

# Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program (PISP)



California Department of Pesticide Regulation  
Worker Health and Safety Branch

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# DPR's Mission



Our mission is **to protect human health** and the **environment** by regulating pesticide sale and use, and by fostering reduced-risk pest management.

# Authority



- California Health and Safety Code §105200 & Title 17 California Code of Regulations §2500
  - California physicians are required to report any suspected case of pesticide-related illness or injury to the local health officer within 24 hours of examining the patient.
- Title 3 California Code of Regulations §6720-6746
  - Employer emergency medical care requirements
  - Medical Supervision Program

# What is the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program?



- A passive surveillance program
  - Receive reports -> investigate -> extract -> analyze
- Unique – a model for US pesticide programs
  - Oldest and largest program
  - Only program housed in a regulatory agency
- A team of research scientists

# Sources of Illness Reports

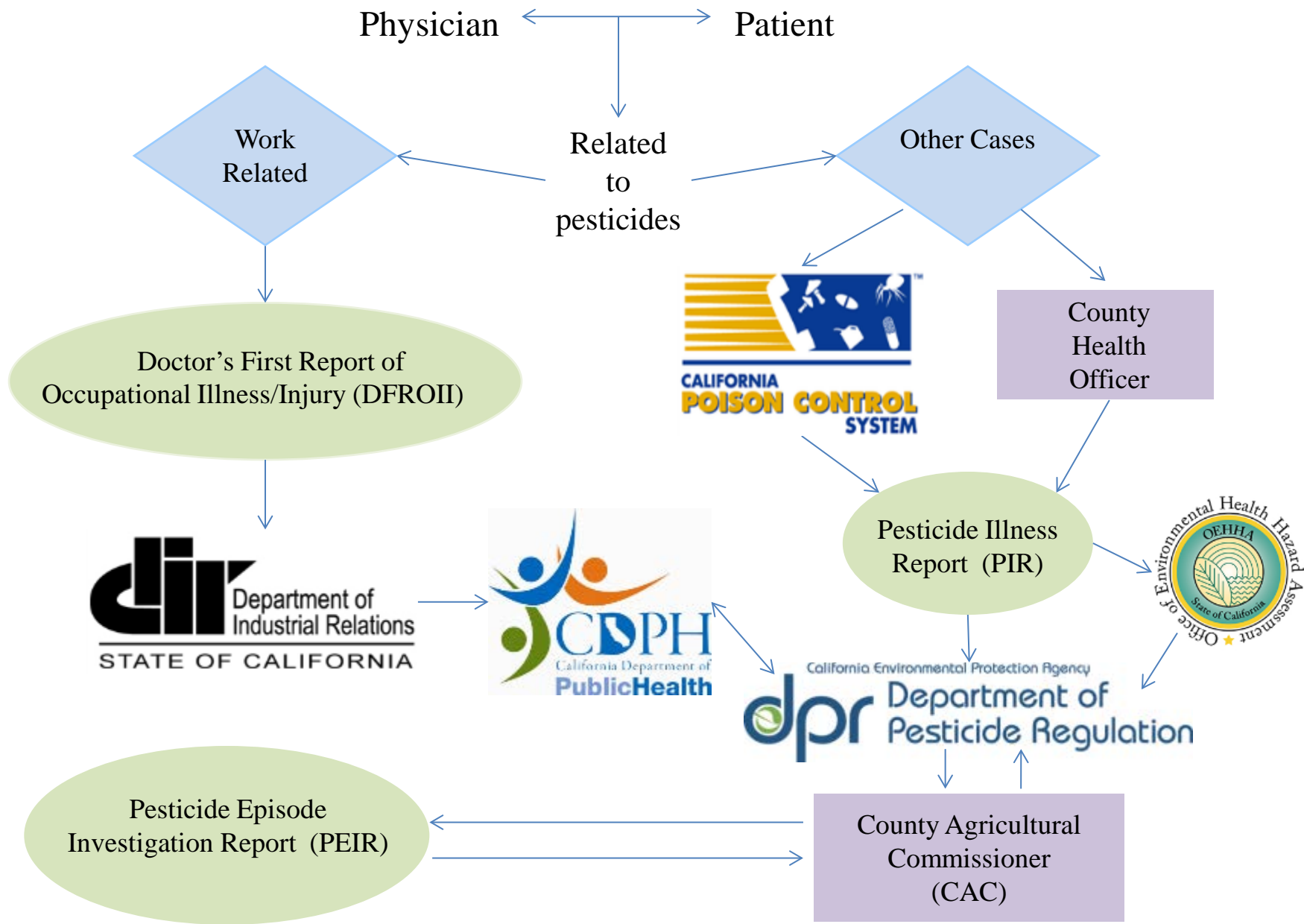


- Pesticide Incident Report
  - Local Health Officer/California Reportable Disease Information Exchange (CalREDIE)
  - California Poison Control System (CPCS)
- Doctor's First Report of Occupational Illness or Injury (DFROII)
- Complaints received by the County Agricultural Commissioners (CAC)

# Criteria for Case Assignment



1. A pesticide is (or is suspected to be) involved
2. There is evidence of medical consultation or that the injured sought care
3. The exposed person has/had symptoms



# How We Collect the Information



- PISP Scientists extract relevant information from investigative reports
  - PISP database has over 120 variables
- Weigh both physical and medical evidence to determine causal relationship
  - Circumstances of exposure
  - Symptoms/Medical information
  - Pesticide involved
  - Application Equipment/ PPE
  - Enforcement Information (e.g. violations)





# Online Resources for Illness Data



- Past reports summarizing data starting in 1996 are available online:
  - <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/pisp.htm>
- California Pesticide Illness Query (CalPIQ)
  - [http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/calpiq/calpiq\\_input.cfm](http://apps.cdpr.ca.gov/calpiq/calpiq_input.cfm)

# The PISP Annual Report Online, 1996 - 2013



<http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/pisp.htm>

