

Pesticides and National Strategies for Health Care Providers

Liaison: Amy Brown, University of Maryland

This project is a national initiative to improve the capability of primary health care providers to recognize and treat pesticide-related illnesses. The project was developed under a collaborative effort of EPA, USDA, the US Department of Health and Human Services, the US Department of Labor, and the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation (NEETF). Throughout the past year, Brown has been serving as the pesticide consultant on a team of doctors and nurses writing pesticide curriculum guidelines for incorporation into 1.) medical and nursing schools and 2.) continuing education of primary health care providers. The authors' final draft of these two documents was submitted to NEETF for editing in summer 2001. The edited drafts were sent out for review by national experts in late 2001. AAPSE members Pat O'Connor-Marer and Kerry Richards served as reviewers.

A National Forum is planned for fall 2002, and Brown has been named to the planning committee. National leaders in medical and nursing education and heads of professional organizations will be invited to Washington, DC to participate in the Forum.

AAPSE has been the principal source of pesticide content information and has been very important in providing credibility on this initiative. The agencies and individual cooperators have been most receptive to AAPSE's input.

There are no action items foreseen for the AAPSE Board's consideration at this time.