



The New Jersey Poison Information & Education System
Serving New Jersey Since 1983

Designated regional poison center
for New Jersey by New Jersey
Department of Health and Senior
Services and the American
Association of Poison Control
Centers

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Please distribute to the public; your local radio, magazines and newspapers;
websites; etc.

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Beware:

Torch Lamp Oil Mistaken for Apple Juice May Be Fatal

(Newark, NJ)- Last year at this time six New Jersey residents became ill after ingesting a small amount of torch oil which was mistaken for apple juice. So far this year, there have been five (5) cases of lamp oil ingestion. In at least one of the recent cases, the lamp oil was mistaken for juice.

Last year, one individual, an elderly woman, died two days after mistaking the lamp oil for apple juice. Also, an eight year old girl was hospitalized in critical condition and was placed on a ventilator after mistaking the torch oil for apple juice. This child survived her illness.

According to Bruce Ruck, PharmD. of NJPIES, "It is very important to recognize lamp oil bottles closely resemble juice containers. When accidentally taken by mouth, such lamp oils can enter the lungs causing pneumonia and death. Jugs containing lamp oils must be stored in a locked cabinet away from the storage of food and drinks."

There are other poisonous products which look like and come in containers closely resembling juices. It is important for families to lock up all such potentially dangerous products, keep them far from food and educate the entire family on the dangers of these "look-a-likes." The NJPIES website contains a poster representation of other dangerous look-a-likes, it is found at www.njpies.org.

If you suspect a poisoning, call the Poison Control Center for immediate treatment advice as well as for prevention information. Call **1-800-222-1222**, trained medical professionals will provide you with the most up to date emergency treatment advice and will answer any drug or poison information question you may have.

Remember, Help Is Just A Phone Call Away!
Poison Emergency? Call 1-800-222-1222
Questions about Poisons? Call 1-800-222-1222
Questions about Poison Prevention? Call 1-800-222-1222
Hearing Impaired May Call 1-973-926-8008

For Press follow-up, please call 1-800-222-1222

located at University of Medicine & Dentistry of New Jersey

