

Chapter 7

Pesticides and Chronic Neurological Effects (draft)

The brain and peripheral nervous system are directly affected by pesticides both as targets of action and deposition sites. All classes of pesticides can affect brain and neural tissue even if they do not cause observable acute effects. The pesticides that most directly affect the nervous system are the organophosphate and N-methyl carbamate insecticides, which are responsible for most acute poisonings (see Chapter 3).

In addition to acute poisoning, organophosphates can produce subacute, delayed and chronic neurological, neurobehavioural and psychiatric syndromes. Evidence for chronic neurological and psychiatric effects of OP compounds have come from case reports, clusters of neurological diseases and from studies of exposed workers and other populations.

Both high and low level chronic exposures can affect the peripheral nervous system by slowing of conduction velocity, and denervation and other electromyographic findings (Table 1). Vibrotactile sensitivity impairment, and posture abnormalities have also been reported (Table 2).

Central nervous system effects are assessed by batteries of neurobehavioral and neuropsychological tests, which include learning, memory, and mood among others (Tables 3-A and 3-B).

Electroencephalograms are not often done in pesticide exposure. An increase in beta activity slowing has been reported; most findings are of small changes or no associations (Table 4).

Psychological and neurological effects of pesticides may be subtle and difficult to demonstrate unless a comprehensive set of test are done. This is usually not the case because of time constrains, and an effort to develop a test battery that can be used through out the world, in both literate and non-literate populations, so diverse population can be compared.

Chronic neurological sequelae have been reported after apparent full recovery from acute organophosphate poisoning.

Parkinson's Disease: The chronic disease most consistently associated with pesticides is Parkinson's disease. Parkinson's disease is one of the most common neurodegenerative disorders associated with aging. It is characterized by a loss of the neurotransmitter dopamine in the substantia nigra, in the part of the brain that controls movement. First described in 1871, the cause of the disease. is still unknown.

Laboratory studies show exposure to a wide variety of neurotoxic compounds, including pesticides, can deplete dopamine in the brain in a variety of animals.

The first studies to link pesticides with agricultural production were done in Canada, suggesting an association with living in rural areas and drinking well water. More recent studies confirm an association with pesticide exposure, both occupational and in the home (Table 6).

Chronic Neurological Effects Associated with Pesticide Exposure	
Nerve Conduction Velocity	Slowing
Reaction Time	Slowing
Motor/visual speed tests	Slowing
Learning / memory tasks	Poorer performance
Vibrotactile Sensitivity	Impaired
Postural Sway	Abnormal
Electroencephalogram	Increased beta activity
Visual Evoked Potentials	Decreased amplitude
Muscle strength	Decreased

Parkinson's Disease Incidence / 100,000 Ferrara, Italy 1967-1987	
Urban areas	3.11
Rural Areas	6.32
Agric. workers	20.6

Source: Reference 91

Organophosphate Induced Delayed Neuropathy (OPIDN)

In severe cases of poisoning by some organophosphate, after a delay period of apparent recovery, muscle weakness, ataxia, and paralysis develop. This condition called organophosphate induced delayed neuropathy (OPIDN) is characterized by axon degeneration and degeneration of myelin in the peripheral and central nervous systems. Mild cases may recover, but more severe cases show symptoms of an upper motor neuron lesion in the lower limbs. The condition is rare, and most cases are due to suicidal ingestion of concentrated formulations (Table 7).

The delayed neurotoxic action is not related cholinesterase inhibition, but to the binding (phosphorylation) of a specific enzyme in the nervous tissue called neurotoxic-esterase. The cause is still not known.

Ginger Jake: The capacity to produce delayed neurotoxicity is widespread among OP esters. The first cases of OPIDN in the U.S. were seen during the prohibition era before organophosphate insecticides came on the market.

