



COLLEGE OF
PHARMACY

NEW MEXICO POISON &
DRUG INFORMATION CENTER

FY 24 Annual Report



Supported by UNM Children's Hospital



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Message from the Director

This year has marked a pivotal period of transition for our team. After many years of dedicated service, Dr. Susan Smolinske retired as director of the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center. Her leadership and expertise have been invaluable, and while she has stepped down from her role, she remains an essential resource for our team. It has been an honor for me to take on this position as I continue the great work that has been done before me.

Our team simultaneously saw a transition in our medical leadership. Dr. Brandon Warrick, who served as interim medical director, passed the baton on to Dr. David Gummin who joins us from Wisconsin after 20 years of service as medical director. His extensive experience and passion for poison centers and toxicology will be instrumental in advancing our center's mission and goals.

In reviewing our annual report, I am incredibly proud to see that in FY24, we have continued to successfully fulfill our core mission—improving the health and well-being of New Mexicans by reducing poison-related illnesses and deaths and promoting the safe and proper use of medications. A key aspect of this mission is ensuring that our services remain accessible to all New Mexicans, whether in urban centers, rural communities, or hospitals.

As you review this report, you will find that our services have saved approximately \$10.7 million in healthcare costs—though this figure likely underrepresents the true savings, given inflation and the rising cost of hospital care. You will see that nearly 30% of our calls came from rural areas, and that four of the five counties with the highest utilization of our services were rural. You will also discover other impactful initiatives, including our public and media outreach efforts, student education, and our recognition with the Albuquerque Business Heroes Award.

Our efforts would not be possible without the continued support of our parent organization, the College of Pharmacy at the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, UNM Children's Hospital, and our public health partners, including the Department of Health, the Environment Department, and other key stakeholders. We are also deeply grateful to the Governor, the Legislature, and staff from the Higher Education Department, Department of Finance and Administration, and Legislative Finance Committee for their continued support of our poison center as well as our supporters from the Federal level.

I invite you now to explore our FY24 annual report to learn more about the poisoning challenges facing New Mexico and how the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center is actively working to address these critical issues.

Sincerely,

Dr. Joseph Lambson, PharmD, DABAT

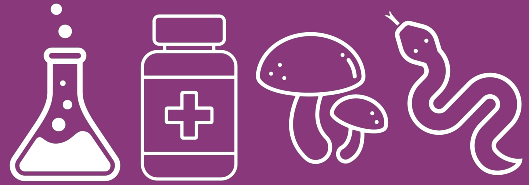
**Director, New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center, sponsored by UNM Children's Hospital
College of Pharmacy, University of New Mexico, Health Sciences Center**

Contact Us

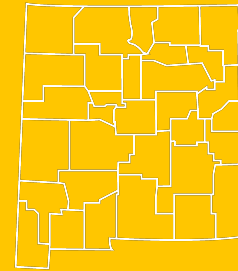


ABOUT OUR SERVICES

The New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center (NMPDIC) helps manage exposures to any toxic substance.



The NMPDIC proudly serves all New Mexicans. Our telephone services are free, confidential, and offered in over 80 languages.



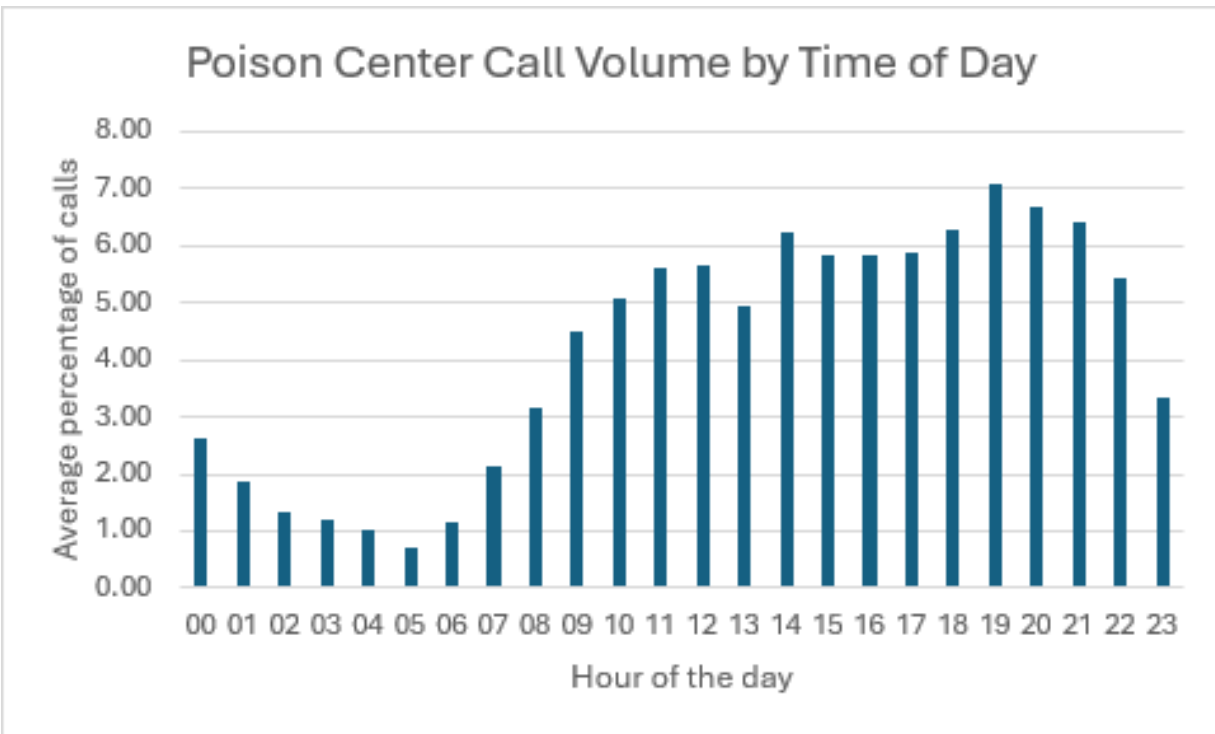
Pharmacists specially trained in poison information answer the phones. We have 13 registered pharmacists (10 certified) and one pharmacy technician.



