

Gannett: Cornell University Health Services

CHOLINESTERASE TESTING GUIDELINES

Workers covered	Pesticide applicators and field scouts
Pesticides used	Organophosphates and carbamates (Category I or II) labeled with the word "DANGER" or "WARNING"
Duration of pesticide exposure	Seven or more days in any 30-day period
Test frequency	<p>All employees: Every 2 years obtain 2 "baseline" cholinesterase tests, 3 –14 days apart. Third test may be needed.</p> <p>Field applicators and greenhouse applicators: Obtain "monitoring" cholinesterase test within 3 days of the conclusion of a 30-day qualifying interval. Obtain "monitoring" cholinesterase test every 30 days while working with pesticides more than 30 days</p>
Test procedure	<p>Obtain "Cholinesterase Test Request Form" from supervisor.</p> <p>Ithaca pesticide applicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring completed "Cholinesterase Test Request Form" to Occupational Health Office at Gannett Health Center (call 255-6960 to schedule test). • Have blood drawn at Gannett Health Center lab. <p>Geneva pesticide applicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fax completed "Cholinesterase Test Request Form" to Occupational Health Office at Gannett Health Center (fax 607-255-7786). • Have blood drawn at Geneva General Hospital lab.
Test result interpretation	<p>Gannett Health Center Occupational Health clinician will review test results. If "baseline" value is <85% or > 115% of previous baseline, another baseline test should be done. Worker and supervisor will be notified of need for additional testing.</p> <p>If "monitoring" value is <80% of "baseline" value, worker will be promptly notified (using phone numbers on "Cholinesterase Test Request Form") to determine possibility of pesticide poisoning. If necessary, worker and supervisor will be notified of need for worker to be removed from pesticide work and to obtain further medical evaluation.</p>
Test result notification	A letter with test results and interpretation will be sent to the worker. Test results will be maintained in the medical record at Gannett Health Center.