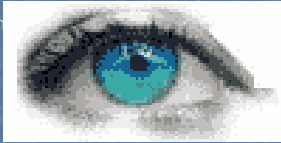


What To Do If There Is A Suspected Pesticide Poisoning

General Symptoms

- Severe or acute poisoning
 - Fever, intense thirst
 - Increased rate of breathing
 - Vomiting
 - Uncontrollable muscle twitching
 - Pinpoint pupils
 - Convulsions
 - Inability to breath
 - unconsciousness



Call First

- In any poisoning emergency your first step is to call an ambulance
 - The only exception is when you are all alone with the victim
 - Then you must see that he/she is breathing and that he/she is not further exposed before you make your phone call
- Always save the pesticide and label (and MSDS) for the doctor

While You Are Waiting

- Remove pesticide from patient
- Drench skin and clothing with water (shower, hose, faucet, pond)
- Remove clothing
- Cleanse skin and hair thoroughly with soap and water
 - Detergents and commercial cleansers are better than soap.
- Dry and wrap in a blanket

- Do not allow any pesticide to get on you while you are helping the victim
- Do not become a victim yourself
 - If you become incapacitated, you will only make the situation worse!

Chemical Burns of the Skin



- Wash with large quantities of slow running water
- Remove contaminated clothing
- Immediately cover loosely with a clean, soft cloth
- Avoid use of ointments, greases, powders, and other drugs in first aid treatment of burns



Poison in the Eye

- It is important to wash the eye out quickly but as gently as possible
- Hold eyelids open and wash eye with a gentle stream of clean running water



Continue washing for fifteen minutes or more. It is important to use a large volume of water

Inhaled Poisons (Dusts, Vapors, Gases)

- If victim is in an enclosed space, do not go in after him unless you are wearing an air-supplied respirator
- Carry Patient (do not let him/her walk) to fresh air immediately
- Open all doors and windows
- Loosen all tight clothing

- Apply artificial respiration if breathing has stopped or is irregular
 - Use 1-way mouth piece
- Keep victim as quiet as possible
- If victim is convulsing, watch his/her breathing
 - Protect from falling and striking head
- Keep his/her chin up so air passage will remain free for breathing.



Swallowed Poisons

- The most important choice you have to make when aiding a person who has swallowed a pesticide, is whether or not to induce vomiting
- The decision must be made quickly and accurately; the victim's life may depend on it
- Usually it is best to get rid of the swallowed poison fast...but...
- When should you make the victim vomit?

- Never induce vomiting if the victim is unconscious or is having convulsions
 - The victim could choke to death on the vomit
- Never induce vomiting if the victim has swallowed a corrosive poison
 - Find out what poison the person had ingested
 - A corrosive poison is strong acid or alkali. The victim will complain of severe pain and will show signs of severe mouth and throat burns

- Never induce vomiting if the person has swallowed petroleum products such as kerosene, gasoline, oil, or lighter fluid
- Most pesticides which come in liquid formulations are dissolved in petroleum products.

Poison Control Center

- Have the number of the nearest poison control center posted right by the phone

Poison Control Center -NH

1-800-222-1222

How to Induce Vomiting

- Do not waste a lot of time inducing vomiting
- Make sure the victim is lying down or kneeling forward or on his/her side while retching or vomiting
- Do not let patient lie on his/her back!

- Give patient large doses water
 - 0-5 years -1 to 2cups
 - 1 cup -quart for victims five years+
- If victim is alert and respiration is not depressed, *and vomiting is warranted* give syrup of ipecac* followed by one to two glasses of water to induce vomiting
 - Activity hastens the effect of the syrup of ipecac
- Collect vomit sample for chemical tests



Dilute Poison

- Dilute the poison as quickly as possible with water
- Get to the hospital without delay!



So, While You Are Waiting For An Ambulance

- Call poison control and/or hospital
- If the poison control center agrees, use activated charcoal as a "sponge" to absorb excess poisons
 - Follow the instructions for corrosive or non-corrosive poisons are followed
- Activated charcoal absorbs many poisons at a high rate
 - Mix it with water into a thick syrup for the victim to drink. Activated charcoal is available from a drug store

What About Atropine?

- Atropine tablets should not be taken in a poisoning emergency
 - The dose is much too small
 - Often the victim cannot or should not take oral medicine.
- **WARNING:** Atropine can be poisonous if misused
 - It should never be used to prevent poisoning
 - Workers should not carry atropine for first aid purposes
 - It should be given only under a doctor's directions

- And be sure to take a the label and MSDS with you
 - They contain important information health care providers will need

- A small plastic bottle of detergent
- Activated Charcoal
- A Shaped Plastic airway for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation
- At least one quart of Clean Water
- Band aids, bandages, and tape
- Blanket
- Coins (calling card) taped to the inside cover for an emergency phone call
- A small, plastic empty jar with a tight fitting lid
 - Use as a drinking glass for the victim to induce vomiting or feed activated charcoal
 - It can also be used for collecting vomit to take to the doctor