe symptoms and we would advise against members of the public foraging for/ingesting wild mushrooms unless they have a trained mycologist who can identify the mushroom. Some mushroom varieties that grow wild in Ireland can cause liver and kidney damage.

Two national safety alerts regarding bottled water were issued by the Food Safety Authority in July 2019 with a recall of the affected batches. As a result, we received 98 calls concerning fears over arsenic contamination. Over 50% of callers reported no symptoms with the remainder describing minor symptoms such as diarrhoea and vomiting. The levels of arsenic detected in some of the water bottles were marginally above the permitted level and were unlikely to cause any acute or chronic health effects.

During the year, we hosted the NPIS/NPIC Continuous Professional Development two-day event in Dublin, at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, in Dublin's city centre. This was the first year the NPIS/NPIC CPD event featured a simulated session specifically for toxicologists. The simulation took place in the RSCI Clinical Simulation Suite which is the largest clinical simulation facility in Europe. The simulation facilitated a valuable demonstration and appreciation of the clinical reasoning and skills used to treat a poisoned patient. The feedback from the participants for this activity was extremely positive.

In 2019, we also saw the retirement of our colleague, Ms Annette Cooke from the NPIC after having served 40 years of employment. Annette was one of the members of staff who remembers the transition of the National Poison Information Centre from Jervis Street Hospital to Beaumont Hospital in 1987. We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge Annette's hard work and dedication to the NPIC over the years. Although we will miss her, we wish Annette well in her retirement.

This year also saw the appointment of Ms Sinead Doyle who took over from Ms Annette Cooke on her retirement. We would like to welcome Sinead to the NPIC team and hope she enjoys her new job.

Dr Edel Duggan

Clinical Director

National Poisons Information Centre



## The NPIC Team

The NPIC staff comprises a Clinical Director, 6 Specialists in Poisons Information (SPI's) and a Clerical Officer. The NPIC's phone lines are answered by the SPIs who are scientists with additional training and postgraduate qualifications in medical toxicology. Further advice and medical information is available from the NPIC Clinical Director for the management of severe and difficult poisoning cases as required.

### Clinical Director

Dr Edel Duggan MB, BCh, BAO, MD, FFARCSI, Dip Med Tox

### Manager

Ms Patricia Casey BSc, DipMedTox

### Specialists in Poisons Information

Ms Nicola Cassidy BSc, MMedSc, DipMedTox

Ms Elaine Donohoe MSc, DipMedTox

Ms Niamh English MSc, DipMed Tox

Mr John Herbert BSc, DipMedTox

Mr Feargal O'Connor BSc, Cert Med Tox

### Clerical Officer

Ms Annette Cooke (retired September 2019)

Ms Sinead Doyle (commenced September 2019)





## The Role of the NPIC

The National Poisons Information Centre (NPIC) was established in 1966 to provide telephone advice to healthcare professionals treating poisoned patients. Today the NPIC operates 365 days a year and provides a specialist telephone information service to assist healthcare professionals in the treatment of acute poisoning.

The NPIC Healthcare Professional Line is available 24-hours for medical staff and other healthcare professionals.

The telephone numbers are;

- 01 809 2566 / 01 809 2568
- 01 837 9964 / 01 837 9966

The Public Poisons Information Line was launched in 2011 and provides a dedicated number for members of the public to contact the NPIC between 8am and 10pm every day. The telephone number for the Public Poisons Information Line is 01 809 2166 and NPIC staff provide advice to members of the public on whether they need to seek medical attention following an accidental poisoning incident or if they can be safely monitored at home. It is our policy to refer all cases of intentional poisoning for medical assessment.

NPIC staff members answer enquiries between 8am and 10pm every day. The UK National Poisons Information Service is contracted to answer enquiries to the NPIC outside of these core hours. Telephone calls are automatically diverted to the UK Poisons Service between 10pm and 8am every day and the extra call charges are paid by Beaumont Hospital.

The secondary role of the NPIC is to collect and interpret epidemiological data on acute poisoning. This information is used to monitor poisoning trends and establish and update appropriate treatment protocols as required.

## Quality and Training

All enquiry records are peer-reviewed and stored as hardcopy and electronically on a Poisons Information Database named UKPID. All incoming and outgoing telephone enquiries to the NPIC are audio recorded for clinical governance and to assist with staff training. The Clinical Director conducts periodic audits to ensure the quality of the service and advice provided.

The NPIC maintains close links with the UK National Poisons Information Service and regularly contributes to and organise Continuing Professional Development (CPD) activities with our colleagues. NPIC staff members regularly submit research to the annual congress of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT).

## Key Statistics for 2019

### Time and date of enquiry

The National Poisons Information Centre received a total of 11,835 enquiries in 2019. 10,290 enquires were answered between 8am and 10pm while 1,545 enquiries (13%) were received between 10pm and 8am and were answered by the UK Poisons Information Service. The busiest hours of the day were from 4pm to 9pm (Figure 1). The busiest month in 2019 was August. The average number of enquires per month was 986 (Figure 2).

