



Consumers Can Help Prevent
Harmful Medication Incidents

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March 30, 2021

Antibiotic Liquid Medication Without a Child-Resistant Closure Contributes to Overdose

We received a report describing a young child who drank a liquid medication directly from the bottle. The bottle had been provided to a child-care centre so the daytime dose could be given by staff. The child found the bottle while at the centre and thought it was a drink. The child's parent was alerted to the incident and called a poison centre for guidance and the child only sustained mild side effects.

The parent reported that the bottle did not have any type of child-resistant closure. ISMP Canada contacted the manufacturer of the product, who confirmed the packaging does not include a child-resistant closure. The company is now working to ensure that the packaging incorporates a child-resistant closure. Health Canada has also been made aware of the situation and will follow up with the company. This is a good reminder for everyone to keep medications securely stored away from children.