Triorthocresylphosphate (TOCP), an industrial degreaser which causes demyelination and paralysis when ingested was used as an adulterant in an alcoholic extract of Jamaican ginger. Thousands of people who drank 'Ginger Jake' during prohibition developed paresthesia of the feet and aching of the calves in about 12 days, followed two to three days later by ataxia, and paralysis.^{1,2,3}

Pesticides* Linked to OPIDN
Chlorpyrifos
Dichlorvos (DDVP)
Fenthion
Fenitrothion
Leptophos
Malathion
Methamidophos
Mipafox
Trichlorfon
Trichloronate
TOCP*

* Not a pesticide (see text)

Other Neurological Diseases Possibly Associated with Pesticide Exposure

- Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis
- Eye Disorders
- Guillain Barre Syndrome
- Movement Disorders
- Multiple System Atrophy
- Psychiatric Disorders
- Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy

Other Disease: There are few epidemiological studies of pesticide exposure and other neurological diseases. A study in Canada found no association with Alzheimer's disease. There are case reports of pesticide exposure associated with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, eye disorders, Guillain Barre syndrome, movement disorders, multiple system atrophy, reflex sympathetic dystrophy, and several reports of psychiatric disorders (see Table 5).

Table 1
Nerve Conduction Velocity - Occupational Exposure
(See Appendix F for explanation of table)

Bulgaria OP ^(a) .sprayers - median ⁴	Incr. ampl. sig	Sensory during spray season	Decr. p <.01
Peroneal velocity	Decreased	Netherlands flower growers 20 y median motor ¹⁹	-1.1 m/sec
England sensory deficits, mainly small fibers ⁵		Median sensory decrease	-1.4 m/sec
Egypt Zn phos EMG part. denerv. ant tibial ⁶	35%	Sural sensory decrease	-0.9 m/sec
Part. denerv. flexor digiti minimi	6.7%	Peroneal motor -1.2 -1.3 m/sec	Decrease
Egypt formulators, applicators- depression ⁷	Increased	Sural, peroneal refractory period	Increased
Finland dipehnyl paper mill EMG abnormalities ⁸	Increased	Netherlands flower growers >10 y NCV ²⁰	Small dec.sig
France methyl bromide peripheral neuropathy ^(b) 9	Case report	Sri Lanka OP ^(a) sprayers sensory velocity	Decr. p =0.01
Germany PCP median, radial nerves ^(e) 10	Normal range	US exterminators NCV vs total population ²¹	No sig diff.
Peroneal, sural nerves	Normal range	US Hispanic farm workers low OP ^(a) exposure ²²	
Germany agric pest 3 ys or more WHAT? ¹¹	Decreased	Sural nerve latency/amplitude	No sig diff
India agric. fenthion ERPs ^(d) - P3 amplitude ¹²	No sig diff	Ulnar nerve conduction velocity	No sig diff
India agric.fenthion ^(e) cond. velocity slowing ¹³	p < 0.05	Ulnar neuromuscular junct. function	No sig. diff
Median latency increased	p < 0.1	US ethylene oxide subacute polyneuropathy ^(f) 23	Case report
Peroneal latency increased	p < 0.05	Bilat. foot-drop, EMG denerv. potentials	
F min.H reflex. latency increased	p < 0.01	US ethylene oxide hospital workesr NCV ²⁴	No sig. diff
India OP ^(a) factory perip. neuropathy ¹⁴	Increase sig.	US Arkansas 2,4-D, 2,4,5-T factory workers ²⁵	
Japan ETO ^(d) neuropathy lower limbs ¹⁵	Case report	NCV slowing 46% exposed vs 5% control	Sig. diff
Japan ethylene oxide polyneuropathy ^(f) 16	Case report	Sural nerve mean slowing	~5.2 m/sec
Netherlands agric OP ^(a) sensory off season ^{17,18}	Decr. p=.04	Median motor nerve slowing	~1.9 m/sec
Motor velocity off season	Decr. P=.04	Yugoslavia ethylene oxide polyneuropathy legs ²⁶	Case report

a) Organophosphates. **(b)** In one patient, symptoms improved in five months. In the other, paresthesia still present 2 yrs later, and visual after-effects. **[c]** Pentachlorophenol. Exposure from carpets, moth killers, pesticide sprays, wood preservatives. **(d)** Event related potentials. **(e)** No clinical evidence neuropathy or muscle weakness. **(f)** Ethylene oxide sterilizing facility -reverse flow of an exhaust fan, a blocked air conditioner filter, lack of protective mask. **(g)** Confirmed by sural nerve biopsies. **(f)** Gradual and complete return of strength in the lower extremities occurred 4 to 7 months after removal from exposure **(g)** Standard deviation.