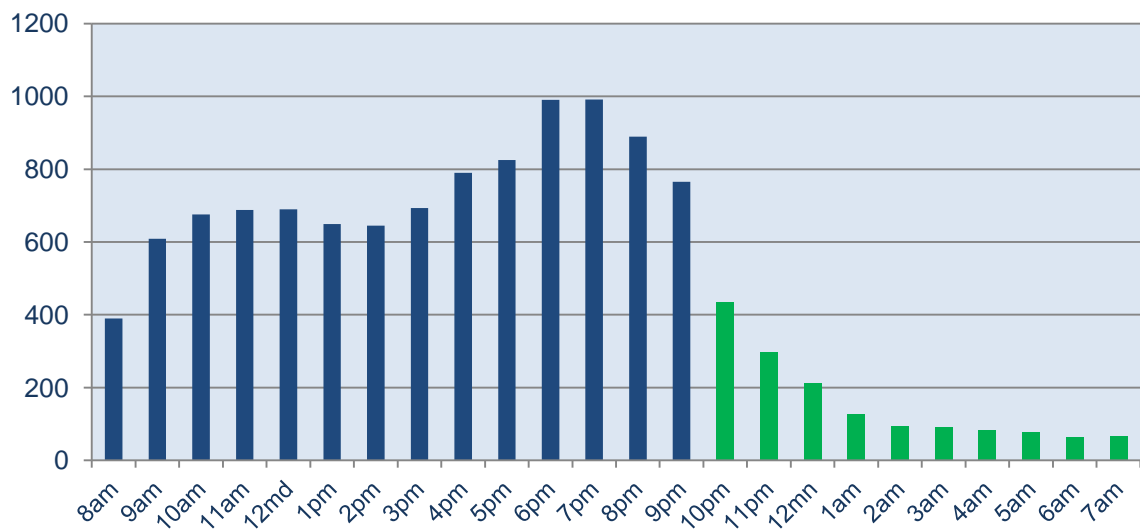


Figure 1: Time of enquiry to NPIC

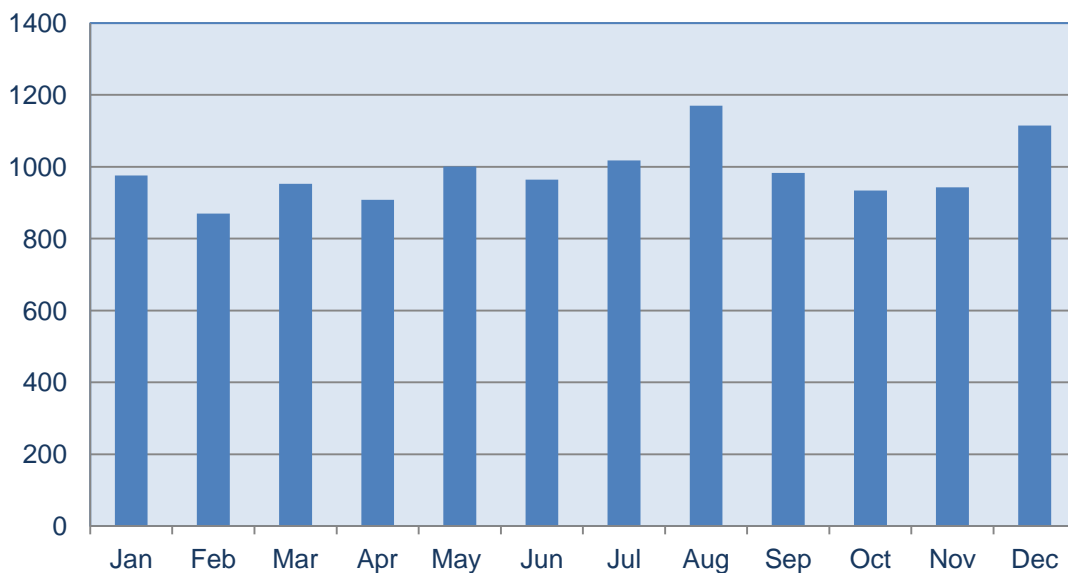


Figure 2: Monthly enquiries to NPIC

## Type of Caller

The NPIC is contacted by different types of healthcare professionals, as well as members of the public and various support services. The Public Poisons Line, a dedicated line for members of the public, was introduced in 2011 and since then the number of enquiries received from members of the public has increased annually.

For the first time in the history of the NPIC, calls from members of the public accounted for the majority of enquiries (50.7%) to the centre. Enquiries from members of the public rose by 24.7% from 2018.

Enquirer	n	%
Member of public	6,007	50.7%
GP/Primary care	2,946	24.9%
Hospital	2,234	18.9%
Community pharmacist	247	2.1%
Nursing home	117	1%
Ambulance service	60	0.5%
School/childcare	52	0.4%
Support services	41	0.3%
Veterinary practice	43	0.4%
Other	89	0.8%

Table 1: Type of caller

## Enquiries from Healthcare Professionals

Approximately 44% of enquiries were received from healthcare professionals working in hospitals or general practice. GP out-of-hours services that operate between 6pm-8am (weekdays) and 24hr (weekends) accounted for 2,015 enquiries.

