

Virginia's Poison Center System

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Virginia Poison Control Network History

- The *Code of Virginia* (§ 32.1-111.15) states that the Board of Health shall establish poison control centers that meet national certification standards

Virginia Poison Control Network History

- The national standards for poison centers are set by the American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC)
- The AAPCC defines a “Poison Center System” as consisting of two or more poison centers.

Virginia Poison Control Network History

- Since the state began supporting the VPCN the system has been comprised of the:
 - Blue Ridge Poison Center (UVA)
 - National Capital Poison Center
 - Virginia Poison Center (VCU/MCV)

Poison Center Core Functions

Poison control services are recognized by the Health Resources and Services Administration and the Institute of Medicine as essential to public health.

Studies have demonstrated that for every \$1 spent on poison control centers \$7 is saved in health care costs.*

Poison Center Core Functions

- The COV further requires the statewide poison control system shall provide, at a minimum:
 - 24-hour/Day access to poisoning consultation for the public and to health care practitioners
 - Coordination of referrals to emergency treatment facilities

Poison Center Core Functions

- Public education on poison prevention and poison control services
- Train all levels of health care practitioners in toxicology and medical management of poison exposure cases
- Perform poison control surveillance through the collection and analysis of data from reported poison exposures

Funding Considerations

	FY10	FY11**
Total Budget Three Poison Centers Combined	\$3,701,834*	\$3,701,834
State Funding Provided	\$1,549,691	\$500,000
HRSA Funding Provided	\$545,861	\$545,861
Absorbed by the Poison Centers	\$1,606,282	\$2,655,973

*All infrastructure costs removed

** Utilizing fixed costs from FY10