

TITLE

Update of the Development of the Integrated Web-Based Pesticide Illness Reporting System

KEYWORDS

pesticide, WebCMR, poison control

BACKGROUND

Physician reporting of pesticide-related illnesses within 24 hours of initial examination is a statutory requirement in California. However, case reporting remains seriously underreported and untimely. Complete, timely, and accurate illness reporting is essential for effective environmental health investigation and intervention.

OBJECTIVE(S)

We are improving this system by constructing a Web-based pesticide illness reporting and case management system that is integrated into the Web-based Confidential Morbidity Reporting (WebCMR) program. Through the WebCMR system, a county-by-county deployment of the pesticide illness system begins in May 2005 and is planned for statewide implementation in August.

METHOD(S)

Local health officers, the county agricultural commissioners, and state agencies receive physician illness notifications through the California Hazard Alert Network and may manage the case through the specific pesticide-related illnesses module. Because many cases are reported through the California Poison Control System, they too are integrated into the Web-based pesticide illness reporting system. For results-based management, we include routine summary reports and graphs for timeliness and quality measures.

DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATION(S)

The next enhancement to the system will include field investigation forms, auto-geocoding capability, epidemiologic and survey research instruments, and auto-completion of the Doctor's First Report of Occupational Illness and Injury from the WebPIR data. The third phase to be constructed will integrate training modules for health care providers. We will outline the new surveillance system's capabilities and limitations.

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