

# Misuse of Drugs Crowds Emergency Rooms

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Some 700,000 Americans are taken to the hospital each year after ingesting drugs, both legal and illegal, a new study reports. And the care costs nearly \$1.4 billion in emergency room charges alone.

The study, published in the March issue of *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine*, was based on data from the 2007 Nationwide Emergency Department Sample, a government database that includes information on 27 million visits to 970 emergency rooms in 27 states.

Children younger than 6 had a higher rate of emergency visits for accidental drug poisoning than any other age group, but most of the visits were precautionary, said the study's lead author, Dr. Gary Smith, director of the Center for Injury Research and Policy at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio: the children did not ingest toxic levels of medication.

Drug-related poisonings are increasingly a rural epidemic: measured against population, the rate in rural areas was three times that of other areas.

Injuries from misuse of drugs have been increasing for the past decade. A growing number involve prescription drugs, especially opioid painkillers like methadone, oxycodone and hydrocodone, which Dr. Smith says are being prescribed in record numbers.

In 2007, the year covered by the reports, antidepressants and pain medications were responsible for 44 percent of emergency room visits for drug-related poisonings.

## **Dr. Bob's comments:**

**Unfortunately, many people have the concept in mind that if one pill is good at helping the cause then two pills must be better. This could not be farther from the truth. In desperate times people seek desperate measures. It is too bad that our society does not put forth the effort to get away from "crisis care" versus preventative care.**

**Take for example your Winter Pothole formation on major roads. What tends to happen is after a few alignments and flat tires are fixed followed by enough complaints does the "Crisis care road crew" go out and take care of the pothole. Meanwhile, lawsuits are mounting against your small town as to whom is responsible for paying for their damages to their vehicle. Spring nears, and all of a sudden the once poor town has enough funding to correct the problem and repave the entire road.**

**Your spinal health is very much the same way. With all the misalignments that occur from activities of daily living put physical, emotional and chemical stressors on the body. These suppress the body's ability to function optimally. Seeing a chiropractor to reduce and remove such misalignments in the body will reduce the need for drugs (Poisons made in a lab). This will allow your body to do its own innate sense of healing--- naturally.**

IF you find these comments offensive....That was not my intention. However, "Great Spirits have always experienced violent opposition from mediocre minds" –Albert Einstein