



The results of the WHO EMRO Pediatric Insecticide Study Group's study "A clinical decision aid for triage of children younger than 5 years and with organophosphate or carbamate insecticide exposure in developing countries", supported by this Regional Office, have been published in the *Annals of Emergency Medicine*, Year 2008; vol.: (doi:10.1016/j.annemergmed.2008.03.026). The study aim was to develop a clinical decision aid that could guide early triage at primary health care level of children exposed to organophosphates / carbamates, identifying those requiring referral to higher level facilities. The decision aid for referral, which is in line with the principles of IMCI guidelines, is based on the presence of any of two clinical signs (pinpoint pupils and diarrhea), requires no X-ray or laboratory facilities and has a sensitivity of 100% and a specificity of 77%. This publication follows that of the results of the WHO EMRO Pediatric Hydrocarbon Study Group's study "A clinical decision rule for triage of children under 5 years of age with hydrocarbon (kerosene) aspiration in developing countries", also supported by this Regional Office, which have been published in *Clinical Toxicology*, Volume 46, Issue 3 March 2008, pages 222 – 229. As the decision aids have initially been derived from cases seen only in one poison control centre in one country, they can not be extrapolated to, and need to be validated in, other settings before they can be recommended for use. This information is provided for scientists of research institutions interested in validating the rule in their settings under strict research conditions. Protocols and instruments used in the study are available from the Child and Adolescent Health and Development (CAH) unit of this Regional Office.

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