Table 2
Vibrotactile Sensitivity (VTS) and Postural Sway

Chile methyl bromide applicators ²⁷		Postural stability and TCP ^(e) levels	Assoc.
Threshold prior to exposure	2..4 seconds	US exterminators postural sway ²¹	Worse sig.
Threshold post exposure	2..85 seconds	VTS threshold	No sig. diff
England OP ^(a) sheep dippers VTS ^(b) 28	Increased	US chlordane nonocc. abnormal balance ³²	7 of 9 cases
England OP ^(a) sheep dippers ²⁹	Symp. No symp.	US California OP poisoned not hosp. VTS ³³	Poor perform.
Contls		Hospitalization OP pois	Worse
2 point discrimination hand mm	22 13 8	US Cali. fumigators ^(f) methyl bromide VTS ³⁴	Worse sig.
2 pt discriminationr foot mm	34 10 11	US New York OP ^(a) applicators VTS ³⁵	Increased
Mean calf circumference cm	35.0 36.3 38.6	Methyl bromide, sulfuryl fluor. appl. VTS	Increased
Nicaragua methamidophos pois. VTS incr. ^(c) 30	> 25 %	US NY farmer pest appl VTS dominant hand ³⁶	Incr. p <.001
South Africa OP ^(a) sprayers exposure ³¹	Pos. assoc.	Non-dominant hand	Incr. p <.04
US chlorpyrifos applicators VTS and tremor ⁵⁶	No assoc.		

Table 3-A
Neurobehavioral and Psychometric Testing - Farmers and Farm Workers

(See Appendix F for explanation of table)

Farmers		Poland ♀ greenhouse wrkrs OP exposure ⁴³	
Belgium mild cognitive dysfunction ³⁷		WHO NCTB ^(a) Reaction times	Increased
Cross sectional study	OR 1.47	Motor steadiness	Reduced
Prospective study	OR 2.02	US Hispanic children agric vs nonagric ⁴⁴	No diff.
England OP exposed sheep farmers ³⁸		US Dieldrin occupational exposure ⁴⁵	
Sustained attention poorer perf	Poorer sig.	Psycholog. tests performance 5/58	Poorer
Speed information processing poorer perf	Poorer sig.	Psychomotor tests ^(h) 47 /58	Poorer p < 05
Short-term memory and learning	No difference	Cognitive tests performance	Poorer
Ecuador farmer members of cooperative ³⁹		US New York male pest applicators OPs ³⁵	
WHO NCTB ^(a) Visual-spatial	Most sensitive	Electrophysiological abnormalities one	
Netherlands Flower growers pest use >10yrs ²⁰		US California Cholinesterase-inhibited subjects ^{(f) 46}	
Attention, perceptual coding	Small diff. sig	Serial digits better performance	Sig.
South Africa farm/sprayers chronic OP expos. ³¹		US Washington apple orchard OP applicators ⁴⁷	
WHO NCTB ^(a) Pursuit-Aiming	Small assoc	Neuropsychiatric tests pre- vs post-season	No diff
Santa Ana pegboard	Small assoc.	Acute Pesticide Poisoning in the Past	
US male farmers heavy expos. OPs ⁴⁰		Germany post acute pyrethroid poisoning ⁴⁸	
Reaction time, dominant hand	Slower sig.	Cerebro-organic dis.; sensomoto neuropathy	
Agricultural Workers		Nicaragua farm workers 2 yr post hospitalization ⁴⁹	
Chile men chronic methyl bromide exposure. ²⁷		WHO NCTB ^(a) performance 5/6 subtests ^(e)	Poorer
Dynamometry prior to exposure	51.4 kg	Motor steadiness/dexterity vs controls poorer	Poorer sig.
Post exposure 2-5 weeks	47.2 kg	US chlorpyrifos poisoned pest control operators ²¹	
Nothingham - neg.auto-percep prior	11.2	Pegboard turning poorer performance	Poorer sig..
Post exposrue	13.6	2 of 6 neurobehavioral tests performance	Poorer sig.
Costa Rica poisoned banana workers ^{(b) 41}		5 of 5 mood scale tests performance	Poorer sig.
Psychomotor, visuomotor skills perf.	Poorer	Postural sway performance	Poorer
Language skills, affect performance	Poorer	US California severe OP poisoning group ³³	
Digit-Symbol test performance	Poorer sig.	Sustained visual attention performance	Poorer sig.
Neuropsychiatric symptoms	Marked incr.	Mood scales performance	Poorer sig.
Expos. che inhibitors ^c prior 3 months	Poorest perf.	US former OP poisoned (Savage 1988)	
France vineyard workers pest. exp ^{(d) 42}		Memory, abstraction, mood	No sig diff
Neuropsychiatric test. Poorer perf.	OR ≥ 2	Halstead-Reitan cerebral damage/dysfxn	Abnormal
India agric. sprayers exposed fenthion (Misra 1994)		MMPI ^(g) distress items	Increased
Benton poorer performance	Sig.	PRAPFI ^(h) complaints of disability	Increased
Memory poorer performance	Sig	Audiometry, vision tests	No sig diff
Lexand poorer performance	Sig		
Passalong poorer performance	Sig		

