

Global Awareness-raising Campaign on Laundry Detergent Capsules/packets

16-23 March 2015

#LaundrySafe



SAFETY ALERT

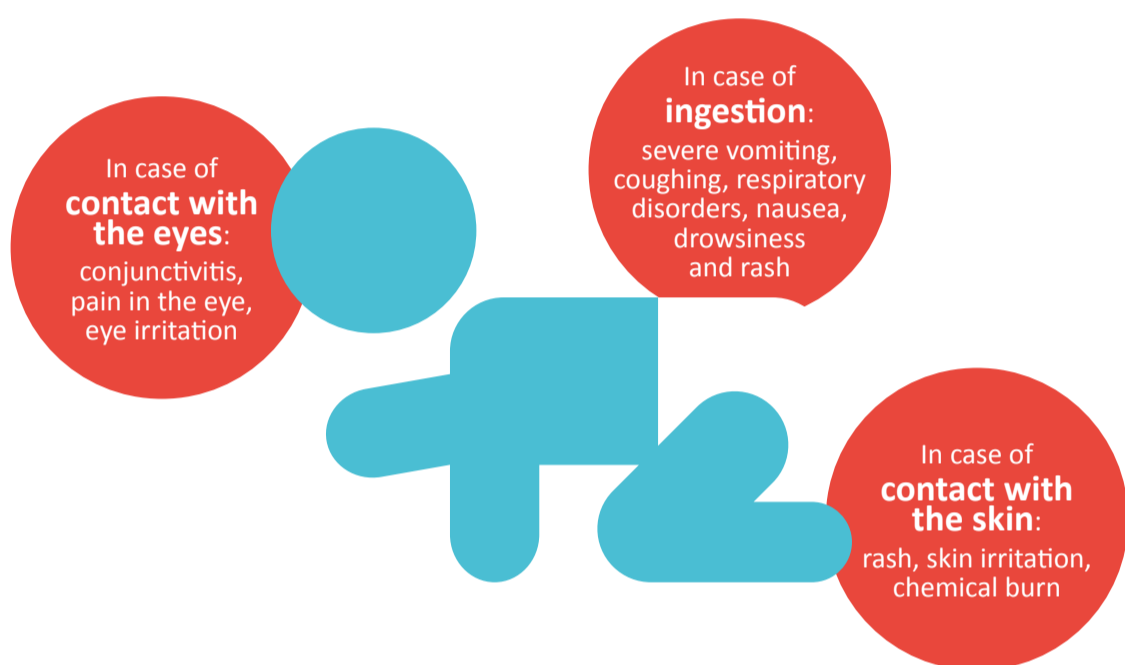


Over 16 000* cases of people (mostly children) exposed to chemicals contained in the laundry capsules/packets on a yearly basis globally

Laundry detergent liquid capsules/packets are designed to contain concentrated detergent for single use. The content of the capsules, protected by a membrane, is released once it comes in contact with the moisture during a washing. Yet, laundry detergent liquid capsules/packets are small, tactile and often colourful, which makes them

attractive to children, especially toddlers, who are tempted to put them in the mouth or play with them. A laundry liquid capsule can burst in a child's hand, especially when it is wet or moist. It can also rapidly dissolve with moisture and may burst in a child's mouth in as little as ten seconds, which can cause severe injuries.

WHAT MAY HAPPEN



SAFETY MESSAGES FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

SAFE STORAGE



Store these products up high, out of reach and out of sight of children



If stored in lower accessible cabinets/cupboards, these should be secured with child resistant locks



Keep the capsules/packets in their original container, fully closed between uses

SAFE USE



Carefully read the labels on the packaging



Do not use the capsules/packets while children are close by and do not allow or invite children to manipulate them



Never pierce or break laundry capsules/packets



Do not leave the capsules/packets outside their container



Close the container lid properly after every use

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF EXPOSURE



If the capsule/packet is put in the mouth, rinse the child's mouth and face thoroughly



Do NOT induce vomiting



If a child has capsule liquid close to eyes or on hands, rinse carefully with plenty of water



Call a doctor, or a Poison Control Centre or go to the medical emergency department

GLOBAL CAMPAIGN



*Aggregated number of exposures to chemicals contained in laundry detergent capsules registered in the most recent year of data available (2012 or 2013 or 2014) in the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Latvia, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, United Kingdom and United States.