

# Integrating Safety and Health into Health Care Practice

**Producers Perspective** 

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### The Power of Ag Producers

- Farmers and farm workers contribute billions of dollars to our economy.
- They have a love of land, community, and heritage.
- Risks are an accepted trait.
- Farmers are self-reliant, stoic and determined to succeed.
- Agriculture includes multi generations.
- Agriculture includes a wide range of types of operations:
  - ➤ family-owned farms, large scale farms, workers and ag businesses.

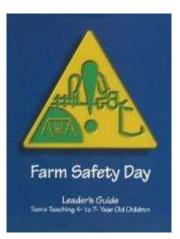


### My Story

- Farmer, Daughter, Wife, Mother, Grandmother
- CNA, EMT
- Registered Nurse
  - Med Surg
  - Obstetrics
  - Dialysis Director
- AgriSafe of Spencer Hospital
  - College Ag Program
  - 4-7 Program
  - Local clinic
  - · Farm Safety Day Camps
- National Program
  - AgriSafe Network Clinical Director
- Ag Health and Safety Alliance
  - Ag Medicine Training
  - Focus on the next generation of Agriculture

















### Understand what our hazards and exposures are and the risks we are taking to feed the world.

# Health and Safety Issues in Agriculture

- Respiratory exposures
- Zoonotic disease
- Chemicals / Pesticides
- Sun exposures
- Noise
- Stress
- Musculoskeletal injuries
- Veterinary pharmaceuticals
- Hazardous equipment
- Acute and chronic trauma
- Grain bins
- Ladders, slips, trips and falls



### Challenges

# Challenges for the ag population seeking care from health care providers in rural agricultural communities:

- Few Ag businesses and large Ag operations have identified safety managers
- Health care providers may have limited access to education and training in ag medicine
- Health care providers have limited resources related to agricultural prevention strategies
- Regulations change and we are required to perform our jobs differently.





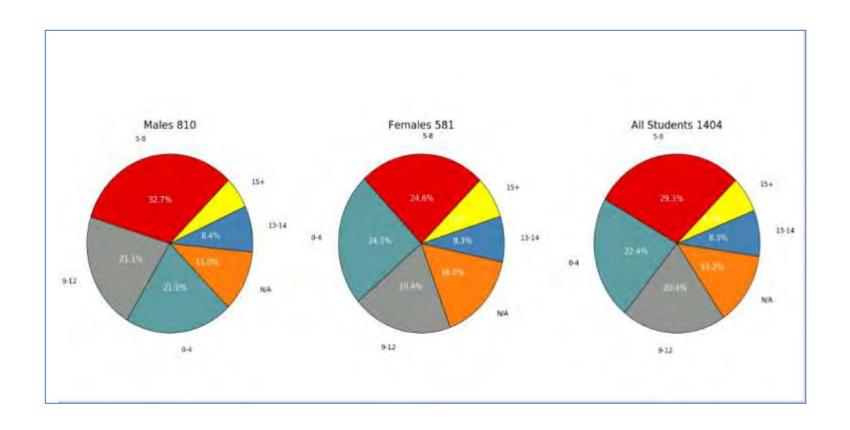


# We Need Trained Agricultural Health Care Providers

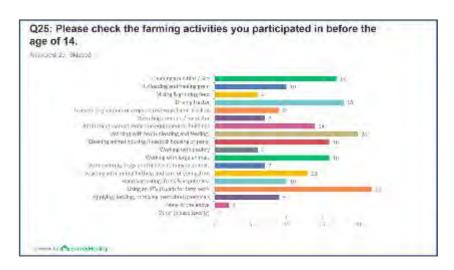
- The health care community has little, if any, training in agricultural occupational health.
- Knowledge of farm exposures, ergonomics, work practices, social/cultural differences, economics, and health care utilization can improve the health of the farming community.