CareDoc	759	DDoc	147	KDoc	44
SouthDoc	360	ShannonDoc	144	DubDoc	2
WestDoc	160	NowDoc	135	DLDoc	1
MidDoc	156	NEDoc	105	EastDoc	1

Table 2: Enquiries from GP out-of-hours services

## Geographic location of enquiries

### Provincial breakdown of enquiries to NPIC

- 58% of enquiries were received from Leinster (n=6,676)
- 26% of callers contacted us from Munster (n=3,007)
- 8% of enquiries came from Connacht (n= 977)
- 5% of callers were based in Ulster (n=535)
- 3% of enquiries were received from people overseas

## Incident location

Most human poisonings occurred in the home or domestic setting (n= 10,674, 92.7%). A smaller number of poisonings occurred in an occupational setting (n=245), nursing home/care home/residential facilities (n=164), schools/crèches (n=69), hospitals (n=70), agricultural workplaces (n= 50), public places (n=80) and other locations (n=164).

## Demographics

The majority of poisoning enquiries related to children aged 14 years and younger (n=7,269) and the peak age was 1-4 years old. 3,300 poisoning enquiries involved individuals aged over 15 years. The age was not defined for 947 enquiries.

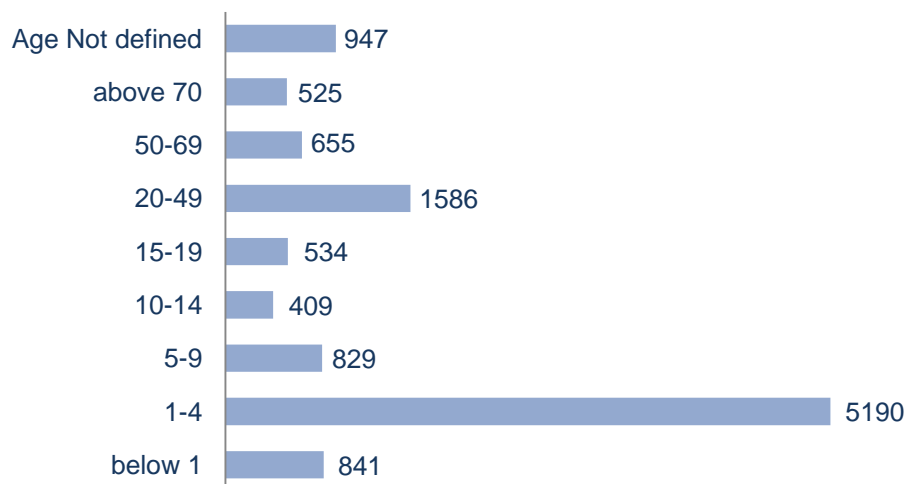


Figure 3: Patient demographics

## Poisoning Circumstances

The NPIC received 11,516 enquiries related to poisoning in humans. The majority of enquiries involved accidental/unintentional poisonings (n=7,582). 2,163 enquiries related to therapeutic errors with medications, 1,210 enquiries were intentional overdoses and 143 enquiries related to recreational abuse. The remaining cases were adverse reactions or cases of unknown circumstances or intent.

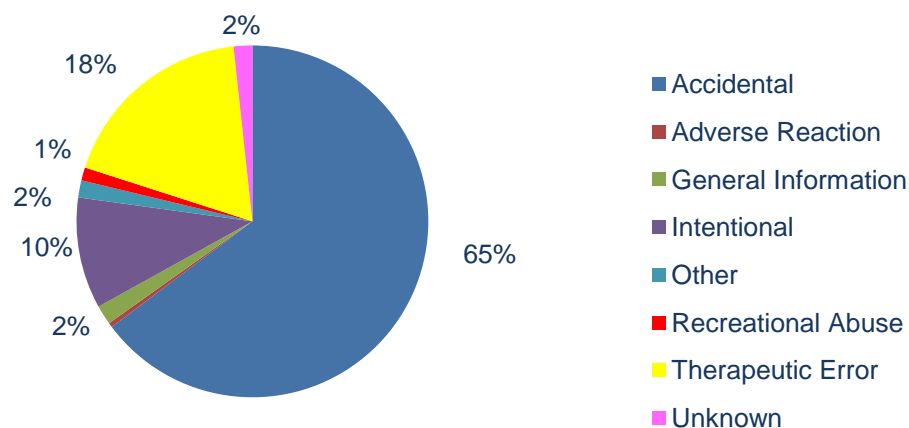


Figure 4: Poisoning circumstances

## Agents involved in Human Poisoning

Over 16,800 agents were involved in cases of human poisoning. 54% of all agents were drugs (including medications and drugs of abuse), 20% were household products such as fabric detergent products and multipurpose cleaners, and 16% were industrial agents including alcohols, corrosive substances, essential oils and hydrocarbons.

