

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Diagnostic Tests

PPDC

May 9, 2007

What do we mean by Diagnostic Tests?

- Tool that is simple to use, relatively inexpensive, with quick read out that can be used by physicians
- Provide physician with a determination that symptoms are associated with exposure to a pesticide

How is this useful to OPP?

- Improved diagnosis would lead to improved treatment – to everyone's benefit
- Useful in providing a definitive cause/effect linkage in suspected pesticide symptomology
- More information results in better risk assessments and risk management decisions

Diagnostic Tests

- Food
 - Currently there are analytical methods to determine the identity and level of pesticides in food
 - Multi-residue methods allow for easy and cost efficient ways to determine
- Workers
 - No comparable way to determine either the identity or the level of a pesticide an individual has been exposed to that may have caused an illness

Questions to Ask

- What chemicals/class of chemicals are diagnostic tests important for?
- Should these tests be able to identify the level of exposure to a pesticide and if so, how will that information be used?
- What is the best way to start discussion?
 - Workshop?
 - Planning session in advance of a workshop?

Potential Participants

- Who/what expertise/what organizations are needed to begin discussions?
 - CDC
 - ORD
 - BEAD analytical lab
 - Worker advocates
 - Medical/Public health workers (including states)
 - FDA
 - Commercial interests
 - Other stakeholders

When?

- One-half day before/after Occupational Safety and Health Symposium –
 - morning of Oct 2 or
 - afternoon of Oct 4
- Other opportunities?