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# About the BC Drug and Poison Information Centre

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The BC Drug and Poison Information Centre (DPIC) was established in 1975 through the cooperative efforts of the Hospital Programs Branch of the BC Ministry of Health and the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of British Columbia (UBC). It is located at the BC Centre for Disease Control in Vancouver and is staffed with pharmacists, nurses, and physicians who have specific expertise in the provision of drug and poison information services.

The original mandate of the Centre called for the development of centralized services to assist health professionals throughout BC in providing optimal levels of drug therapy and poison management. Considerable progress has been made in this respect through expansion of DPIC programs over the ensuing years. Notably, the Centre has assumed provision of poison information services to the BC public, a population of approximately 4.4 million.

Since 2002 DPIC has been affiliated with the BC Centre for Disease Control which is an agency of the Provincial Health Services Authority (PHSA), and continues its affiliation with UBC. We are a member of the Canadian Association of Poison Control Centres (CAPCC) and the American Association of Poison Control Centres (AAPCC).

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All material found on the BC Drug and Poison Information Centre (DPIC) website is provided for informational purposes only. It is *not* meant to replace the expert advice of a healthcare professional such as a physician, pharmacist, nurse or qualified poison specialist. Use of this site is governed and restricted by specific terms of use. Please review the terms and conditions prior to using the DPIC website. In the event of a poisoning emergency, call your local poison control centre immediately. Portions of this web site are intended for healthcare professionals. Interpretation and application of information may require more detailed explanation than contained herein, particularly regarding any clinical information that is found in or linked to this site. Patients are advised to consult their health care provider regarding diagnosis and treatment, and for assistance in interpreting these materials and applying them in individual cases.

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