a) World Health Organization Neurobehavioral Core Test Battery. (b) 81 workers treated for mild OP and CB poisoning not requiring hospitalization compared to 130 with symptoms who did not seek treatment. [c] Cholinesterase inhibitors, OPs and CBs (d) 528 directly mixing/spraying (mean 22 years), 173 indirectly treated plants, 216 never exposed. (e) Verbal/visual attention and memory, visuo-motor speed, sequencing, problem solving. (f) RBC Che activity ≤ 70% of baseline, or plasma che ≤ 60%. Reductions present without symptoms of poisoning. (g) Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory. (h) Patient's and Relative's Assessment of Patient Functioning Inventories.

Table 3-B
Neurobehavioral and Psychometric Testing
Pest Control Operators and Factory Workers, and Non-occupational Exposure
(See Appendix F for explanation of table)

Pest Control Operators / Factory Workers		US ETO ^(d) . hosp. workers neuropsych. tests ²⁴	
Costa Rica DDT exposed malaria workers ⁵⁰		Non-occupational Exposure	
Overall perform (mean)	20% decr.	Germany females residential exposure WPC ^(e) ⁵⁵	No sig. diff
Verbal attn, visuomotor. speed, seq	> difference	Paired-assoc. learning poorer performance	Sig.
5 motor, senory, cognitive. tests, yrs expos.	Sig. diff	Benton poorer performance	Sig.
Increase neuropsych/psychiatric symptoms	OR 3.98	Reading/naming speed. poorer performance	Sig.
India factory Memory, learning , vigilance ^(g) ⁵¹	Poorer	PCP blood levels poorer performance	Sig.
US Chlorpyrifos applicators ⁵²		India Bhopal MIC ^(f) victims ^(g) sev/mod exposure ⁵⁶	
Lanthony color vision and TCP ^(a) levels	Assoc.	Learning, motor precision poorer performance	p< 0.01
Contrast sensitivity 1 test and TCP levels	Assoc.	Disability score significant correlation	r = 0.68.
Olfactory dysfunction, visual acuity	No assoc.	US chlordane exposure - residential ³²	
Manual dexterity, eye–hand coordination	No assoc.	Reaction time poorer perf	Sig.
US exterminators Pegboard turning poorer perf. ²¹	Sig.	Digit symbol, poorer perf	Sig.
Smell, vision	No sig. diff.	Trail-making poorer perf	Sig.
Visual/motor skill	No sig. diff.	Verbal recall poorer perf	Sig.
US FL sulfuryl fluoride fumigators Pattern Memory ⁵³	Worse sig.	Mood-state	No diff.
Olfactory testing vs all fumigant exposed	Worse sig	Long-term memory	No diff
Santa Ana dom. hand vsl fumigant exposed	Worse sig	US Case report methyl bromide poisoning ⁵⁷	
US CA methyl bromide fumigators ^(b) 23 of 27 tests ⁵⁴	Worse sig.	Concentration, learning , memory	Impaired
Ccognitive test poorer performance	Sig.		

