

P34. A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW of PESTICIDE POISONING CASES in TURKEY OVER THE PAST DECADE

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We reviewed systematically the national literature which was belonged to the last decade by accessing the MEDLINE database. Pesticide poisoning is a major public health problem in developing countries. The World Health Organization recognizes pesticide poisoning to be the single most important means of suicide worldwide. Suicide is the most common manner of death in pesticide poisonings followed by accidents and homicide.

In 2011, 26.770 tons of pesticides were sold in Turkey. Various outcomes had been reported in different sociocultural regions of Turkey as it is a rare cause of poisoning in the emergency departments. For this reason the magnitude and the national distribution of pesticide poisoning are still unknown.

The most three frequent causes of poisonings were drugs, pesticides, and carbon monoxide respectively. Organophosphate insecticides are the second main group causing poisoning and consequently death after endosulfan. The most common pesticides detected in this group are dichlorvos followed by chlorpyrifos and methyl parathion. Suicidal poisonings are higher than accidental poisonings. Suicides are occurred mostly at home and all accidental poisoning deaths occur in agricultural area. Poisoning incident is observed in youths and females. Oral route is the most preferred method. The number of poisoning cases in summers which reaches a peak in June is significantly higher than cases in winters.

It is suggested that many pesticide-related deaths might be prevented if their use was restricted with new regulations and a specific surveillance system could be maintained.