

Public's Guide to Pesticide-Related Illness and Injury



IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS YOU BELIEVE WERE CAUSED BY EXPOSURE TO PESTICIDES (INCLUDING HOUSEHOLD DISINFECTANTS AND SANITIZERS):

- ◆ For emergencies or serious illness, call 911 for help;
- ◆ Have someone take you to a doctor or hospital or call the California Poison Control System at 1-800-222-1222; *
- ◆ Have the pesticide label or container, MSDS (Material Safety Data Sheet), or name of the pesticide with you;
- ◆ Remove any pesticides from your skin by removing contaminated clothing and showering; and
- ◆ Remind your health care provider to report the illness or injury to their local health department.

WHAT SHOULD YOU LOOK FOR IF YOU THINK YOU HAVE A PESTICIDE-RELATED ILLNESS OR INJURY?

- ◆ Mild symptoms: headache, rash, flu-like symptoms, eye irritation or redness.
- ◆ More severe symptoms: difficulty breathing, burns or blistering, shaking, tremors, blurred vision, eye injuries.

WHO IS AT RISK?

- ◆ Workers involved in mixing, loading, * applying pesticides; pesticide production and reformulation. Field workers re-entering treated fields without proper protection. *
- ◆ Persons improperly or frequently using * pesticides at home. *
- ◆ Children at home where pesticides are * used or stored improperly. Persons exposed * to off-site pesticide drift. *

WHY SEEK MEDICAL ATTENTION?

- ◆ Health care providers can provide * more effective treatment if they know you work with pesticides or have used pesticides recently *
- ◆ When providers report the illnesses, the information helps county and state officials * identify problem pesticides and use * violations and improve workplace safety. *

CONFIDENTIALITY:

Your personal health information will remain confidential.

For additional pesticide information call the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment at (916) 327-7319 or the Department of Pesticide Regulation at (916) 445-4222.