



Nicotine Fact Sheet

Nicotine is found in cigars, cigarettes, cigarette butts, chewing tobacco (including spit from chewing tobacco) and nicotine gum or patches. Nicotine is a poison. Symptoms have been seen in children who have chewed as little as one-half piece of nicotine gum or bitten into one nicotine patch. Eating one or more cigarettes, three or more cigarette butts or more than one pinch of snuff is considered potentially toxic or poisonous to children. Infants are especially sensitive to nicotine.

Symptoms usually begin within 30 to 90 minutes. If in liquid form (for example, the spit from a chewing tobacco user) or gum form, symptoms may appear as soon as 15 to 30 minutes.

Dizziness, nausea or vomiting, stomach pain, weakness and increased drooling are symptoms of nicotine poisoning. Children can suffer abnormal blood pressure or heartbeat, slowed or interrupted breathing, general sluggishness, seizures and coma. Cats and dogs will show the same effects as children when exposed.

If you suspect nicotine poisoning:

- Do not wait for symptoms to appear
- Do not make the person throw up or vomit
- Do not give the person anything to eat or drink
- Call the Oklahoma Poison Control Center right away



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**For other questions or for more information, please call the
Oklahoma Poison Control Center
1-800-222-1222
OKC Area (405) 271-5454
www.oklahomapoison.org**