

Overview of bibliography organisation and description of categories

General

There are 444 references in the bibliography. The bibliography is further divided into 3 groupings; regions, theme and study type. These groups have been created to assist searching and identification of relevant references.

Region

Categories	no of articles
Africa	12
Americas	17
Asia	122
Middle East	25
Other regions	19

Thematic

Categories	Description	no of articles
Toxicology/Clinical/treatment	These articles are primarily focused on poisoning. They include case reports and guidance on toxicological aspects of diagnosis and treatment as well as experimental designs.	235
Overviews/Commentary	The articles provide an overview of either specific pesticide poisoning issues or specific regional/country issues. They may refer to other studies or describe the patterns across several districts/countries.	39
Epidemiological	These articles are studies of the distribution and determinants of conditions in specified populations. It is primarily descriptive studies with some experimental designs	136
Health services	This includes articles related to health management systems; admissions, transfers, discharges, utilisation or costs.	16
Policy	These articles are concerned with policy related to poisoning or suicide prevention. They focus on responses by government, researchers or industry and possible interventions	18
Prevention	The articles consider to some extent the prevention of poisoning. This includes primary data from studies of factors contributing to intentional poisoning or interventions and opinions about options for prevention drawn from experience.	40
Social Sciences	These articles examine a range of underlying factors contributing to intentional pesticide poisoning. They include qualitative and environmental health perspectives.	9
Suicide or Self Harm	These articles have some focus on describing suicide and self harm and may be primarily focused on pesticides as a method or include all methods.	56

Study Types

Experimental	RCT	Randomised control trials are used to test efficacy or effectiveness of interventions. The primary characteristic is that participants in the trial are randomly allocated to receive an intervention or treatment as usual.	10
Experimental	Systematic Review	Systematic review of trials; this includes abstracts related to systematic reviews in progress	11
Observational	Cohort	This is an observational study of a large group of people who share a similar characteristic – e.g. all poisoning admissions	11
Observational	Case Control	This is an observational study of two groups of people; one group of people with an outcome that is compared to a group without the outcome. It is primarily used to identify risk factors for diseases.	5
Observational	Case Series	Is a descriptive study that traces people who have had a certain exposure: e.g. all patients admitted with paraquat poisoning.	40
Observational	Descriptive	This includes studies that use routine data sources such as hospital records, census data, and data reported to poison units. It describes patterns in admissions, outcomes, methods and other epidemiological type variables.	151
Observational	Survey	This includes both community surveys and surveys carried out in hospital settings	28
Qualitative	Qualitative	These are studies that employ qualitative methods and use interviews or focus groups.	6
Opinion	Case Reports/ single case studies	These are primarily reports of single cases of poisoning focussing on clinical features	90
Opinion	Toxicological practice guidelines	These are articles that provide guidance to toxicologists on diagnosis, toxicological mechanisms and treatment regimes	59
Opinion	Expert Opinion	These are summary type articles that do not present practical research. Examples are non-systematic summaries of current evidence, presentation of arguments or debates or personal accounts related to experience.	29