

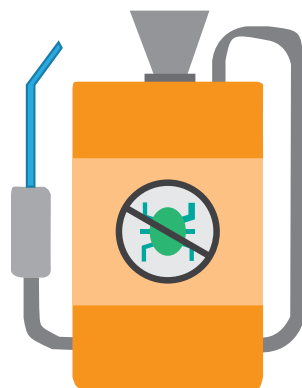
ATTENDING TO PESTICIDE EXPOSURE AND HEAT ILLNESS AMONG FARMWORKERS

Pesticide exposure and heat-related illness (HRI) are leading causes of work-related illness amongst farmworkers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Worker Protection Standard stresses the importance of pesticide exposure training and HRI awareness. Based upon this standard, researchers at Florida State University developed and tested a safety curricula for Latino farmworkers.

This study used an attention-placebo control design to evaluate the effectiveness of the *Entrenamiento de Pesticidas e Insolacion qe es Culturalmente Apropiaada* (PISCA) pesticide exposure an heat illness curricula simultaneously. Data was collected via small groups conducted in Spanish by trained data collectors. Participants were interviewed before and after completing PISCA lessons.

The PISCA curricula included a facilitator guide with learning objectives, scripts for delivering the content, and suggestions for facilitating participant involvement. The curricula also included Powerpoint presentations with videos. The facilitator guides and Powerpoints were made available in English and Spanish.

To measure the effectiveness of the curricula, study participants were assigned to either the WPS pesticide curriculum or the heat-related



PARTICIPANTS IN THE PESTICIDE EXPOSURE LESSON REPORTED HIGHER KNOWLEDGE AND INTENTION TO REDUCE EXPOSURE.

illness curriculum and were evaluated on the following values pretest and post test: knowledge, self-efficacy, perceived threat, and behavioral intention. Study participants included 127 Latino farmworkers.

Participants in the pesticide lesson reported higher intention to reduce pesticide exposure, however those in the heat illness lesson decreased in this area. Knowledge and intention to prevent heatrelated illness increased more among participants in the heat illness lesson.

KNOWLEDGE AND INTENTION TO PREVENT HEAT-RELATED ILLNESS INCREASED MORE AMONG PARTICIPANTS IN THE HEAT ILLNESS LESSON



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