

HYPERTENSION, PESTICIDE EXPOSURE AND FUMIGATION WORKER

HİPERTANSİYON, PESTİSİT MARUZİYETİ VE FÜMİGASYON ÇALIŞANI

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Dear Editor,

We read the publication on "Frequency of hypertension and associated factors in pesticide exposure of fumigation workers" with a great interest. Doğan Tiryaki et al. (1) concluded that "we found a higher prevalence of hypertension and obesity in the subject community". In fact, hypertension and obesity are common problems seen in any cities in the present day. In other occupations, the same problem can be expected. The interesting question is whether there is any clinical interrelationship between pesticide exposure and hypertension/obesity. Focusing on hypertension, there is no confirmation that pesticide exposure increase risk for hypertension and hypertension related complications. A study on the hypertensive disorder among the pregnant women exposed to pesticide also showed no interrelationship (2). For obesity, accumulation of pesticide in human fat is reported (3) and this might be a clinical implication of increased risk of accumulation among obese workers.

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Author's Reply

FREQUENCY OF HYPERTENSION AND ASSOCIATED FACTORS IN PESTICIDE EXPOSURE FUMIGATION WORKERS

PESTİSİT MARUZİYETİ OLAN İLAÇLAMA ÇALIŞANLARINDA HİPERTANSİYON SIKLIĞI VE İLİŞKİLİ FAKTÖRLER

Our study, which was designed as a cross-sectional study, was conducted in order to determine the frequency of hypertension in fumigation workers who had to use pesticides known to be related to various health problems and to determine other factors related to hypertension and to take necessary measures.

Occupational health and safety are systematic and scientific studies conducted in order to prevent the conditions that may cause health damage caused by various reasons during the execution of the work in the workplace. Increasing the health capacity of the employee and preventing and minimizing the damages in the working environment is the adaptation of the employee to the work.

In addition to occupational diseases arising from the workplace, diseases that do not originate directly from the workplace but are influenced by the factors in the workplace and change with the effect of factors in the work environment as well as other risk factors are work related diseases. Various physical, chemical, biological, ergonomic and psychosocial factors in the working environment change the course and frequency of work-related diseases (1).

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There are studies showing the effect of pesticides on cardiovascular system diseases (2-4). In our study group, hypertension was found to be higher than the normal population. It is mentioned in the article that the effect of high prevalence of obesity on the prevalence of hypertension.

Findings related to the investigation of work-related diseases and effective factors in different business lines, not only in occupational disease, are important in terms of worker health and protection of health in workplaces. Determining the incidence and affecting factors of hypertension, which is one of the work related diseases, is covered by occupational health and safety. The results of the research paper will encourage the occupational health and safety professionals working in this field, create awareness, encourage cohort and randomized controlled studies. Emphasizing the importance of primary and secondary prevention in the prevention of occupational diseases and work-related diseases, which is an important problem in our country, is also important in terms of maintaining the healthy status of the employee from the first moment of employment until the leaving time.

Hülya Doğan TIRYAKI, Nefise ŞEKER, Yılmaz YAZICI, Alparslan DUMAN, Evren TARIM, Ayşe CEYLAN DEMİREL, Şadiye Selin DURUŞ, Şeyma ARSLAN, Elif EZİRMİK, Halim İŞSEVER

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