(a) 3,5,6-trichloropyridinol a metabolite of chlorpyrifos. (b) Soil and structural applicators of methyl bromide and sulfuryl fluoride (Vikane). (c) Quinalphos manufacturing workers. (d) Ethylene oxide, gas used to sterilize hospital/dental equipment. (e) Wood preservatives, pentachlorophenol (PCP), lindane, others. (f) Methylisocyanate, toxic chemical released in explosion at factory manufacturing carbaryl (Sevin) in December 1984. (g) 15 severely, 14 moderately, 23 mildly affected; mean age 38.2 (15-65); 30 males. Neurological examination was normal.

Table 4
EEG and Visual Evoked Potentials (VEP)

Bulgaria VEP amplitude OP ^(a) sprayers ⁴	Sig. Incr.
Egypt EEG abnormal zinc phos. appts ⁶	17.4%
Finland diphenyl paper mill workers ⁸	37.5%
Netherlands VEP bulb flower growers	No sig. diff
EEG fast (beta) activity	Increase
Netherlands EEG farmers spectral freq.	Changes
Netherlands EEG-β farmer >10 yrs ²⁰	Sig diff
US EEG ethylene oxide hosp. wrkrs ²⁴	No sig diff.
US EEG prior OP poisoning	No sig. diff.
US sleep EEG REM sabin ^(b) workers	Increase
β-activity temp/occip/ central li	increase
Background voltage	Decrease
Alpha activity	Decrease

(a) Organophosphate insecticides.

(b) Sarin is not a pesticide but a nerve gas. It's mode of action is the same as organophosphate insecticides but it is much more potent.

Table 5
Other Nervous System Effects
(See Appendix F for explanation of table)

Alzheimer disease		Switzerland farm worker OP exposure ⁶⁸	Case report
Canada Quebec Pesticide exposure ^{(a)58}	No assoc.	India OP poisoning ⁶⁹	Case report
Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis		Paraguay children ⁷⁰ possible OP exposure	30% cases
Italy Conjugal 30 months apart ⁵⁹	Case report	US Arizona 28 y farm worker merphos spill ⁷¹	Case report
Pesticides levels artesian wells	Not signif.	Movement Disorders	
US Michigan Dow 2,4-D worker deaths ^{(b)60}	OR 3.45	France myoclonus methyl bromide poisoning ^{(c)72}	Case report
US Washington agricultural chemical expo ⁶¹	OR 2.0	Israel isofenphos ingestion pyramidal findings ⁷³	Case report
Men any amount of exposure	OR 2.4	Multiple System Atrophy	
Men high vs no exposure, trend p= 0.03	OR 2.8	US pesticides/environ. toxins ^{(d)74}	11% cases
Men low vs no exposure	OR 1.5 ns	US pesticide exposure. ⁷⁵	Sig incr.
Women low vs no exposure	OR 0.9 ns	Psychiatirc Disorders	
Eye Disorders		England OP exposed sheep farmers incr. vulner ⁴²	Increased
France retrobulbar ocular neuritis methamidophos ⁶²	Case report	Spain suicide rate farmers agricultural area ⁷⁶	Increased
France persistent visual problems methyl bromide ⁶³	Case report	US CO farmers pesticide illness - depression ⁷⁷	OR 5.87
US IA,NC farmers retinal dege. fungicide applicators ⁶⁴	OR 1.8	US CA dicofol pois. cogn/emot probs. 18 mos ⁷⁸	12 yr male
Cumulative days of fungicide use trend	p= 0.011	US methyl bromide pois ^(e) psych. symp. weeks ⁷⁹	Case report
US TE cortical blindness carbofuran ingestion ⁶⁵	Case report	US 2 crop duster pilots OP psychiatric sequelae ⁸⁰	Case report
US California optic atrophy methyl bromide ⁶⁶	Case report	Reflex Symphathetic Dystrophy	
US CA. OP reentry pois. visual probs. 4 mons ⁶⁷		Turkey secondary neuropathy dimethoate poisoning ⁸¹	Case report
Guillain Barre Syndrome			

