

Table 2

Summary of data (1997–2007) from the National Poison Data System (NPDS), Poison Control Centers in the USA (data source: Bronstein et al., 2008).

Year	No. of reports	Outcomes				
		None	Minor	Moderate	Major	Death
1997	2,482,041	15,800	3,567	341	23	0
1998	2,241,082	15,636	3,257	292	14	0
1999	2,201,156	13,494	2,779	269	26	2
2000	2,168,248	12,649	3,023	439	55	0
2001	2,267,979	12,520	2,972	447	59	0
2002	2,380,028	12,314	3,220	518	64	2
2003	2,395,582	13,112	3,132	608	63	4
2004	2,438,644	14,199	3,453	566	53	3
2005	2,424,180	13,654	3,186	540	73	1
2006	2,403,539	11,302	2,441	258	7	1
2007	2,482,041	11,496	2,400	267	17	1
Total	25,884,520	146,176	33,430	4,545	454	14
Frequency		5.6×10^{-3}	1.3×10^{-3}	1.8×10^{-4}	1.7×10^{-5}	5×10^{-7}

Notes: In 1999, one death (34-yo) involving vitamins and iron was intentional suicide, and the other (17-yo) was intentional suicide with acetaminophen (paracetamol), multivitamins and iron. Similarly, in 2002 and 2003, none of the deaths reported were “probably or undoubtedly” caused by vitamins, although vitamins were taken concurrently. In 2004, only one of the 3 deaths was listed as “probably or undoubtedly” caused by vitamins, this was an intended suicide, also involving multivitamins with iron. For the death in 2006, vitamins were “probably not responsible”. In 2007, the death of a sick 71-yo, treated in hospital with parenteral vitamin K in addition to drugs, the vitamin was described as “contributory”.