

FARM NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Doc.No. **2.11**

Title: **First Aid for Pesticide Poisoning\***

Effective Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Reviewed by: \_\_\_\_\_ GAP Coordinator, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First aid is the initial effort to help a victim while medical help is on the way.

1. If you are alone with the victim, make sure the victim is breathing and is not being further exposed to the pesticide before you call for emergency help.
2. Apply artificial respiration if the victim is not breathing.
3. Do not become exposed to the pesticide yourself while you are trying to help.
4. Look at the pesticide labeling. It gives specific instructions. Follow those instructions carefully.
5. Pesticide on skin:
  - a. Drench skin and clothing with plenty of water. Any source of relatively clean water will work. If possible, immerse the person in a pond, creek, or other body of water. Even water in ditches or irrigation systems will do, unless you think they may have pesticides in them.
  - b. Remove personal protective equipment and contaminated clothing.
  - c. Wash skin and hair thoroughly with a mild liquid detergent and water. If one is available, a shower is the best way to completely and thoroughly wash and rinse the entire body surface.
  - d. Dry victim and wrap in blanket or any clean clothing at hand. Do not allow to become chilled or overheated.
  - e. If skin is burned or otherwise injured, cover immediately with loose, clean, dry, soft cloth or bandage.
  - f. Do not apply ointments, greases, powders, or other drugs in first aid treatment of burns or injured skin.
6. Pesticide in eye:
  - a. Wash eye quickly but gently. Use an eyewash dispenser, if available. Otherwise, hold eyelid open and wash with a gentle drip of clean running water positioned so that it flows across the eye rather than directly into the eye.
  - b. Rinse eye for 15 minutes or more.
  - c. Do not use chemicals or drugs in the rinse water. They may increase the injury.
7. Inhaled pesticide:
  - a. Get victim to fresh air immediately.
  - b. If other people are in or near the area, warn them of the danger.
  - c. Loosen tight clothing on victim that would constrict breathing.
  - d. Apply artificial respiration if breathing has stopped or if the victim's skin is blue. If pesticide or vomit is on the victim's mouth or face, avoid direct contact and use a shaped airway tube, if available, for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
8. Pesticide in mouth or swallowed:
  - a. Rinse mouth with plenty of water.
  - b. Give victim large amounts (up to 1 quart) of milk or water to drink.
  - c. Induce vomiting only if instructions to do so are on the labeling.
9. Procedure for inducing vomiting:
  - a. Position victim face down or kneeling forward. Do not allow victim to lie on his back, because the vomit could enter the lungs and do additional damage.

## Standard Operating Procedure

- b. Put finger or the blunt end of a spoon at the back of victim's throat or give syrup of ipecac. Do not use salt solutions to induce vomiting.
10. Do not induce vomiting:
- a. If the victim is unconscious or is having convulsions.
  - b. If the victim has swallowed a corrosive poison. A corrosive poison is a strong acid or alkali. It will burn the throat and mouth as severely coming up as it did going down. It may get into the lungs and burn there also.
  - c. If the victim has swallowed an EC or oil solution. EC and oil solutions may cause death if inhaled during vomiting.

\* University of Kentucky publication