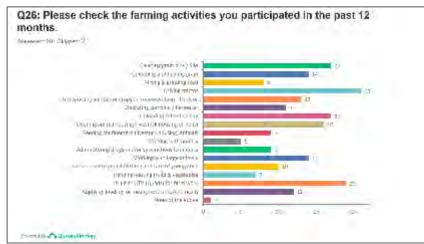


# Q4: How old were you when you first started helping/working on the farm?



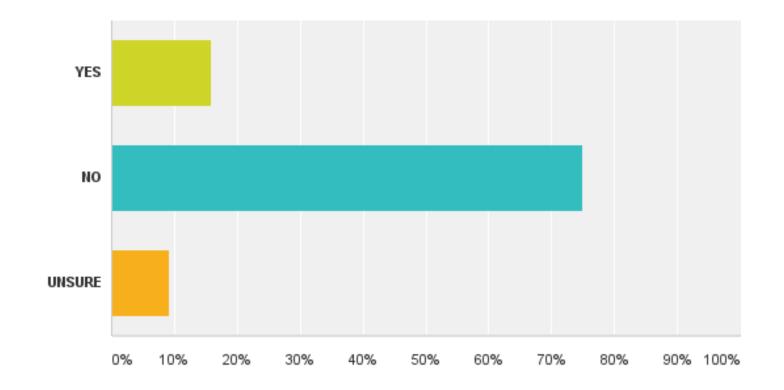






# VERY SIMILAR BEFORE 14 YOUNG ADULT





Has your doctor or other healthcare provider discussed farm-related health or safety injuries or illness with you?



The Number of females in Agriculture is increasing.









### Continuum of life

All stages of life can be impacted when we are living and working in the agricultural workplace which is also our home.











# Continuum of Life



# Extended Families



### **Next Generations**













afety



### **PRIORITIES**















# Ways, we can protect ourselves from hazards in the best-case scenario.







- Situational awareness
- Attention to hazards
- Windows of increased risk (harvest)
- Apply managerial skills to health and safety for overall well being
- Have a plan for external demands while maintaining health.



# Hierarchy of Controls What does that mean to us?

Where does PPE fit?

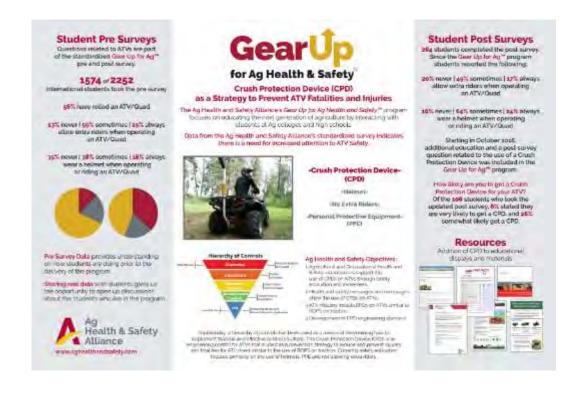






### **Engineering Controls**

Previous survey results from >800 Midwestern young adults in the AHSA Gear Up for Ag™ Program show that 56% have rolled an ATV, yet 76% report allowing extra riders and only 18% report wearing helmets when operating the device





# Use of Appropriate Personal Protective Equipment









We want Choice and Comfort



# Personal Protective Equipment Fit, Education and Sales







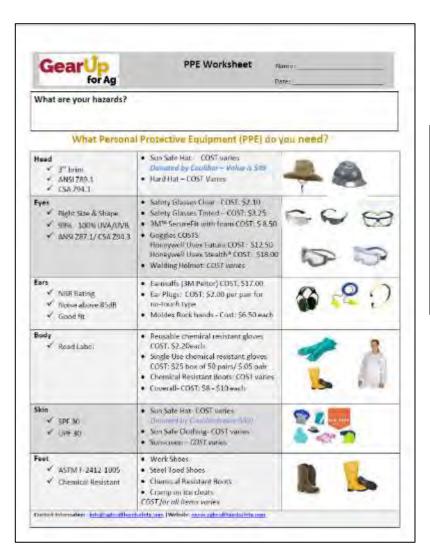




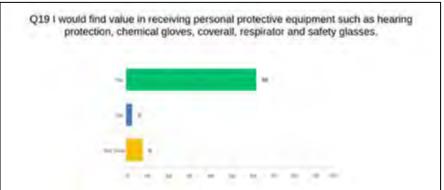


**Availability -Information** 





### **Prevention Strategies**



Understand the cost of PPE Know where PPE is available.





# Appropriate Respiratory Protection

- Understand Respiratory Hazards
- Engineering controls- what is feasible
- Avoid High Risk Exposures <u>if Possible</u>
- Protection how can you help?
  - Understand what is the right mask for the job so you can help us.
  - The right fit for the mask. Be able to do fit testing.
  - Are masks available? Find out where so you can help us find the right respirator.
  - Be able to education us on the care, maintenance and storage of respirators.



# Respirator Fit Testing Business Case

### Community-Based Respirator Fit Testing

Respirator fit testing is a growing need in many agricultural communities due to changes in the Worker-Protection Standard requirements for producers who apply posticides. Respirator in testing is also important for other types of exposures, but many communities do not have someone who is trained to perform fit testing.

