

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

Isn't It Time For Drug Manufacturers To Start Making Drugs Less Attractive For Children To Avoid Chances Of Overdose?

*Posted by **Jonathan Rosenfeld** on January 28, 2011*

On December 14, 2010, the FDA issued a [press release](#) regarding younger children mistaking Tessalon liquid cough capsules for candy. Younger children have been known to be attracted to the round, liquid-filled capsules that resemble popular candies such as Lemonheads or Skittles.

Though the FDA has approved the use of Tessalon (benzonatate) in children over 10-years-old, the regulatory agency specifically warns against use in younger children because the risk of overdose of benzonatate which may result in cardiac arrest, convulsion, coma--- or even death.

According to the FDA's Adverse Event Reporting System database, five children under two have died shortly after taking just one or two Tessalon capsules.

In addition to adding a new warning and precaution section to the benzonatate drug label, the FDA suggests parents keep Tessalon in a child-resistant package and out of the reach of children.

Jonathan Rosenfeld offers legal services relating to: birth injuries, medical malpractice, day care abuse, foster care abuse, swimming pool injuries, automobile accidents, school bus accidents, dog bites, food poisoning, product liability, amusement park accidents and clergy abuse. For more information please visit Child Injury Laws Blog (<http://www.childinjurylaws.com/>) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757. (www.rosenfeldinjurylawyers.com.)

Adverse side-effects and medication errors can be reported to the FDA's MedWatch Adverse Event Reporting program [here](#) or by calling (800) 332-1088.

As a child injury lawyer, I hope that drug manufacturers acknowledge the threat to child safety when products are attractively designed or closely mimic popular candies. Certainly, these drugs could be designed differently?

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