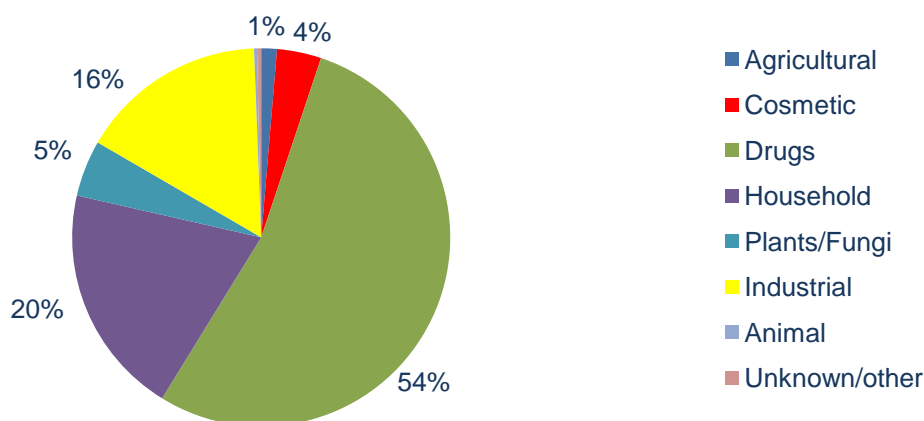


Figure 5: Agents involved in poisoning cases

In 2019 paracetamol, ibuprofen and ethanol were the top three agents implicated in poisoning enquiries, similar to the previous 2 years. The top 10 agents involved in poisoning cases are listed in Table 3. Although codeine and caffeine appear in the top agents, they are not included in the table below as they are present as ingredients in a number of analgesic products and the doses involved are usually small.

	<b>Agent name</b>	<b>Category</b>
<b>1</b>	Paracetamol	Medication
<b>2</b>	Ibuprofen	Medication
<b>3</b>	Ethanol / alcohol	Industrial
<b>4</b>	Fabric Cleaning Liquid Sachet/capsules	Household
<b>5</b>	Multivitamins	Medication
<b>6</b>	Bleach with sodium hypochlorite	Household
<b>7</b>	Sertraline	Medication
<b>8</b>	Aspirin	Medication
<b>9</b>	Disinfectant/antiseptic/sanitiser	Household
<b>10</b>	Dishwasher Tablet	Household

Table 3: The top 10 agents involved in enquiries to NPIC

## Medication

5,830 poisoning enquiries involved 549 different medications.

The top 10 medications are listed in Table 4. Paracetamol was the most common medication consumed and hypnotics, multivitamins and multivitamins with mineral supplements were also commonly taken. Codeine and caffeine appear in the top medications because these ingredients are present in a number of analgesic products however; the doses involved are usually small. These ingredients are excluded from the table below.



1	Paracetamol
2	Ibuprofen
3	Multivitamin preparations
4	Sertraline
5	Aspirin
6	Alprazolam
7	Pregabalin
8	Amoxicillin
9	Cetirizine
10	Quetiapine

Table 4: The top 10 medications involved in poisoning enquiries in 2019



## Household products

3,305 enquiries to the NPIC in 2019 involved household products. The most common products were fabric cleaning liquid detergent capsules, bleach, disinfectants/antiseptics/sanitizers and dishwasher tablets.

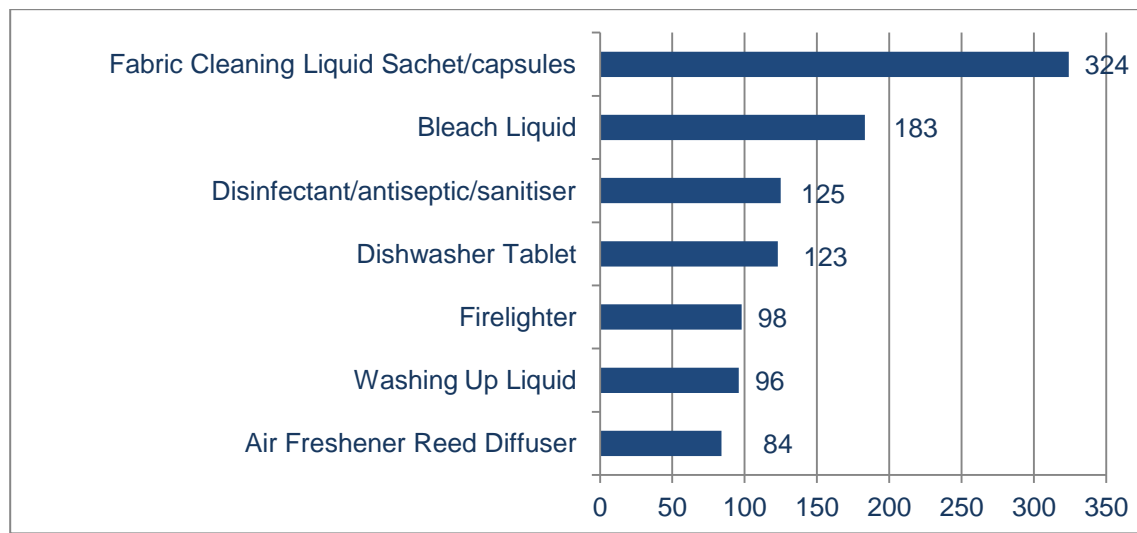


Figure 6: The top enquiries relating to poisoning with household products in 2019

## Drugs of abuse

There were 143 enquiries relating to 8 categories of poisoning with drugs of abuse (n=247).

The main drugs of abuse included cocaine, heroin, cannabinoids and amphetamines. In many cases more than one drug of abuse was involved.