(a) Based on residential histories, agriculture census (1971-1991) herbicide, insecticide spraying in the area. (b) All 3 worked in manufacture /formulation of 2,4-D (1947-49, 1950-51, 1968-86), for varying durations of time (1.3, 1.8, and 12.5 years). [c] Lived 5 years in a stuporous state. Brain at autopsy: necrosis inferior colliculi, gliosis upper brain stem reticular formation, changes in dentate and pontine nuclei. (d) 1 case heavy occupational exposure to malathion, diazinon and formaldehyde. (e) 4 farm workers removing plastic sheets from treated soil.

Table 6
Parkinson's Disease and Pesticide Exposure - Increased and Decreased Risk
(See Appendix F for explanation of table)

Increased Risk - Farming/Agriculture		Increased Risk - Well Water Use	
Canada BC orchard workers ⁸²	OR 3.69	International meta-analysis ⁷⁸	OR 1.56
Any pesticide exposure	OR 2.3	US blacks ¹¹²	Increase
Paraquat - postural tremors	p = 0.01	US Kansas ¹¹³	Increase
China Taiwan paraquat, trend significant ⁸³	Increase	US National meta-analysis ⁷⁸	OR 2.17
Exposed but not to paraquat	Decrease	US Washington State onset < age 50 ⁹⁸	OR 2.72
China Hong Kong herbicide use ⁸⁴	Increase sig.	Increased Risk - Well Water Use	
Denmark men and women ⁸⁵	SHR ^(a) 1.3	China, Taiwan onset age < 40 ¹¹⁴	OR 10.92
Germany pesticides ⁸⁶	Increase	Spring water	OR 10.57
India, OPs ^(b) akinetic-rigidity ⁸⁷	Case report	India for more than 10 years ¹¹⁵	Increase
International studies farming ⁸⁸	OR 1.42	International studies meta-analysis ⁷⁸	OR 1.26*
Pesticide exposure	OR 1.85	Italy (on a farm) ⁹	OR 2.0
Israel field work pre-parkinsonism ⁸⁹	p< .0001	Italy ¹⁰	OR 2.8
Italy farming occupation ⁹⁰	OR 7.7	Spain Madrid for 30 yrs or more ¹¹⁶	Increase
Italy pesticide/herbicide exposure ⁹¹	OR 1.14#	US Kansas ³²	Increase
Italy maneb extrapyramidal disorder ^(c) 92	Case report	US meta-analysis ⁷	OR 1.44*
Italy, 10% diquat spill ^(d) 93	Case report	U.S. drinking unfiltered water ¹⁰²	Increase
Italy, Ferrara agricultural workers ⁹⁴	IR 20.6 ^(e)	Decreased Risk - Farming/Agriculture	
Spain Caceres ⁹⁵	Increase*	Canada Quebec farm work ¹¹⁷	No assoc.
Sweden handling agric. pesticides ⁹⁶	OR 1.9#	Finland pesticide/herbicides ³⁰	No assoc.
Handling agric. insecticides	OR 2.2#	International studies meta-analysis ¹¹⁸	No assoc.
US pilot organophosphate poisoning ⁹⁷	Case report	Italy Sicily ¹¹⁹	OR 0.6
