

# Drug & Poison Information

## DID YOU KNOW?

Pharmacists represent a good source of information about medications and their toxic effects.

### Drug Information Centres

Pharmacists working in drug information centres provide information (either verbally or in writing) to other health care professionals. They may be asked to answer a question urgently, or they may have to do more extensive research using electronic search programs and medical journals to find up-to-date information on a variety of topics:

- availability and uses of different medications
- adverse effects of medications
- interactions between medications
- mixing intravenous medications
- current approaches to therapy
- controversial topics in medication use

### Poison Information Centres

Pharmacists working in poison information centres answer questions from other health care professionals and the public about poisons or the toxic effects of medications. Topics include:

- management of accidental ingestion of medication by children
- management of overdoses
- antidotes to medications
- contents of household products
- identification of unknown medications
- poison prevention tips