

New Jersey Poison Control Center Rutgers Health 140 Bergen Street, Suite G1600 Newark, NJ 07103 NJPoisonCenter.org p: 973-972-9280 Emergencies: 1-800-222-1222

The New Jersey Poison Control Center — Serving New Jersey Since 1983

HEALTH ADVISORY

U.S. Poison Centers are Receiving Calls Potentially Associated with Consuming Diamond Shruumz[™] Brand Chocolate Bars, Cones, and Gummies Resulting in Severe Illness

U.S. Poison Centers have received reports of severe illness potentially associated with consuming Diamond Shruumz[™] brand chocolate bars, cones, and gummies. These products are marketed for "microdosing" and contain a blend of mushrooms that do not include magic mushrooms (psilocybin) or other hallucinogenic mushrooms. Products containing psychoactive compounds, such as mushroom extracts, are increasing in availability and might contain undisclosed ingredients, including illicit substances or potentially harmful contaminants that are not approved for use in food.

As of September 26, 2024, poison centers have received 198 reports of exposure, including 108 cases with more severe illness. Of the 108 cases with more severe illness, 91 sought medical attention after consuming Diamond Shruumz[™] brand products and 55 cases resulted in hospitalization. Two potentially associated deaths have been reported that are pending further investigation. America's Poison Centers is collaborating with the <u>Centers for Disease Control</u> and <u>Prevention (CDC)</u>, Food and Drug Administration (FDA), and state and local partners focused on investigating the cases of more severe illness reported to poison centers.

"The current outbreak of severe illness associated with these branded products highlights an important safety concern regarding over-the-counter products sold as dietary supplements," said Diane Calello, executive and medical director of the <u>New Jersey Poison Control Center</u> at <u>Rutgers New Jersey Medical School</u>.

"Although supplements may contain natural ingredients, consumers should be aware that the FDA does not approve them for safety or effectiveness before being sold," said Bruce Ruck, managing director of the New Jersey Poison Control Center at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. "Dietary supplements can potentially cause adverse effects, including severe illness."

Diamond Shruumz[™] brand products have been recalled and should no longer be available for sale. Consumers should check their homes and discard these products or return them to the company for a refund.

Symptoms reported by people who became ill after consuming Diamond Shruumz[™] brand chocolate bars, cones, and gummies include: seizures, central nervous system depression (loss of consciousness, confusion, and sleepiness), agitation, hallucinations, abnormal heart rates, high or low blood pressure, and gastrointestinal effects (nausea, vomiting, or abdominal pain).

America's Poison Centers advises the public to:

- Check freezers and pantries for these products and discard them if found.
- Do not eat, sell, or serve any flavor of Diamond Shruumz[™] brand chocolate bars, cones, and gummies.
- Store edibles and mushroom-containing products up high and out of reach of children.
- Report adverse events related to Diamond Shruumz[™] chocolate bars, cones, and gummies to <u>FDA MedWatch</u>.
- If you become ill after consuming Diamond Shruumz[™] brand chocolate bars, cones, or gummies, call the Poison Help line at 1-800-222-1222. Inform your local poison center that you have recently consumed these products. Poison Help is available 24/7, free, and confidential. If you live in New Jersey, you can reach your poison control center by calling the Poison Help line or chatting <u>here</u>

For more information:

- FDA: Investigation of Illness: Diamond Shruumz-Brand Chocolate Bars, Cones, & Gummies (June 2024)
- MedWatch: the FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program
- <u>CDC: Severe Illness Potentially Associated with Consuming Diamond ShruumzTM Brand</u> Chocolate Bars, Cones, and Gummies

America's Poison Centers, CDC, and FDA continue to monitor reports of illness nationwide.

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Available for Media Interviews

Diane Calello, MD, Executive and Medical Director, New Jersey Poison Control Center, Rutgers NJ Medical School's Department of Emergency Medicine

Bruce Ruck, Pharm.D., Managing Director, New Jersey Poison Control Center, Rutgers NJ Medical School's Department of Emergency Medicine

Lewis S. Nelson, MD, Professor and Chair of Emergency Medicine, Rutgers NJ Medical School

About New Jersey Poison Control Center/NJPIES, 1-800-222-1222

Chartered in 1983, the New Jersey Poison Information & Education System (NJPIES), known to the public as the New Jersey Poison Control Center, is the state's primary defense against injury and deaths from intentional and unintentional poisonings. It is designated as the state's regional poison control center by the New Jersey Department of Health and the American Association of Poison Control Centers. It is a division of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. NJPIES has a state-of-theart center located at Rutgers Health in Newark. NJPIES is funded, in part, by the NJ Department of Health, NJ Hospitals and the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

Hotline staff (physicians, registered nurses, and pharmacists) provide free telemedicine consultation through hotline services (telephone, text, chat) regarding poison emergencies and provide information on poison prevention practices, drug interactions and overdoses, food poisoning, environmental chemical exposures, animal/insect bites and stings, plant and other outdoor exposures, carbon monoxide and lead poisonings, and more. NJPIES' services are free, confidential/private, available 24/7, and help is available in any language. Call 1-800-222-1222 or <u>Chat Here</u>.

About Rutgers New Jersey Medical School

Founded in 1954, Rutgers New Jersey Medical School is the oldest school of medicine in the state. Today it is part of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and graduates approximately 170 physicians a year. In addition to providing the MD degree, the school offers MD/PhD, MD/MPH, and MD/MBA degrees through collaborations with other institutions of higher education. Dedicated to

excellence in education, research, clinical care and community outreach, the medical school comprises 20 academic departments and works with several healthcare partners, including its principal teaching hospital, University Hospital. Its faculty consists of numerous world-renowned scientists and many of the region's "top doctors." Home to the nation's oldest student-run clinic, New Jersey Medical School hosts more than 50 centers and institutes, including the Public Health Research Institute Center, the Global Tuberculosis Institute and the Neurological Institute of New Jersey. For more information, please visit <u>nims.rutgers.edu</u>.

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