

A GUIDE TO PESTICIDE-RELATED ILLNESS AND INJURY

IF YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS

you believe were caused by exposure to pesticides

(including household
disinfectants
and sanitizers)

Who is at risk?

- **Workers who mix, load, apply, handle** pesticides or clean pesticide equipment or involved in pesticide production or reformulation.
- **Workers 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 pesticide **drift**

What should you do?

- **Call 911** for emergencies or serious illnesses
- Have someone take you to a doctor or hospital or call the California Poison Control System at **1-800-411-8080**
- Locate the pesticide label on the container, Safety Data Sheet (SDS, formerly MSDS) or name of pesticide, if possible, to inform responders
- Remove any pesticides from your skin by **removing contaminated clothing** and showering
- 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, vomiting, diarrhea

Why seek medical attention?

- Health-care providers can prescribe effective treatments that reduce or even reverse the harmful effects of the pesticides
- When healthcare 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**



**Office of Environmental Health
Hazard Assessment**

Pesticide and Environmental
Toxicology Branch
California Environmental
Protection Agency