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'About DPR', 'Join E-Lists', 'A-Z Index', and 'Contact Us'. Below this is a search bar and a dropdown menu for 'DPR' and 'California'. The main navigation menu includes 'HOME', 'PROGRAMS', 'DATABASES', 'NEWS/PUBLICATIONS', and 'QUICK LINKS'. On the left side, there is a sidebar with a 'HEALTH & SAFETY' section containing links to 'Pesticide Safety Information', 'Consumer Fact Sheets', 'Pesticide Questions?', 'Worker Safety Regulations', 'Worker Protection', 'Mitigating Exposure', 'Workplace Safety', 'Community Guide', 'Pesticide Illness Surveillance', and 'Worker Health & Safety Programs'. The main content area is titled 'Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program' and includes a paragraph of text about the program's history and purpose. Below the text, there is a section for 'California PISP Annual Reports' with a dropdown menu currently set to '2013'. A red arrow points from the text 'Select Year' to this dropdown menu. At the bottom of the page, there is a logo for 'dpr'.

Select Year

# California Online Pesticide Illness Query



**California Pesticide Illness Query (CalPIQ)**

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**Search Tips:**

- Hold the CTRL key down to select multiple options within a category.
- Hold the CTRL key down to de-select a selected option within a category.
- Click on any criterion name to get more information about it.

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→ A complete list of definitions for the terms used in CalPIQ is available in the [PISP Data Dictionary](#).

→ A list of commonly used acronyms and abbreviations is available in the [PISP Acronyms & Abbreviations List](#).

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**Here is what you have selected so far:**

- **Start Year:** 2013
- **End Year:** 2013
- **Agricultural Use:** Both

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**Year of Incident**

From (select start year)  To (select end year)

**Agricultural (Ag) or non-agricultural (Non-ag) sources of exposure?**

**County:**  
(Defaults to all)

Alameda  
Alpine  
Amador  
Butte  
Calaveras

**Pesticide Criteria:**

**Pesticide Category**  Pesticide Active Ingredient  Intended Use  
(Defaults to all)

Insecticides/Acaricides/Termiticides/Insect Growth Regulators  
Herbicides/Defoliants  
Fungicides  
Fumigants  
Antimicrobials/Slimicides

Search for pesticide illnesses by:

- Year of Incident
- Agricultural or Non-Agricultural pesticide use
- County of occurrence
- Pesticide Category
  - insecticide, herbicide, fumigants, antimicrobial, etc.
- Incident Setting
- Application Site
- Exposure Site
- Activity at time of Exposure

# Questions?



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For more information on the Pesticide Illness Surveillance Program:

- <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/pisp.htm>