

Information Leaflet

Study title: Toxicosurveillance of Exposure to Laundry/Dishwasher Detergent Products – A 24 Month Prospective Study

Principal investigator's name:	Dr. Edel Duggan
Principal investigator's title:	Director, National Poisons Information Centre
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Co-investigator's name:	Feargal O' Connor
Co-investigator's title:	Specialist in Poison Information

You are being invited to take part in a study to be carried out at Beaumont Hospital.

Before you decide whether or not you wish to take part, you should consider the following information carefully. Take time to ask questions – don't feel rushed and don't feel under pressure to make a quick decision.

You should clearly understand the risks and benefits of taking part in this study so that you can make a decision that is right for you. This process is known as 'Informed Consent'.

You don't have to take part in this study. If you decide not to take part it won't affect you/your child's future medical care.

You can change your mind about taking part at any time. If you decide not to take part, rest assured it won't affect the quality of treatment you/your child will get in the future.

Why is this study being done?

Laundry and dishwasher detergents are common household products. They are sold in liquid or solid form and more recently as single use capsules or tablets. Following reports of accidental exposures to these products, this study aims to understand how and why these accidents occur. The results will be used to help prevent similar accidents occurring in the future.

Who is organising and funding this study?

The NPIC is organising the study which is being funded by Procter & Gamble. Procter & Gamble is a multinational manufacture of product ranges including personal care, household cleaning, laundry & dishwasher detergents, prescription drugs and

disposable nappies. Their laundry & dishwasher detergent brands include Fairy™ Ariel™ & Daz™.

Why am I being asked to take part?

You are being asked to take part in the study because you/your child have been exposed to a laundry/dishwasher detergent and advice on this exposure was sought from the NPIC.

What will happen to me if I agree to take part?

If you consent to take part, you will be invited to answer a telephone questionnaire which should take 10-15 minutes of your time. You will be asked questions about the product involved, the circumstances of the accident, if symptoms developed, if you/your child needed to be seen by a doctor and what the outcome was. You can refuse to take part in the study at any time.

What are the benefits?

There are no benefits for you/your child if you agree to take part in this study. However, we hope this study will help us to understand the circumstances surrounding accidental exposures to laundry/dishwasher detergents and help prevent accidents occurring in the future.

What are the risks?

There are no risks for you/your child if you agree to take part in this study.

What if something goes wrong when I'm taking part in this study?

The staff of the NPIC answer calls every day concerning children and adults who have been accidentally exposed to household products. If you get upset during the telephone questionnaire, the person calling you will be sympathetic and assure you that you can decide not to continue, if you do not wish to. If you have any complaints about the study, you can talk to the Director of the NPIC on (01) 809 2772 or the Patient Representative in Beaumont Hospital on (01) 809 3234.

Will it cost me anything to take part?

There are no costs involved.

Is the study confidential?

You/your child's personal details and the information about the circumstances surrounding the exposure to the laundry/dishwasher detergent will be 'coded'. This means that the researchers will remove all personal details from the information they collect and thus ensure that your/your child's information will remain private and confidential.

Where can I get further information?

If you have any queries about this study or this information leaflet, please telephone Feargal/Patricia in the NPIC on (01) 809 2166 (7 days 8am-10pm).