



About Dr. Karr

Dr. Catherine Karr is a board-certified pediatrician with specialty training in environmental medicine. She received her M.D., M.S. in Toxicology/Environmental Health, and Ph.D. in Epidemiology at the University of Washington. She practices primary care general pediatrics and specialty environmental medicine consultation at UW Medicine Pediatric Care Center - Roosevelt in Seattle. She is also Co-Director of Northwest PEHSU (Region 10).

Understanding Pediatric Outcomes from Pesticides and Nitrates

(1 CME - free)

By Catherine Karr, MD, MS, PhD

Associate Professor, University of Washington

Co-Director, NW PEHSU

The developing fetus and children living in agricultural areas are at higher risk for exposure to pesticides and nitrates. Living in close proximity to agricultural fields, living with someone who works in agriculture, and living in a home where pesticides are used increase the risk for exposure to pesticides. Excessive nitrates in well drinking water may result from leaky sewage pipes, septic system failures, improper management of farm animal waste, and runoff of fertilizers and manure on irrigated farm fields that seeps into wells. This one hour, CME approved, on-demand training will equip clinicians to recognize, diagnose and provide treatment for these important environmental exposures.

Training Goals

At the end of this activity clinicians should be able to:

- Recognize the clinical presentation of acute pesticide and nitrate poisoning.
- Describe the steps involved in diagnosing and managing acute pesticide and nitrate poisoning.
- Identify common sources of exposure to nitrates and pesticides for pediatric populations.
- List pediatric morbidities associated with early life pesticide exposures based on epidemiological data.
- Identify local and national resources to utilize if presented with a suspected exposure or exposure related illness.
- Report an increased confidence in their ability to discuss the health effects of early life nitrate/pesticide exposures with families and offer them guidance on prevention.
- Demonstrate an increased likelihood of screening symptomatic children for pesticide/nitrate exposure or conducting an environmental exposure history in pregnant women and children to identify current and potential exposures.

How to Access the Course

1. Navigate to www.pehsuclassroom.net
2. Select the course titled: Understanding Pediatric Outcomes from Pesticides and Nitrates
3. Select Subscribe.
4. Select Register here if you are a new user.
5. Complete the registration fields and select Confirm.
6. Select Subscribe.

Disclaimer: This material was supported by the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) and funded (in part) by the cooperative agreement FA1N: U61TS000238 from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). This work was also made possible (in part) by the cooperative agreement award number DW-75-92301301 from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and by grant number P01-ES009601 from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), NIH and RD-83451401 from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Acknowledgement: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supports the PEHSU by providing partial funding to ATSDR under Inter-Agency Agreement number DW-75-92301301. Neither EPA nor ATSDR endorse the purchase of any commercial products or services mentioned in PEHSU publications. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the ATSDR, EPA, NIEHS or NIH; nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, commercial practices, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. Government.

