

## Background

- The literature reports differences between exposures to Tide™ and All™ and Purex™ brands of unit dose laundry detergent pods reported to poison centers.
- In January 2014, a poison center system noticed the appearance of a new brand of laundry detergent pod, Gain Flings™, that quickly surpassed All™ and Purex™, but not Tide™, pods in number of exposures.

## Objective

- Research Question: This study sought to determine whether there were differences between Gain and Tide laundry detergent pod exposures reported to poison centers.

## Methods

- Cases were all Gain™ and Tide™ laundry detergent pod exposures reported to a state-wide poison center system during January–October 2014 where the patient was age 5 years or less.
- The distribution of these exposures was determined for selected variables and comparisons made between the two brands.

## Results

- Of 1,076 exposures, 667 (62.0 %) involved Tide™, 184 (17.1 %) Gain™, 95 (8.8 %) All™, 25 (2.3 %) Purex™, and 105 (9.8 %) other/unknown brands.
- 43.5 % of the Gain™ and 34.9 % of the Tide™ patients were 1 year old and 27.2 % of Gain™ and 31.9% of Tide™ patients 2 years old;
- 48.9% of Gain™ and 53.2% of Tide™ patients were male.
- The most common exposure routes were ingestion (87.5 % Gain™, 91.2 % Tide™), ocular (13.6 % Gain™, 12.6 % Tide™), and dermal (10.9 % Gain™, 7.6 % Tide™).
- The management site was on-site (not healthcare facility) (59.8 % Gain™, 56.4 % Tide™), at/en route to healthcare facility (27.7 % Gain™, 30.3 % Tide™), and referred to healthcare facility (12.5 % Gain™, 12.1 % Tide™).
- 9.8 % of Gain™ and 9.8% of Tide™ exposures had serious outcomes (moderate or major effect, unable to follow-potentially toxic).
- The most common clinical effects were vomiting (48.4 % Gain™, 42.3 % Tide™), cough (13.0 % Gain™, 11.4 % Tide™), ocular irritation (9.8 % Gain™, 9.4 % Tide™), red eye (7.6 % Gain™, 6.0 % Tide™), drowsiness (7.1 % Gain™, 4.3 % Tide™), and nausea (6.5 % Gain™, 3.6 % Tide™).

## Conclusions

- Gain™ and Tide™ laundry pod exposures differed by patient age and gender and route.
- The most common clinical effects were more frequently reported among Gain™ exposures.
- In spite of these differences, the management site and medical outcome of Gain™ and Tide™ exposures were similar.

