



Reporting Acute Pesticide Exposure

- All health care providers, hospitals, clinics and lab directors are required by law to report work-related pesticide exposures to the New Mexico Occupational Health Registry (Occupational Illness and Injury, 7.4.3 Notifiable Conditions in New Mexico - NMAC),
- New Mexico Poison and Drug Information Center, state agencies, regional health departments, and individuals also report to NMOHR.

The occupational illness and injury report form can be downloaded from our web page

<http://www.health.state.nm.us/eheb/occu.html>

New Mexico Occupational
Health Registry
New Mexico Department of Health
(505) 841-5894
(505) 841-5895 5958 fax



THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO ♦ HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



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New Mexico Occupational Health Registry



Reporting Pesticide Illness and Injury of Workers

Why do physicians fail to report pesticide exposure?

- Unaware of reporting law and how to report
- Non-specific illnesses make it difficult to make an accurate diagnosis
- Not thinking of pesticides or chemicals

Why do workers fail to report pesticide exposure?

- May not think they are sick enough to seek care
- Cannot afford health care
- Afraid of being fired if their employer finds out
- Not thinking of pesticides and chemicals



What information does NMOHR need?

- Exposed worker's name, address, phone number, birth date, race or ethnicity, and diagnosis
- Lab results (e.g. cholinesterase tests)
- Dates of exposure, doctor visit
- Occupation and employer information

How are the data and information used?

- Reported information is confidential
- Continual surveillance allows us to identify poisoning incidents, provide assistance, and make recommendations to prevent and control future exposures
- Data help us understand and describe the extent of pesticide poisoning in New Mexico

- Information is used to develop targeted education and prevention materials and to provide appropriate pesticide exposure prevention training

Workers at risk for pesticide and chemical exposure

- Ground pesticide applicators
- Nursery workers
- Farmers, poultry farmers and ranchers
- Harvesters or field workers
- Aerial applicators
- Exterminators
- Warehouse workers who handle pesticide
- Workers who work with arsenic- and creosote-treated wood
- Police and firefighters

Taking an occupational history

- What kind of work do you do?
¿Qué clase de trabajo hace usted?
- Are pesticides or chemicals being used at home or work?
¿Se usan pesticidas o productos químicos en su casa o en su trabajo?
- Do you get sick or dizzy after or while you are working?
¿Se siente usted enfermo o mareado mientras trabaja o después de terminar su trabajo?
- Do you feel more or less sick when you are at work?
¿Se siente usted más o menos enfermo cuando está trabajando?
- Have you been exposed to pesticides, chemicals or solvents before?
¿Ha sido usted expuesto en el pasado a pesticidas, productos químicos o solventes?

Symptoms of a Pesticide Exposure



- Gastrointestinal *Problemas gastrointestinales*
- Pinpoint pupils *Pupilas resaltadas*
- Watery eyes *Ojos llorosos*
- Runny nose *Gotea la nariz, moquear*
- Excessive salivation *Secreción excesiva de saliva*
- Excessive sweating *Sudor excesivo, Traspiración excesiva*
- Tingling/Numbness *Cosquilleo/Sensación adormecedora*
- Dizziness *Mareo, vértigo*
- Dermal (skin) irritation *Irritación dermatológica*
- Respiratory *Problemas respiratorios*

