

Triad Little Genius

Pesticides and Cancer

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Abstract

Background: Cancer forms where there is growth of uncontrolled cells, developed when the body's normal control mechanism stops working. Instead of death of old cells, they grow out of control. Consuming pesticides can have a result of having cancer. Pesticides are used to protect the crops that grow on our lands.

Aim: To discuss how pesticides are not only harmful for adults but also for children. How Pesticides can cause different kinds of cancer and what we can do to defend ourselves from Cancer.

Methodology: The research is carried from study materials derived from different online resources such as "Cancer Council, Australia, Pesticides Action Network of North America, Cancer Causes & Control by Jan DichShelia Hoar ZahmAnnika Hanberg Hans-Olov Adami. We also took a data analysis of different kinds of pesticides which can cause cancer in human body and also top ten countries that use Pesticides.

Conclusion: Usage of small or large amount of pesticides is dangerous and can cause different kinds of Cancer. We must be careful and limit in using them specially inside the house.

Definition of Pesticides: The term 'pesticides' describes hundreds of synthetic and naturally occurring chemicals (i.e. those produced by plants) designed or naturally produced to deter insects and other agricultural pests, including weeds. The broad term of pesticides includes both herbicides and insecticides. The wide-ranging variety of synthetic and naturally occurring chemical pesticides makes it difficult to accurately assess their potential to cause cancer in humans. The term pesticides off course excludes fertilizers, plant and animal nutrients, food additives, and animal drugs (1)

Different kinds of Pesticides

Algaecides

They are used for killing and/or slowing the growth of algae.

Ovicides

They are used to control eggs of insects and mites.

Repellents

They are designed to repel unwanted pests, often by taste or smell.

Plant Growth Regulators

They are used to alter the growth of plants. For example, they may induce or delay flowering.

Mothballs

They are insecticides used to kill fabric pests by fumigation in sealed containers.

Different kinds of Pesticides

Disinfectants	They control germs and microbes such as bacteria and viruses.
Fungicides	They are used to control fungal problems like molds, mildew, and rust.
Herbicides	They kill or inhibit the growth of unwanted plants, aka weeds.
Desiccants	They are used to dry up living plant tissues.
Illegal and Counterfeit Pesticides	They are imported or sold illegally.

Top pesticide using countries per year

1.China	1,806 million kg.
2.United States	386 million kg.
3.Argentina	265 million kg.
4.Thailand	87 million kg.
5.Brazil	76 million kg.
6.Italy	63 million kg.
7.France	62 million kg.
8.Canada	54 million kg.
9.Japan	52 million kg.
10.India	40 million kg.

Pesticides and types of cancer

It is being observed and proved by researchers that relatively low levels of weed killers, indoor bug sprays, and other pesticides can cause cancer and other serious medical problems in children, and possibly adults. A study published in September 2015 found that children exposed to indoor bug sprays and other insecticides are more likely to develop **leukemia or lymphoma, brain cancer, testicular, pancreatic, lung and non-melanoma skin cancers**. Studies of pesticides and childhood cancer show a possible connection with **leukemia and non-Hodgkin lymphoma**.. Even before the latest study, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), warned that children can be harmed by pesticides in their daily life. This can be stopped if parents become more cautious and avoid using pesticides at home and garden. Even though organic food is expensive, it is suggestable to consume them than consuming regular produce.(4)



Conclusion:

Whether its small or large amount of pesticides, it is very harmful to our body. These chemicals can also harm adults, especially after years of exposure. In children they may cause behavior problems, harm children's thinking and memory, and increase their risk of childhood cancers. To help prevent these problems, we must limit our use of pesticides such as bug sprays, weed killers, and other pesticides and herbicides. We should encourage to buy organic fruits and vegetables that would otherwise have a lot of pesticide residue. (5)

References:

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