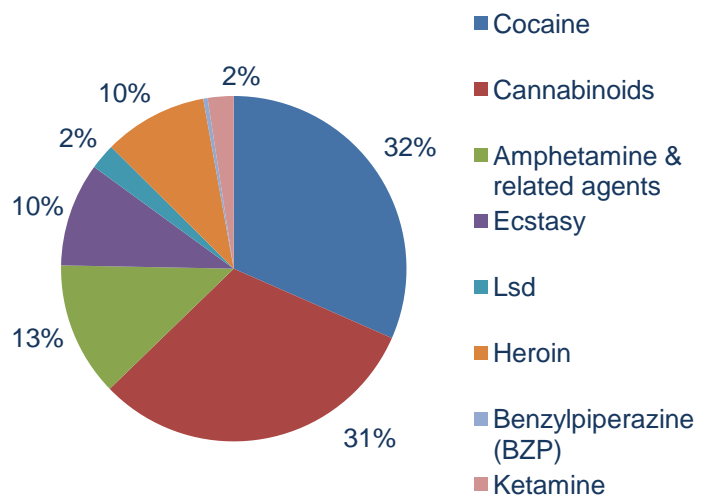


Figure 7: Drugs of abuse 2019

## Poisoning in Children

In 2019, 7,269 enquiries involved children aged 14 years or under. The majority of enquiries related to children under 4 years of age (6,031, 82.9%).

85% of children were asymptomatic when the NPIC was contacted. 14% had minor or moderate symptoms such as nausea, vomiting, drowsiness or a mild local skin reaction. 6 patients had severe symptoms. There were no fatalities.



Medications were the most common type of agent involved in paediatric cases. The top enquiries concerned paracetamol, Ibuprofen and multivitamin products, as in previous years.

### Types of Agent involved in paediatric poisoning cases

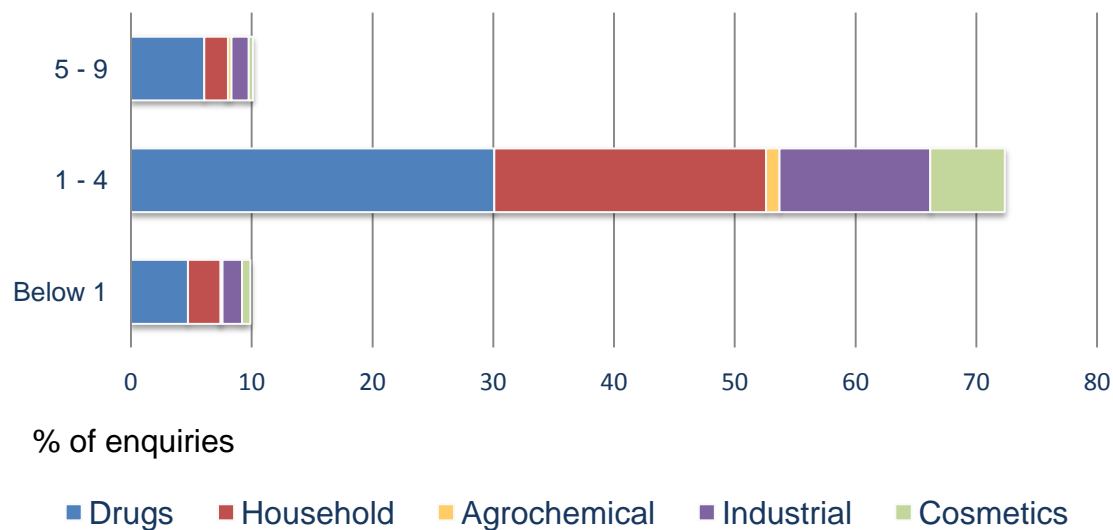


Figure 8: The types of agents involved in paediatric poisoning in 2019

## Signs and symptoms at the time of enquiry to NPIC

A **Poison Severity Score** (minor/moderate/severe/none/not applicable/unknown) is assigned to each human case based on the clinical features at the time the NPIC was called (n=11,516)

- 72.5% (n=8,353) of patients were asymptomatic when the NPIC was contacted.
- 21.6% (n=2,490) of patients had minor signs and symptoms, for example mild gastrointestinal upset, drowsiness and mild local irritation of skin, eyes or mucous membranes.
- 2.7% (n=313) of patients had moderate signs and symptoms including repeated vomiting, CNS depression and minor cardiac features.
- 0.9% (n=105) of patients had severe signs and symptoms including coma, liver function abnormalities, severe hypotension, and metabolic changes.
- The signs and symptoms were unknown for 142 cases (1.3%) and were not applicable for 113 cases (1.0%)

## Clinical outcome of serious/unusual poisoning cases

153 cases were followed-up on account of the severity, potential severity or unusual natures of their symptoms when the NPIC was contacted. NPIC staff subsequently telephoned the hospital and spoke with members of the clinical team to determine the health outcome for the patient.

- 97 of patients who were followed up recovered completely
- 23 patients developed short-term sequelae
- 3 patients had permanent sequelae
- 11 patients died
- 2 outcomes were classified as 'not applicable' (for example, poisoning was excluded as a cause for the patient's clinical condition)
- The outcome could not be determined for 17 patients

We are very grateful to hospital nursing and medical staff for providing follow-up information to NPIC staff.

