# **Every minute** of every day, a poison control center answers a call about a young child getting into medicine.



In 2012, more than

## 64,000 kids

were treated in an emergency room for medicine poisoning.



That's one child every 8 minutes.

## Whose medicine are they getting into?

In **3 out of 4** of these cases, the medicine belonged to a parent or grandparent.



The "typical" household is changing with more grandparents in the home.

### 23% increase

in the number of grandparents living with their grandchildren since 2005.



1 in 8

grandparents provide care on a regular basis for a grandchild.

## Older adults are taking more medicine.

Older adults make up 13% of the population but account for 34% of prescription medicine use.







**74%** of grandparents say they take a prescription medicine every day.

So kids are around more medicine than ever before.

#### Where are grandparents storing medicine that kids might get into?



12%

of grandparents who take care of their grandkids every day keep prescription medicine or bottles without a on a nightstand or dresser.



keep their medicines in easy-open containers child-resistant cap.

Among those who use easy-open containers,

42% keep prescription medicine on a bathroom or kitchen sink. counter, table or shelf.



What are they worried about?

More grandparents identified electrical outlets than medicine as a top safety issue.



But 36 times more children ao to the ER for medicine poisoning.



**Know** who to call if a child gets into medicine or is given too much medicine.



## **POISON HELP NUMBER** 1-800-222-1222

SAVE THIS NUMBER IN YOUR PHONE. IT IS A FREE 24-HOUR HOTLINE.

# Keep all medicines up and away from kids.

- Keep all medicine up and away when young children are around – even medicine you take every day.
- Be alert to medicines stored in other locations, like pills in purses, vitamins on counters and medicines in or on nightstands.
- Store children's medicine in an out-of-reach place, including between doses.
- Choose child-resistant caps for medicine bottles, if you're able to. If pill boxes or non-child resistant caps are the only option, it's even more important to store these containers high and out of sight when caring for kids.
- Coordinate with other caregivers about when and which medicine should be given.