US California mortality by residence ^(f) 98	OR 1.65	Spain Caceres ⁸⁵	No assoc.
US Hawaii plantation worker > 20 yrs ⁹⁹	RR 1.9*	US Kansas ⁹⁷	No assoc.
Pesticide exposed vs nonexposed	Increase#	US Washington ²² FIXX	No assoc.
US Iowa, North Carolina farm wives ¹⁰⁰	SMR 2.7#	US Hispanics ³¹ FIXX	Decrease
US Michigan agricultural work ¹⁰¹	OR 1.74#	Decreased Risk - Other Pesticide Exposure	
Herbicide exposure ¹⁰²	OR 4.1	Australia pesticides/herbicides ⁹⁹	No assoc.
Insecticide exposure	OR 3.6	Canada Que. pesticides/herbicides ¹⁰⁷	No assoc.
Farming occupation	OR 2.8	Spain, Madrid past exposure ¹⁰⁶	No assoc.
US National pesticide exposure ⁷⁸	OR 2.16	US sibling pairs ¹²⁰	No assoc.
Farming occupation	OR 1.72	US New England ¹²¹	No assoc.
US Washington orchard workers ¹⁰³	PR 2.0*	US Kansas ⁹⁷	No assoc.
Farming	No assoc.	US onset < age 40 and > age 60 ¹²²	No assoc.
US Washington farm job ¹⁰⁴	OR 3.2#	US Washington home use ⁹⁸	No trends
Increased Risk - Other Pesticide Exposure		Decreased Risk - Rural Living	
Brazil glyphosate accident ^(g) 105	Case report	Canada, Calgary ¹²³	No assoc.
Germany wood preservatives ⁷⁶	Increase	Canada Quebec ¹⁰⁷	OR 0.31
Israel urban population exposed to pest. ¹⁰⁶	Increase	Germany rural factors ⁷⁶	No assoc.
Sweden handling pest. any occupation	OR 2.8#	US < age 40 and > age 60 ¹¹²	No assoc.
US Kansas occupational herbicides ¹⁰⁷	Increase	Decreased Risk - Well Water Use	
US Washington onset age less than 50 ¹⁰⁸		Australia ⁹⁹	Decrease
Insecticide exposure	OR 5.75	Canada, Calgary ¹¹³	No assoc.
Herbicide exposure	OR 3.22	Canada Quebec ³⁶	No assoc.
Residence fumigated house	OR 5.25	Finland ¹⁰¹	No assoc.
Increased Risk - Rural Living		US New England ¹¹¹	Decrease
Australia ¹⁰⁹	OR 1.8	US Washington State ⁹³ CHECK	No assoc.
Canada raised in a rural area ¹¹⁰	Increase	US < age 40 and > age 60 ¹¹²	No assoc.
China, Hong Kong ⁷⁴	Increase		
Finland ¹¹¹	No assoc.		

* Borderline significance # Not significant

(a) Standardized Hospitalization Ratio (b) Organophosphates. 4 recovered, 1 repeat on re-exposure. (c) 37 yr old man, 2 years between exposure and onset. (d) 72 yr farmer. CT, MRI abnormal. Persisted 4 mon. later. (e) Incidence/100,000. IR in urban areas 3.1, in rural areas 6.32. (f) 1982 data, when all use was not reported. (g) Parkinsonian syndrome 1 month after, MRI changes 2 yrs later