## Toxbase® Enquiries

**TOXBASE®** is the on-line clinical toxicology database of the UK National Poisons Information Service. It is the primary toxicology database used by the NPIC to provide information on the clinical features and management of acute poisoning.

TOXBASE® is used by Emergency Departments and Intensive Care Units in Ireland. In 2019, there were 15,251 Toxbase user sessions by 42 registered users in Ireland.

## NPIC Website

The website **www.poisons.ie** highlights the telephone number for the Public Poisons Line so that members of the public can find it easily in an emergency.

In 2019 we had 70,276 unique visits to the website with 94,634 page views. Traffic to our website increased by almost 30% from 2018.



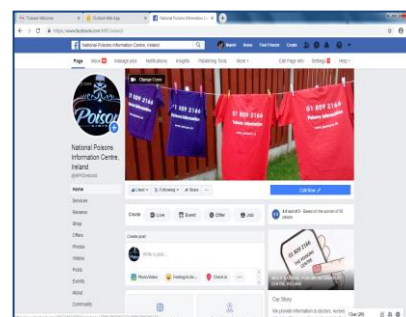
Our website has details on

- how to contact the NPIC for members of the public and healthcare professionals
- practical poison prevention advice
- educational resources
- information on seasonal hazards
- information for healthcare professionals
- regulatory information for industry.

The Industry page is frequently accessed and provides advice for companies that have to register products under EU Chemical, Labelling and Packaging (CLP) Regulations.

## NPIC Social Media

The NPIC Facebook page provides information and awareness about poison prevention in the home for members of the public, healthcare professionals and those working in the childcare sector. We post and share information and advice on our social media platforms regularly.



The total number of Facebook 'likes' for the NPIC page increased to over 24,500 in 2019. The NPIC Facebook page is not to be used in case of emergency as the pages are not continuously monitored. The message function is turned off to prevent people seeking advice via this route.



## Instagram - @NPICireland

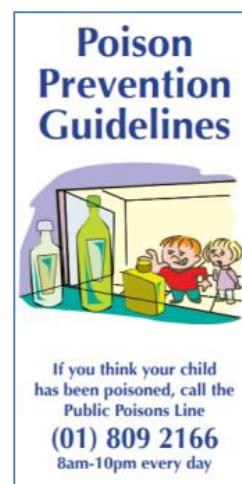
The NPIC Instagram account was started in 2019 to complement the messages posted on our Facebook page. The first post took place on 17th April 2019 and initially messages were posted at least twice weekly, until December when the "12 days of Christmas" poison prevention messages were posted daily. There were approximately 1,000 Instagram followers by the end of 2019.

## Poison Prevention materials

The NPIC Poison Prevention materials are available free of charge and can be ordered online by healthcare professionals and members of the public from the website [www.healthpromotion.ie](http://www.healthpromotion.ie)

In 2019, the following quantities of materials were dispatched;

- 10,688 poison prevention leaflets
- 242 ABC of Poisoning posters
- 7,084 key fobs



## Outreach Activities

Niamh English gave a presentation entitled “Don’t delay – put poisons away” at the CHEP Ltd. Ireland Health and Safety Week on 11 April, 2019

Niamh English represented the National Poisons Information Centre at the ‘All About Baby Fair’ on 30 June, 2019.

Patricia Casey, Elaine Donohoe and Sinead Doyle took part in an NPIC exhibition stand at the annual Health and Safety Week at Beaumont Hospital on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

Elaine Donohoe contributed as guest lecturer for ‘Clinical Toxicology in Practice’ for the M.Sc. course in Toxicology and Regulatory Affairs at University College Dublin.

Nicola Cassidy gave a presentation on ‘Poison Prevention in the Home’ to the Public Health Mother and Baby Group at East Wall Health Centre in Dublin in July and December 2019.

## Regulatory activities



1. Study on workability issues concerning the implementation of Annex VIII of Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 on harmonised information relating to emergency health response.

- a. The NPIC provided additional data requested by study organisers in May 2019.
- b. Patricia Casey attended a workshop on this issue on 13 February 2019, Brussels and the CARACAL Sub-group meeting on ATPs to CLP on 25 September, Brussels.
- c. Patricia Casey attended a Workshop in the Context of the Study on Workability Issues of Annex VIII to CLP in December.

### 2. Poisons Centre database (PCN)

- a. Patricia Casey participated in an on-line meeting for Poisons Centres and member states in February.
- b. Patricia Casey and Nicola Cassidy were nominated as representatives for the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) Consultation and attended a workshop on the PCN Database Use on 9-10 November in Helsinki, Finland.
- c. The NPIC applied successfully for access to Version 1 of the PCN database.

## Academic Activities and Continuing Professional Development

### Lectures and Presentations

Patricia Casey and John Herbert gave a presentation to the Irish Cosmetics Detergents and Association on “Notifying hazardous mixtures to the National Poisons Information Centre” on 29 September in Dublin.

Dr Edel Duggan was an invited speaker at the 10th BfR User Conference Product Notifications on the 18th November in Berlin. Her presentation was entitled "The National implementation of Art. 45 and Annex VIII CLP-Regulation in Ireland."

