

Increase in Edible Cannabis Intake Noted Among Toddlers: Illinois Poison Center

The Illinois Poison Center has noted a significant rise in cannabis edible exposures among young children, with 244 cases reported in 2023 compared to 37 in 2019.

Instances include children ingesting THC-laden edibles left accessible at home, resulting in hospitalizations and medical interventions.

Impact of Legalization

Legalization of marijuana in Illinois has increased the availability of licensed weed edibles, contributing to the rise in exposure incidents.

Safety Concerns and Advice

Medical professionals emphasize the importance of secure storage and child-proof packaging to prevent accidental ingestion. Symptoms range from mild to severe, requiring varied levels of medical intervention.

Regulatory Challenges

Challenges persist with unregulated hemp-derived products like delta-8-THC, prompting ongoing safety debates and legislative reviews.

As the debate over cannabis regulation continues, safeguarding children from accidental exposure remains a critical concern for public health officials and caregivers alike.

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