

## A Profile of the Organophosphorus Poisoning Cases in Southern India

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### Background

Acute pesticide poisoning is one of the most common causes of intentional death worldwide

### Aims & Objectives

1. To identify, the social and environmental aspects of Organophosphorus (OP) poisoning in adult.
2. To determine the outcome of victims.

### Material & Methods

This is retrospective hospital record based study conducted in a GVMCH, Vellore from Jan 2013 to May 2013. All adult patients of OP Poisoning were included in study. Information was gathered regarding history, mode of poisoning, sex, age, domicile, marital status, family type, monthly income, time of first aid & hospitalization treatment, circumstances, complications and outcome. The data has been analyzed with SSPS.

### Results

Seventy cases were included, male: female ratio was 1: 1.69, most cases of poisoning presented among male age group 21-30 years 9 (35%) followed by 41-50 years 8 (31%) and, among female 21-30 years 20 (45.5%) followed

by 31-40 years 10 (23%). Highest cases were found in married female. 37 (60%) of married female cases were consumed poison within 10 years of married life. 28 (63.64%) females and, 25 (96.15%) males were literate. Information about literacy status of 16 (36.36%) female and 1 (3.85%) male were not available. Hindus were 68 (97.2%). Majority of patients were belonging from grade 4 of Prasad's socio-economic class. Sex wise distribution of time of consumption of the poison were studied, which showed 23 (52.27%) female were between 4 AM to 12 PM and, in male 18 (69.23%) between 1 PM to 9 PM. The mean time interval for first aid & hospitalization was 50.72 minutes with a mean hospital stay of 4 day, 6 hours & 47 minutes. Mortality rate was 2 (2.86%). The commonest circumstance of the poisoning was suicide (98.6%).

### Conclusions

Majority of poisoning cases were suicide attempt. The occurrence was high in the age group of 21 - 30 years. Highest cases were found in married female. Majority of married female cases were consumed poison within 10 years of married life. Agriculture workers and females are high risk groups and may be associated with the fact that they have easy access to the poison. The incidence of poisoning and its morbidity and mortality can be reduced by developing and implementation of effective prevention strategies.