Poison Centers reduce unnecessary health care costs

**Funding**
Florida's Poison Control Centers receive funding from the State of Florida and the federal government. These funds cover operating costs, administration, and life-saving services that are free to the public.

\[ \text{Funding} = \$5,264,498 + \$985,916 = \$6,250,414 \]

**Did You Know?**
For every $1 invested in a poison center, there is a health care cost savings of $13.39.

\[ \text{Funding} \rightarrow \$6,250,414 \rightarrow \text{Health Care Savings} = \$13.39 \]

**Studies Show**
If there were no poison centers, at least 50% of the people who think they’ve been poisoned would show up at emergency departments resulting in unnecessary medical expenses.

\[ \text{Poisoning Calls Yearly} = 70,000 \]

\[ \text{Average Emergency Department Visit Costs} = \$3,074 \]

\[ \text{(50\% of Calls)} = 35,000 \]

\[ \text{Avoided Emergency Department Visits} = 70,000 \times \$3,074 = \$107,590,000 \]

**Poison Centers Assisting Health Care Providers**
Florida’s Poison Control Centers co-managing patients at health care facilities was documented to reduce hospital charges by ~$95 million/year. These cost savings resulted in:

\[ 37\% + 14\% + 19\% + 12\% = 100\% \]

\[ \text{For a total of:} \quad \$95,000,000 \]

**What Does All This Mean?**
With the help of state and federal funding, an investment of $6,250,414 in poison centers saves over $202,590,000 in health care costs, resources and unnecessary medical treatment.

\[ \text{Funding} \rightarrow \$6,250,414 \rightarrow \text{Health Care Savings} = \$202,590,000 \]

**References**
The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration
Lewin Group Report: Value of Poison Centers
Co Management cost savings calculated on 2014 data
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**More Poison Center Facts**
- Florida’s Poison Control Centers have been recognized in congressional reports as one of the most cost efficient poison center networks in the nation.
- Certified Specialists in Poison Information (CSPIs) immediately respond to calls relating to any type of poisoning or poison related questions. This confidential service is offered 24/7, at no cost to callers. CSPIs manage over 80% of poison related calls by phone, preventing the costly and unnecessary use of emergency department resources, transportation and treatment.
- Additionally, studies show that there is up to a two day reduction in length of stay when poison centers are involved in the care of patients who are admitted to hospitals.