

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

MEDIA ALERT

Media Contacts:

800-222-1222 (800-962-1253 outside NJ)

MOLLY

- A Drug Every Parent Should Know About -

Steven Marcus, MD, Executive and Medical Director
Bruce Ruck, Pharm.D., Director, Drug Information and Professional Education
New Jersey Poison Information and Education System (NJPIES)

Available for Interviews

(Newark, NJ) – September 3, 2013 — Molly, the club drug blamed for the apparent deaths of two young adults and four others in critical condition attending a music festival in New York City over the holiday weekend is receiving a great deal of attention.

The NJ Poison Experts are familiar with the dangerous and sometimes deadly health consequences of using Molly. In 2012, a young man from NJ used Molly and died. The poison center has helped treat several other individuals who developed symptoms, but did survive.

Molly is often reported to be the purest form of MDMA, the main ingredient in Ecstasy. However, many substances have been sold as “Molly” so one does not always know what they are getting.

“This club drug is extremely dangerous,” says Bruce Ruck, Pharm.D., Director of Drug Information of the New Jersey Poison Center. “Its effects can be harmful to the body even on first use. It is known to cause hallucinations, seizures, significant agitation, as well as, raise the user’s blood pressure, heart rate, and body temperature.” Raising one’s body temperature can cause serious internal damage.

Poison Center experts urge every parent and guardian to learn more about the dangers of all club/designer/synthetic drugs and to talk to their children before it is too late and another teen/young adult falls prey to the notion that these drugs are safe to use. “Those using these drugs are often unaware of their dangers,” said Ruck.

Where can parents call to speak with an expert? Call the NJ Poison Experts at 800-222-1222; we are always here to help 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. Calls are free and confidential. If someone is unconscious, not breathing, seizing/convulsing, bleeding profusely, difficult to arouse/wake up, etc. call 911 immediately, otherwise call the NJ Poison Experts at 800-222-1222.

About NJPIES

As New Jersey’s only poison control center, the New Jersey Poison Information & Education System provides information on poison prevention and treatments. Chartered in 1983, NJPIES provides free consultation through telephone hot line services and the Web. Medical professionals such as physicians, registered nurses and pharmacists offer confidential advice regarding poison emergencies and provide information on poison prevention, drugs, food poisoning, animal bites and more. These specialists are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

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NJPIES coordinates state poison education and research and is designated as the regional poison center by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services and the American Association of Poison Control Centers. It tracks incidences of adverse reactions to food, drugs and vaccines in order to monitor potential public health issues and provide data to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A division of the Department of Preventive

Medicine and Community Health of the New Jersey Medical School of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, NJPIES has a state-of-the-art center located on the school's Newark campus.

New Jersey residents seeking immediate information about treating poison emergencies, and those with any drug information questions, should call the toll-free hot line, **800-222-1222**, any time. The hearing impaired may call **973-926-8008**. For more information, visit www.njpies.org or call **973-972-9280**.

About Rutgers

Established in 1766, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, is America's eighth oldest institution of higher learning and one of the nation's premier public research universities. Serving more than 65,000 students on campuses, centers, institutes and other locations throughout the state, Rutgers is the only public university in New Jersey that is a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities.

Rutgers Biomedical and Health Sciences (RBHS) is the health care education, research, and clinical division of Rutgers University, comprising nine schools and their attendant faculty practices, centers, institutes and clinics; New Jersey's leading comprehensive cancer care center; and New Jersey's largest behavioral health care network.

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