Dr Duggan gave a “Toxicology” tutorial to Final Medical Students in University College Dublin on 5th December 2019.

Dr Duggan gave presentations entitled “Paracetamol overdose: is methionine obsolete?” and “Buyer Beware!” at the NPIS/NPIC CPD Event on 5-6<sup>th</sup> September in Dublin.

Patricia Casey gave a presentation entitled “Extra NAC for large paracetamol overdoses” at the NPIS/NPIC CPD Event on 5-6<sup>th</sup> September in Dublin.

### Publications

Rates of Reported Codeine-Related Poisonings and Codeine Prescribing Following New National Guidance in Ireland. Cormac Kennedy, Edel Duggan, Kathleen Bennett, David J Williams. *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety* 2019;28(1):106-111

Changes in patient demographics and poisoning severity after additional regulation of packaging and labelling for liquid laundry detergent capsules. Patricia Casey, Feargal O'Connor. *Clinical Toxicology* 2019;57;6,538

Unintentional paediatric ingestion of firelighters reported to the National Poisons Information Centre. Nicola Cassidy, Edel Duggan. *Clinical Toxicology* 2019;57;6,555

An unusual case of organophosphate poisoning. Aoife Doolan, Nicola Cassidy, Edel Duggan. *Clinical Toxicology* 2019;57;6,587



## Education, Training and Meetings

John Herbert attended a meeting of the Early Warning Early Trends group in September 2019.

Niamh English commenced an online Diploma in Public Sector Marketing (PSM) pros and attended a face-to-face meeting on 3 April 2019.

Niamh English attended Resilience Training at Beaumont Hospital.

Dr Duggan and/or Nicola Cassidy attended 3 meetings of the Medication Safety Information Committee at Beaumont Hospital.



## Peer Reviewers for Medical Journals

Nicola Cassidy is a peer reviewer for *Clinical Toxicology*.

Dr Edel Duggan and Nicola Cassidy are peer reviewers for *the European Journal of Clinical Pharmacology*.

## Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Meetings

Two CPD meetings were hosted by the UK National Poisons Information Service in 2019. The meetings took place in Newcastle (UK) and Dublin (Ireland).

Elaine Donohoe and Niamh English attended the event in Newcastle in March. All the NPIC staff attended some of the CPD event held in Dublin. Dr Edel Duggan and Patricia Casey both chaired sessions and gave presentations at the Dublin event (see page 26 for more details).

## European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists Congress 2019

Dr Edel Duggan, Feargal O'Connor and Dr Aoife Doolan (Anaesthetics Department, Beaumont Hospital) attended 39<sup>th</sup> International Congress of the European Association of Poisons Centres and Clinical Toxicologists (EAPCCT) in Naples, Italy in May 2019. Three abstracts were submitted by NPIC staff and accepted for presentation.

- Dr Duggan gave an oral presentation entitled “Changes in patient demographics and poisoning severity after additional regulation of packaging and labelling for liquid laundry detergent capsules” that also involved Patricia Casey and Feargal O'Connor.
- Dr Duggan had a poster presentation entitled “Unintentional paediatric ingestion of firefighters reported to the National Poisons Information Centre, Dublin” that was co-authored by Nicola Cassidy.
- Dr Aoife Doolan had a poster presentation entitled “An unusual case of organophosphate poisoning” that was co-authored by Nicola Cassidy and Dr Edel Duggan.

## Committee membership

- Dr Edel Duggan is a member of the Clinical Standards Group with Directors from the UK National Poisons Information Service.
- Dr Edel Duggan and John Herbert are members of the Early Warning Early Trends Sub-Committee of the National Advisory Committee on Drugs.
- Dr Edel Duggan is a member of the Chemical Safety subcommittee of the Food Safety Authority of Ireland.
- Patricia Casey is a member of the EAPCCT working group on harmonisation of product data.
- Nicola Cassidy is a member of the Medication Safety Forum
- Patricia Casey and Nicola Cassidy are members of the European Chemicals Agency working group for the testing of the PCN portal.
- Dr Edel Duggan and Nicola Cassidy are members of the Medication Safety Information Committee at Beaumont Hospital.
- Elaine Donohoe is a member of the UK TOXBASE editing group.

## NPIC Staff meetings & Journal Club

We held monthly staff meetings and regular journal club meetings during the year. Some of the interesting articles presented by NPIC staff at the NPIC Journal Club meetings included;

Iron overdose epidemiology, clinical features and iron concentration-effect relationships: the UK experience 2008-2017 Bateman DN, Eagling V, Sandilands EA, Jackson G, Crawford C, Hawkins L, Cheung T, Cooper G, Bradberry SM, Thompson JP, Thomas SHL, Eddleston M. *Clinical Toxicology* 2018;56:1098-1106

Clinical outcomes from early use of digoxin specific antibodies versus observation in chronic digoxin poisoning (ATOM-4) Chan BS, Isbister GK, Page CB, Isoardi KZ, Chiew AL, Kirby KA, Buckley NA. *Clinical Toxicology* 2018;26:1-6

