

TITLE: PERC-med: The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative for Medical Professionals

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STUDENT SUBMISSION: No

TOPIC/TARGET AUDIENCE: Topic = Providing education for health care providers on pesticide-related illnesses and injury. Target Audience = medical providers and other allied health professionals

ABSTRACT: Background: The magnitude of pesticide use, and the settings of pesticide application, is under-recognized by many medical care providers and public health professionals. Bug repellents, weed killers, pet flea collars, antimicrobial wipes, and bathroom mold removers are all pesticides. Pesticide-related education isn't routinely included in medical training despite pesticide-related illnesses being a reportable condition in many states, including Oregon. Symptoms of pesticide-related illness and injury vary and depend on the active ingredient, exposure route, quantity, duration, and patient health status. Pesticide poisoning symptoms are similar to and can be confused with other illnesses such as flu, food poisoning, heat illness or hangovers. Purpose: The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative - medical (PERC-med) aims to help medical professionals prevent, recognize and treat pesticide-related illnesses. Methods: PERC-med addresses the pesticide knowledge gap through continuing education, distance learning training opportunities, and technical assistance. Outcomes: Evaluation data will be collected from PERC-med education and training participants and analyzed for changes in knowledge. Implications: Public health implications include decreasing pesticide-related illnesses and improving public health surveillance.

OBJECTIVE(S): 1. Define pesticides

2. Identify medical care provider reporting requirements in Oregon for pesticide-related illness

3. Explain what resources are available to medical care providers for pesticide-related poisonings and illnesses
