First Aid Statement on Label
(or Statement of Practical Treatment)

→ Read BEFORE using pesticide

Always play it safe when deciding to act on symptoms or exposure - seek help immediately
General Symptoms

• **Mild or early** - headache, fatigue, weakness, dizziness, nervousness, nausea, diarrhea, thirst, irritation of nose, eyes.

• **Moderate** - nausea, diarrhea, cramps, excessive perspiration, blurred vision, cough, rapid pulse

• **Severe or acute** - fever, intense thirst, increased rate of breathing, muscle twitches, convulsions, etc

→ Can look similar to other diseases or poisonings
→ Acute may be dramatic vs Chronic over time
→ Doctors may not recognize
First Aid for Pesticide Poisonings

• Call ambulance or doctor **FIRST!**
  - In ALL poisoning emergencies
• Only exception = when you are alone with the victim
  - You must ensure that victim is breathing and that he/she is no longer exposed before leaving to make phone call.

→ Have label when calling Poison Hotline
→ Always bring label to hospital/doctor
First Aid for Pesticide Poisonings

• **Skin Exposure**
  – Wash all exposed skin thoroughly
  – Remove clothing if contaminated
  – If chemical burn, cover loosely with soft cloth – do not use ointments, greases, etc.

• **If in Eyes**
  – Wash with 5+ gallons of clean running water
First Aid for Pesticide Poisonings

• **Inhalation Exposure**
  – Remove victim from exposure ASAP
  – If victim is in enclosed area – use respirator!
    *Do not become a victim yourself*
  – Administer artificial respiration if not breathing
  – If convulsing – keep airway clear
  – Keep victim warm
First Aid for Pesticide Poisonings

• Oral Exposure
  – If you don’t know what pesticide the victim swallowed – NEVER INDUCE VOMITTING! Dilute with water.
  – Don’t induce vomiting if the victim is unconscious or has swallowed corrosive pesticides (strong acid or alkali) or liquid formulations containing petroleum distillates.
  – Induce vomiting only if the label and medical professional says to do so. DO NOT USE Ipecac (works too slowly and not thoroughly)
Other First Aid

- **Shock**
  - Keep flat on back (unless vomiting) with legs 1-1½ feet above head
  - Keep warm enough to prevent shivering
  - Quiet and reassure often

- **Antidotes**
  - Available *only* for organophosphate and carbamate insecticides and anticoagulant rodenticides
  - Only to be administered by medical professionals, not preventative