

*For more information...*

**Telephone:**

- The Indiana State Department of Health,  
1-317-233-1325
- Indiana Poison Control Center, toll free  
1-800-382-9097
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention,  
Atlanta, Georgia, toll free  
1-800-311-3435

**Internet:**

- Indiana State Department of Health  
<http://statehealth.in.gov/bioterrorism>
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
<http://www.cdc.gov/bt/ricin>

Indiana State Department of Health  
2 North Meridian Street  
Indianapolis, IN 46204



The poster features a yellow outline of the state of Indiana in the top left corner. To its right, the text "Public Health Information" is written in bold black font. Below this, the word "RICIN" is displayed in very large, bold, white capital letters with a black drop shadow. The background is a light green color with a pattern of small, darker green and blue speckles. At the bottom, there are logos for the Indiana State Department of Health and the CDC, along with text indicating the source of the information.



Indiana State  
Department of Health



*Prepared by the Indiana State Department of Health  
from information provided by the  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*

## Ricin is a poison

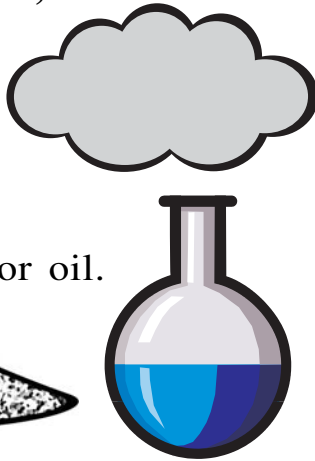


**Ricin poisoning is a deliberate act.**

- Ricin occurs naturally only in very small amounts.
- Someone must work to get enough to poison people.
- Accidentally getting poisoned is very unlikely.

**It can be a powder, pellet, mist, or liquid.**

- It is made from the waste from making castor oil.



**It works by keeping the body from making proteins.**

- Cells die.
- Organs stop working.
- A person can die.

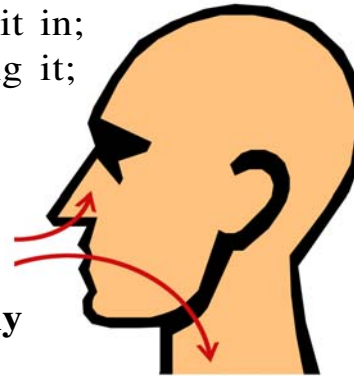
Ricin poisoning does not spread from person to person.

**Ricin can get into the body by**

- breathing it in;
- swallowing it;
- having it injected.

**If ricin is breathed in, there will likely be**

- coughing, difficulty breathing, and nausea within a few hours;
- more difficulty breathing, and blue skin, within the next few hours.



**If poisoning occurs by swallowing ricin, there could be**

- vomiting and bloody diarrhea within a few hours;
- seizures and blood in the urine.

Doctors treat the symptoms of ricin poisoning

**People might receive such care as**

- help with breathing;
- medicines to reduce swelling;
- liquids to replace what is lost.

**There is no**

- easy, widely-used test for ricin poisoning;
- vaccine to prevent poisoning;
- antidote to stop the effects.

**If you are where ricin is released**

- get to fresh air, or stay where the air is fresh;
- remove your clothing;
- wash all over with soap and water.