

Impacts of pesticides on the brain development of children

#PesticidesFreeWorld



Cases of ADHD is on the rise

A study found a general increase of 11% in cases of ADHD since 2005. However, there was a 175% increase in cases among children between the ages of 3-17 ASSOCHAM (2011)



Brain harming pesticides are widely used

From 2005 to 2009, more than 7163 metric tons of chlorpyrifos, an organophosphate pesticide (OP) was used in India (Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage, Govt of India).



Pesticides are toxic at even low levels

Children who were maternally exposed to OPs have a 5 point drop in IQ scores when the maternal blood levels are elevated from 10 to 75 parts per billion (ppb). 1 ppb = 2 table spoons of sugar in an Olympic sized pool



Routes of exposure

Children are exposed to pesticides in various ways. Pesticides and other chemicals are found in food, water, air, environment, schools and household pesticides



Children in India fare worse

Many cases of severe pesticides poisoning among children have been reported. In 2013, 23 children died in Bihar after consuming their mid day meals contaminated by toxic OP, monocrothos which has been banned in many countries



Children are being born pre-polluted

Pesticides, lead and mercury have been found in umbilical cords and in bodies of children in various parts of India



Intelligence impacted by pesticides

80% of children who were exposed to pesticides performed worse in cognitive tasks than children who were less exposed. (A study in 6 cotton plantation states in India, K.Kuruganthi, 2005)



Best to adopt the precautionary principle in regulations

Urge governments and chemical industries to take precautionary measures before introducing chemicals to the market



Alternatives and solutions exist

Children who consumed organic food had less pesticides in their bodies. Keep schools, homes, and the environment toxic free as much as possible

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