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PROVIDER ALERT: Pesticide Illness Reporting

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Background

The Santa Barbara County Public Health Department and the Santa Barbara County Agriculture/Weights & Measures Department would like to remind healthcare providers of the need to report suspected cases of pesticide illness or injury. This includes illness or injury resulting from exposure to over-the-counter products used at home (bleach, flea bombs, disinfectants, pool chemicals, plant sprays, fumigants) as well as occupational exposures.

The California Health & Safety Code section 105200 states “any physician...who knows, or has reasonable cause to believe, that a patient is suffering from pesticide poisoning or any disease or condition caused by a pesticide shall promptly report that fact to the local Health Officer....” Physician reporting of pesticide-related illness and injury has been mandatory since 1971.

How to Report

Suspected cases of pesticide-related illness or injury should be reported to the Public Health Department within 24 hours via the CalREDIE Provider Portal. Select “Pesticide Illness” from the disease dropdown list and enter patient information.

What Happens After a CalREDIE Report is Submitted?

All reported pesticide-related illnesses and injuries are investigated by the County Agricultural Commissioner along with technical assistance and oversight by the Department of Pesticide Regulation. If a law has been broken and people are made ill as a result, the Agricultural Commissioner takes enforcement action.

Resources

For questions specific to pesticide illness reporting, please contact Pesticides.CalREDIE@oehha.ca.gov.

For CalREDIE Provider Portal questions, please call (805) 681-5280.

Thank you for your partnership in keeping our community safe and healthy.