We took **19,356** calls in FY 24. We safely managed **10,147 (79.5%)** calls on-site, with an estimated savings of **\$10.7 million** in healthcare dollars.



The NMPDIC is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The peak call time is between 6 pm and 10 pm.



In FY 24, 85.2% were human exposure calls, 4.1% were animal exposures, 5.0% drug information calls, and 1.8% other information.



In FY 24, we received calls from all **33** counties:
71% Urban, **27%** Rural, and **1%** Unknown.

Top 5 Rural Counties

County	Cases per 100,000
Curry	999
Quay	960
Roosevelt	922
Cibola	894
Socorro	832

Top 5 Urban Counties

County	Cases per 100,000
Bernalillo	1156
Sandoval	824
San Juan	819
Santa Fe	798
Valencia	692

Top 10 Calls by Substance Type

Analgesics	11.69%
Cleaning Substances	5.87%
Antidepressants	4.64%
Cardiovascular Drugs	4.6%
Antihistamines	4.42%
Cosmetics/Personal Care	4.32%
Alcohols	3.92%
Sedative/Hypnotics/Antipsychotics	3.8%
Foreign	3.2%
Fumes/Gases/Vapors	3.11%

MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS

Traditional Media Outreach

24 media pieces including:

- **Groups:** CNN Health, Good Morning America, News Nation, New York Times, CBS News, KOB, KOAT, KRQE Albuquerque Journal, Healthline, Pharmacy Today, Verywell Health
- **Topics:** Radon, Diamond Shrumz, Semaglutide, Contaminated milk, Recalled Rokitussin Poison Prevention, Pediatric Cannabis Exposures, and bites & stings
- **Semaglutide** (14 media pieces) - which generated one of the highest media penetration ever at the HHS. The online + print audience was over **2.25 billion people and generated over \$25 million dollars of publicity for the HHS.**

Health Care Heroes Award

HEALTH CARE HEROES | ORGANIZATIONS



COURTESY NEW MEXICO POISON AND DRUG INFORMATION CENTER

NEW MEXICO POISON AND DRUG INFORMATION CENTER

Housed under the University of New Mexico umbrella and supported by the UNM Children's Hospital, the New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center serves the entire state.

With a staff of 20 employees — that includes pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, toxicologists, administrative staff, IT professionals and health consultants — the Center provides around-the-clock support offering both a poison information line and a drug information line.

In 2023, the Center received more than 19,000 calls from every county in the state. The bulk of those poisoning emergencies were able to be managed at home, with the Center's staff estimating more than \$10 million was saved as a result of its intervention. This

past year, the Center also provided 64 community outreach events.

What has been the biggest win for the Center in the past year? Our biggest win in 2023 was maintaining 24/7 services for the entire state of New Mexico despite some prolonged staffing shortages and retirements. We are grateful to start out this year fully staffed with new leadership to continue the great work done by those before them.

Next big goal for the Center? Expand our services to incorporate additional communication services such as a chat function. Increase our community outreach to rural and underserved communities. Increase our education efforts to rural hospitals.

PROFESSIONAL OUTREACH

Substance Use Intervention



PUBLIC EDUCATION OUTREACH

Tribal Outreach

- Attended 6 Events
- Presented Navajo Nation Research to America's Poison Centers

Facebook Insights

- 2.2K Reach
- 366 Interactions
- 642 Followers
- 1 Live Q & A Session

Senior Outreach

- Attended 14 Events
- ~200 Naloxone Kits Distributed

ABQ Leadership

- Attended and graduated from the 9 month course designed to develop knowledgeable and engaged civic leaders
- Leveraged Unique Partnerships

TESTIMONIALS

"I've called several times over the years. The last time I called because I accidentally inhaled rat poison, and I could taste it.

