

Is your child...



... she/he may be **POISONED!**
(Turn over the page to see what you can do.)

Don't use these!



Street pesticides are very dangerous!

If you think your child has been poisoned by pesticides:

1. Call the Poisons Information Helpline immediately
2. **Do not force your child to vomit** and **do not give them milk**
3. **Rinse the child's mouth** or skin with water
4. **Take the label or pesticide with you** to the doctor/ clinic/ hospital



For all poisoning emergencies, 24/7 contact the

**POISONS INFORMATION
HELPLINE
0861 555 777**



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Division of Environmental Health | UCT



PESTICIDES MAY BE **HARMING** YOUR CHILD

0861 555 777



What are pesticides?

- Substances or mixtures used to **KILL** or fight off pests (e.g. rats, ants, bedbugs, fleas, cockroaches, lice, mosquitoes, flies or weeds).
- These are harmful to **CHILDREN**, animals and the environment!



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Why is my CHILD at risk?

- Children do not know how dangerous pesticides are.
- They spend a lot of time on the ground where pesticides may be.
- They explore by putting what they find in their mouths
- Their bodies are smaller and take in more pesticides than adults.
- Their brains and bodies are still growing and the pesticides can affect their growth.

How are they exposed to pesticides?



Through the mouth e.g. eating food with rat poison/drinking bottles used to store pesticides



Through the skin e.g. sleeping on beds that have been sprayed for bugs



Breathing it in e.g. left in a room that has been sprayed.



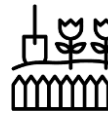
Through the eyes when pesticides are sprayed into the air

Where are pesticides found?



Home:

- Cockroach poisons & chinks
- Pesticide sprays (e.g. *Doom*)
- Rat poisons
- Pet shampoos & flea products
- Mosquito repellents & moth balls
- Lice shampoos



Garden:

- Recently sprayed plants & lawn
- Empty/expired products lying around.



Your **NEIGHBOUR'S** garden and home!

ALL pesticides should be LOCKED in cupboards/places & out of reach!

Did you know?

- Unlabeled pesticides are very dangerous and illegal.
- Pesticides sold by informal vendors can be **illegal & very** toxic.
- Pesticides stay in the environment for many years.
- Pesticides can cause cancer, behavioural problems, allergies & asthma.
- **Pregnant woman** should avoid use of or exposure to all pesticides.

What can I do as a parent?

- Do not buy unlabeled pesticides
- Keep pesticides locked away & out of reach of children
- Keep pesticides in their original labeled container
- Keep children out of the house during spraying and air out before entering
- Learn the pesticide label color codes found on pesticides:



Very toxic



Harmful



Caution



Keep locked away



What is safer to kill pests?

- **For cockroaches:** Mix 2 teaspoons icing sugar & 2 teaspoons bicarbonate of soda on an old jar lid. Place behind cupboards.
- **For rats:** Cover up all the places they can come in, Keep the rubbish closed. Use two rat traps per home.
- **For ants:** Mix 10 teaspoons jam with 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda on a plastic lid.
- **For flies:** Mix 1 cup vinegar and 1 cup water in a spray bottle and spray near windows, doors and where flies rest.
- **For mosquitoes:** Mix ½ cup sugar with ½ cup boiling water. Allow to cool. Pour into a 2L bottle and add 1 teaspoon yeast. Hang the bottle outside your house to trap mosquitoes.

Keep these out of reach of children