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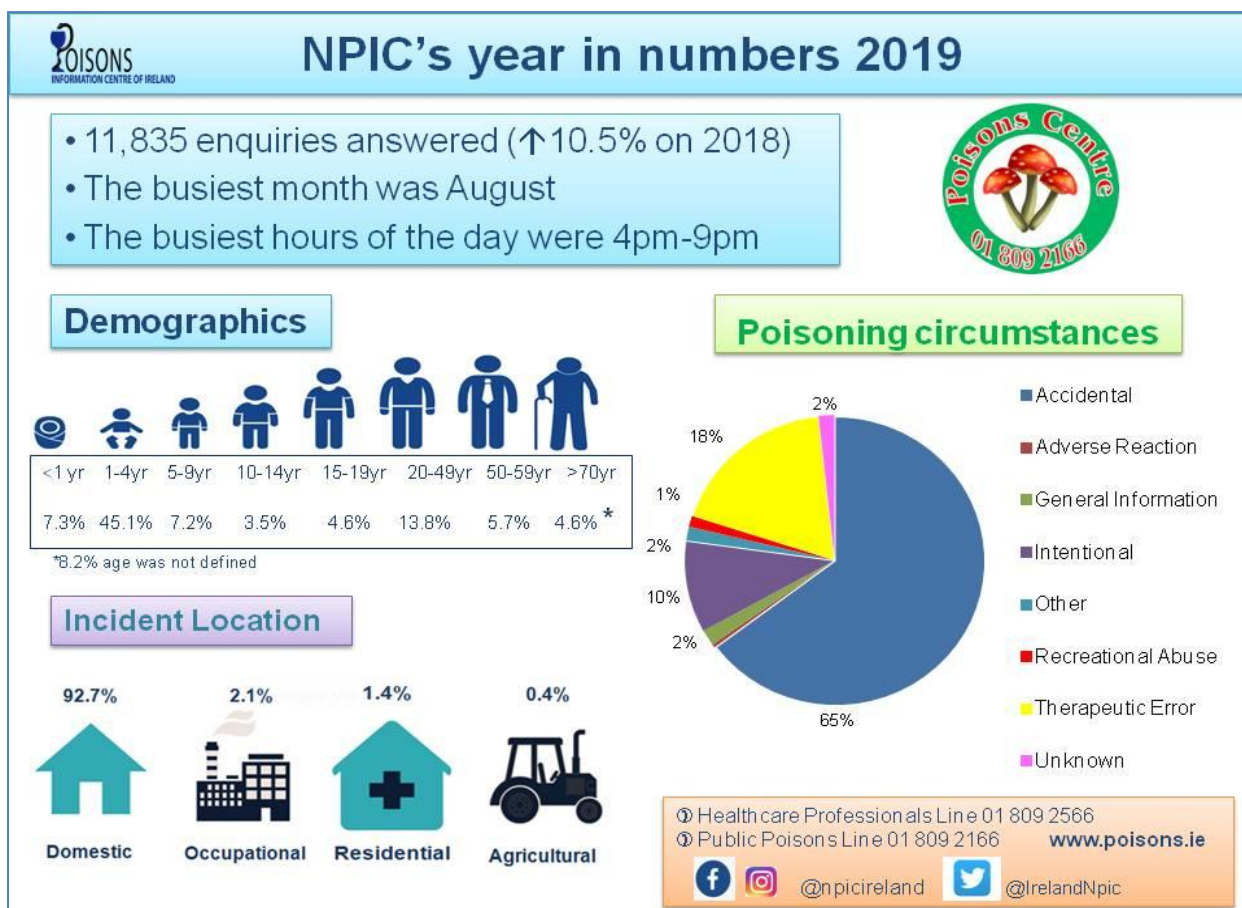
## NPIS/NPIC CPD Days



Attendees at the NPIS/NPIC CPD event in Dublin

The NPIC had the pleasure of hosting the second 2019 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) event at the Royal College of Surgeons Ireland, York Street, Dublin on 5-6<sup>th</sup> September 2019. 30 people from the UK and Ireland attended the event and a range of topics were presented by leading scientists and clinicians.

Dr Edel Duggan and Patricia Casey both chaired sessions at the 2-day event and also gave presentations on different aspects of paracetamol poisoning. Colleagues from Beaumont Hospital, Dr Mary Keogan and Prof Ger Curley gave presentations on anaphylactoid reactions and respiratory complications in the poisoned patient respectively. In addition, Dr Tom Doyle from Cork and Dr Tom Harrington from Limerick gave excellent presentations on their respective areas of expertise namely jellyfish stings and mushroom poisoning.



## Contact details for the NPIC

**Healthcare Professional Lines:** 01 837 9964 / 809 2566 – 24hr  
**Public Poisons Line:** 01 809 2166 (8am – 10pm)  
**Administration:** 01 797 4211  
**Website:** [www.poisons.ie](http://www.poisons.ie)  
**E-mail:** [npicdublin@beaumont.ie](mailto:npicdublin@beaumont.ie)  
**Facebook:** [www.Facebook.com/NPICireland](https://www.facebook.com/NPICireland)  
**Instagram:** @Npicireland  
**Twitter:** @IrelandNpic

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