Another time I called because my dog ate one of my hydrocodone pills . I'm an old lady and my hands are shot. I dropped the medicine when loading my pill organizer.

Every time I've called, the service was really very helpful and left me with a peace of mind." ~ Satisfied Caller

"We regularly initiate buprenorphine in the Emergency Department - we can do this with confidence because we know the NM Poison Center Addiction Medicine specialists are there 24/7 to back us up if we have questions."

~ Diane Rimple, MD
Chair, Department of Emergency Medicine
University of New Mexico School of Medicine

"I really enjoyed working through all the interesting cases we got and analyzing what symptom may present based on the drugs' side effect profile. The scavenger hunts were a fun application of our basic understanding of toxicology into common household items and local animals. It was a great experience learning various professions' viewpoints and such brilliant minds." ~ Catherine Tran, Student Rotator

PUBLICATIONS

- Stolbach AI, Dargan PI, Greller HA, et al. ACMT Position Statement: End the Use of the Term "Excited Delirium". *J Med Toxicol*. 2023 Jul;19(3):310-312.
- DeJonge P, Gummin D, Titelbaum N, et al. Description of kratom exposure events in Wisconsin as reported to the Wisconsin Poison Center. *WMJ*. 2023 Jul;122(3):187-190.
- Adams A, Maloy C, Warrick BJ. Does occupational exposure to fentanyl cause illness? A systematic review. *Clin Toxicol (Phila)*. 2023 Sep;61(9):631-638.
- Lambson J, Hinckley P, Moss M. Rivastigmine to treat anticholinergic toxicity following drug overdose. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,22-23.
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- Lambson J, Johnson A, Nickman N. Assessing perceived workload at a regional poison center - NASA TLX analysis. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,141.
- Moss M, Hinchman B, Lambson J, et al. High-risk acetaminophen overdose outcomes after treatment with standard dose vs. increased dose N-acetylcysteine. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,64.
- Idowu D, Gray Z, Stanton M, et al. A Case of Severe Lead Encephalopathy with Cardiac Arrest Managed During A Chelation Shortage. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,133-34.
- Oakland C, Pueringer RC, Bilden E, et al. "False Death Cap" Almost Becomes "True Death Cap" - A Case Demonstrating the Importance of Species Identification in Amanita Mushroom Ingestion. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,137.
- Warrick BJ, Sanchez A, Ketcham E, et al. A two-year observational review of a state poison center providing addiction medicine consult to rural clinicians. *Clin Toxicol (Phila.)*2023; 61:sup2,43-44.
- Lambson JE, Flegal SC, Johnson AR. Administration errors of compounded semaglutide reported to a poison control center-Case series. *J Am Pharm Assoc (2003)*. 2023 Sep-Oct;63(5):1643-1645.
- Stolbach AI, Mazer-Amirshahi M, Cienki J, et al. ACMT Position Statement: Role of the Medical Toxicologist in the Management of Patients with Substance Use Disorder. *J Med Toxicol*. 2023 Oct;19(4):411-413.
- Gummin DD, Mowry JB, Beuhler MC, et al. 2022 Annual Report of the National Poison Data System® (NPDS) from America's Poison Centers™: 40th Annual Report. *Clin Toxicol (Phila)*. 2023 Oct;61(10):717-939.
- Andreychak EM, Tomasallo CD, Idowu D, et al. Occupational Carbon Monoxide Poisoning in Wisconsin: Results from a Statewide Electronic Disease Surveillance System and From the Wisconsin Poison Center, 2018-2021. *Public Health Rep*. 2024 Jul-Aug;139(4):443-450. Epub 2023 Nov 4.
- Idowu D, Gray Z, Stanton M, et al. A Case of Severe Lead Encephalopathy with Cardiac Arrest Managed During a Chelation Shortage. *J Med Toxicol*. 2024 Jan;20(1):49-53.
- Feldman R, Stanton M, Corcoran J, et al. *Trimeresurus insularis* (blue Indonesian pit viper) envenomation treated with Thai green pit viper antivenom. *Clin Toxicol (Phila)*. 2024 Mar;62(3):207-209.

FUNDING SOURCES/DONATIONS

RPSP + TSF	89.5%
UNMH - CH	5.2%
HRSA	4.7%
Donations	0.6%

Key

RPSP = Research and Public Service Projects (State)

TSF = Tobacco Settlement Funds (State)

HRSA = Health Resources and Services Administration (Federal)

UNMH-CH = The University of New Mexico Health System -
Children's Hospital

The New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center (NMPDIC) works on a bare-bones budget of \$2.2M. In addition, Tobacco Settlement Funds in New Mexico — a major funding source — are approaching depletion.

If you would like to help the NMPDIC continue to make a positive impact on the health and safety of New Mexican communities, please scan the QR code below to donate. We greatly appreciate all donations — no amount of money can be too big or small.

