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Crop protection:: Pesticides::Antidodes

FIRST AID MEASURES AND ANTIDOTES RECOMMENDED FOR REGISTERED PESTICIDES

MERCURIAL COMPOUNDS

S.No	Name of the pesticide	Symptoms of poisoning	First aid measures	Treatment/antidote
1.	Methoxy Ethyl Mercury Chloride (MEMC)	Nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, tenesmus, abdominal pain and metallic taste. Neurological manifestations include parenthesis of hands, disorientation, restlessness, irritability, constriction of visual fields, incoordination affecting speech, writing and gait, stupor and coma Inhalation can cause gingivo-stomatitis, pneumonitis and noncarcinogenic pulmonary oedema. Skin exposure may cause redness, blisters and dermatitis.	Remove the person from the contaminated environment. In case of (a) skin contact – Remove all contaminated clothings and immediately wash with lot of water and soap; (b) Eye contamination – Wash the eyes with plenty of cool and clean water; (c) Inhalation – Carry the person to the open fresh air, loosen the clothings around neck and chest, and (d) Ingestion – If the victim is fully conscious, induce vomiting by tickling back of the throat. Do not administer milk, alcohol and fatty substances. In case the person is unconscious make sure the breathing passages is kept clear without any obstruction. Victim's head should be turned to one side in the lying down position. In case of breathing difficulty, give mouth to mouth or mouth to nose breathing. Medical aid: Take the patient to the doctor/Primary Health Centre immediately along with the original container, leaflet and label.	Do not induce emesis. Perform gastric lavage. Give activated charcoal 50 to 100 g in 200 ml of water. Give penicillamine 250 mg 4 times a day (20 mg/kg/day in divided doses for children) for 3 to 10 days. Dimercaprol or BAL is given by IM injection, 2.5 to 3 mg/kg 4 hourly for 2 days, 6 hourly on the 3rd day, and then once or twice a day for 10 days, or until recovery. Anticipate and treat shock and renal failure.

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