Table 7
Organophosphate Induced Delayed Neuropathy

Australia chlorpyrifos termite applicators ¹²⁴		Nicaragua methamidophos, chlorpyrifos pois ¹⁴⁰	
Mean NTE (a) activity	Slightly higher	Hand grip 7 wks post poisoning	Impaired
Mean serum Che compared to controls	52% reduction	Pinch strength 7 wks post poisoning	impaired
Belgium fenthion ingestion 65 yr female ¹²⁵	Case report	In intentional poisonings impairment	More severe
7 days post-exposure distal axonopathy		2 year follow-up hand strength impairment ¹⁴¹	Persistent
Brazil trichlorfon poisoning farm worker ¹²⁶	Case report	Suicidals worse second examination	
3 mon later distal predom motor neuropathy		Deficits not related to pesticide type	
EMG denervation changes		Poland suicide attempt trichloronate ¹⁴²	Case report
NCV reduced sensory and motor		Romania 4 accidental ingestion trichlorfon ¹⁴³	Case reports
Sural nerve biopsy axonal degeneration		3-5 wks distal predom. motor neuropathy	
China methamidophos poisoning OPIDN ¹²⁷	13.5% cases	Distal weakness, foot drop, hypotonia.	
All recovered 1½ yrs wo perm. disability		Ankle jerk lost, other DTRs normal	
China, Taiwan complication mevinphos pancreatitis ¹²⁸	Case report	2 mon. later knee jerks brisk, patellar clonus	
China, Taiwan carbofuran 23 m suicide ¹²⁹	Case report	Loss abdom. cutaneous reflexes, Babinski sign	
EMG sensorimotor neuropathy		EMG- dying-back neuropathy	
4 months to recovery .		Spain farm worker expos. age 14-24 ¹⁴⁴	Case report
England research chemist - Mipafos ¹³⁰	Case report	EMC predom. motor axonal polyneuropathy	
England 2-8 wks post trichlorfon poisoning ¹³¹	Case report	Nerve biopsy 'dying back' axonopathy	
France farm workers mod. pois. methamidophos ⁶⁵	Case report	Sri Lanka 3 suicide attempts ¹⁴⁵	Case report
Sensory and motor peripheral neuropathy		25-35 d after bilateral vocal cord paralysis	
Full recovery after 18th months		Sri Lanka methamidophos agric sprayers ¹⁴⁶	33%
Germany physiotol 39-year-old woman farmer ¹³²	Case report	Turkey suicide attempts trichlorfon, fenthion ¹⁴⁷	Case reports
Severe polyneuropathy		Turkey of 32 cases 21.8% intermed. syndrome ¹⁴⁸	
NTE inhibition		US child chlorpyrifos ingestion vocal cord paralysis ¹⁴⁹	
Greece attempted suicide mecarbam ¹³³	Case report	US carbaryl ingestion ¹⁵⁰	Case report
Polyneuropathy		Acute weakness of arms and legs	
Greece, Crete 1/6 poisoning ¹³⁴	Case report	EMG axonal peripheral neuropathy	
Hungary trichlorfon 2 suicide attempts ¹³⁵	Case report	Recovery continued for 9 months	
Polyneuropathy 2 wks after apparent recovery		US workers DEF, merphos ¹⁵¹	
Hypesthesia, paresthesia, paresis peroneal		Lymphocyte NTE aerial/grnd applicatorss	No effects
EMG severe axon degen. primarily motor		US 16-y boy methamidophos ¹⁵²	Case report
Biopsy revealed demyelination		Day 3 lymphocyte NTE 77% decr. activity	
Recovered 18 months, residual peroneal paresis		2 wks neuropathy profound LE weakness	
India bilateral recurrent laryngeal nerve palsy ¹³⁶	Case report	Decr. ulnar, absent tibial action potentials	
Italy suicide attempt chlorpyrifos ingestion ¹³⁷	Case report	NCVs normal	
30 d later lymphocytic NTE 60% inhibited		Serum IgG neural antibodies increased	
43 rd d paresthesia and leg weakness		US Velsicol leptohpos workers ¹⁵³	
EMG, biopsy axonal polyneuropathy		12 workers serious neurological disorders, 2 milder	
Italy 2 cases 1 chlorpyrifos poisoning ¹³⁸	Case report	63/155 abnormalities one or more objective tests	
Japan 1 st report of malathion OPIDN (in alcoholic) ¹³⁹	Case report	11/63 abnormal nerve function, psychological tests	
7th hosp d glove/stocking flaccid quadriplegia		US Texas 12 leptophos workers ¹⁵⁴	
2 months neurogenic bladder, spinal automatism			
7 months, spasticity lower limbs.			
Sural biopsy axonal degen., Schwann cell clusters			

(a) Neuropathy target esterase.

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