PRESS RELEASE
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For education purposes - please distribute to the public; your local radio, magazines and newspapers; websites; etc.

Safe Holiday Traveling:
Prevent Children and Pets from Getting Into Medications

(Newark, NJ) – A 15-month old toddler was sent to the emergency room of a local hospital by a poison specialist from the New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES). The toddler swallowed a handful of his mother’s prescription medications while they were visiting family for the holiday. Her medications were in a travel pill box that was not child safe, therefore easily accessible by the toddler.

NJPIES would like to remind parents/grandparents that keeping medicines and personal toiletries away from children and pets is extremely important. When welcoming visitors to your home, always offer them a safe place to store their medications and personal materials. The following are some helpful tips for travelers:

✔ Store medication and personal supplies in locked suitcases or containers
✔ Always keep medications and supplies in their original, child-resistant containers.
✔ Do not refer to medicine as “Candy”.

The Poison Control Center Hotline number, 1-800-222-1222, can be used for treatment advice for emergency poisonings as well as for non-emergency questions regarding medications, household products, plants, or environmental contaminants. The hotline is accessible 24 hours per day, everyday! Remember, Help Is Just a Phone Call Away!