One individual may have the capacity to perform all aspects of the respirator fit test including administering the questionnaire, review of the medical questionnaire, medical evaluation and perform the fit test but this is not common. In most cases people will need to rely on more than one individual to accomplish having a respirator fit test that commiss with OSHA standards. This will require building a network consisting of individuals and organizations to ensure individuals can easily receive a respirator fit test. The chart on the previous page provides appropriate roles and responsibilities for a variety of individuals and professionals that may be responsible for respirator fit testing. Two different examples of how these individuals can work together are as follows:

### Example # 1 ABC Manufacturing Company

- ABC Manufacturing Company determines their employees need a respirator fit test and implements a Respiratory Fit Test Program.
- The Safety Officer at ABC Manufacturing Company administers the medical questionnaire.
- A registered nurse (RN) or licensed health care professional (LHCP) reviews the medical questionnaire to determine if a medical evaluation is required.
- A local physician does the medical evaluation for the employee(s)
- The satety officer at ABC Manufacturing Company is qualified to perform respirator 1t testing.
- The safety officer establishes and maintains a Resolvatory Program per OSHA requirements.
   This includes education, resolvator cleaning, storage and cartridge changing sphedule.

### Example #2 Farmer Swanson Applies Pesticides

- Farmer Swanson determines his family members need a respirator fit lest based on the pesticide label.
- Farmer Swanson contacts his health care provider (HCP Office) to find out how to get a respiratory fit test.
- The HCP Office discusses the need for a medical questionnaire to be completed with Farmer Swanson. Shafte directle Farmer Swanson pick up the medical questionnaire or sends if by mail or email to Farmer Swanson and his family members.
- Farmer Swanson and family memoers complete the medical questionnaire and return it to the HCP Office.



### Community-based Respirator Fit Testing Business Case

Finding a way to make respirator fit testing accessible in communities can be challenging. In many cases, several organizations and /or individuals may need to be involved.to accomplishing a respirator fit test program that complies with OSHA, and/ or the Worker Protection Standard.

Having all aspects of respirator fit testing in one organization is the easiest but not always feasible. A health care provider has the potential to have this ability by having an individual(s) trained in performing respirator fit testing within the office.

In other scenarios, someone trained in fit testing would refer to a health care provider for the medical evaluation services. In all scenarios, communication, networking and establishing a fee structure is important. The following items will most likely require some type of fee for service structure.

- Medical evaluation questionnaire review
- Medical evaluation (this may include a
- physical and a lung function test)
- Respirator Fit Test
   Respirator use education
- Respirator program administration
- Retail sales of respirator supplies

Fit testing a respirator is an important part of the entire process of appropriate respiratory protection. Other aspects of respirator fit testing include the availability of respirators and cartridges for specific respiratory hazards, individuals or health care providers who perform respiratory fit testing and assist with the administration of a respirator program are many times also the resource for assisting the individual in finding the right respirator and purchasing decisions. Creating a community-based respirator fit test model will assist in making certain that all aspects of appropriate respirator profection are available.

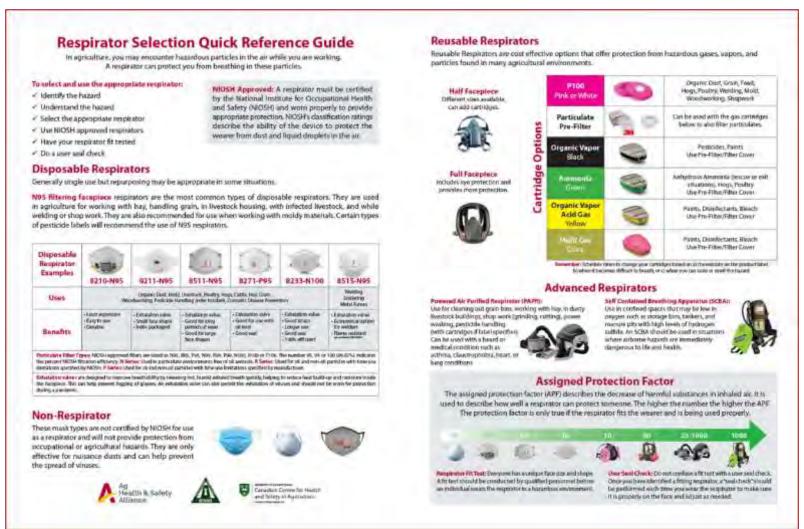


### Questionnaire

|    | hen establishing a community-based respirator fit testing in your community consider these:  | ie tollowing   |
|----|--|----------------|
| 2  | What are your qualifications? (Safety officer, nurse, pharmacist, farmer, farm wife, physician, nurse practitioner)  |                |
|    | Are you willing and able to administer the OSHA Medical Questionnaire?   | Yes / No       |
|    | if no, who can administer this questionnaire?  |                |
| 2. | Are you qualified and willing to review the medical questionnaire?   | Yes / No       |
|    | if no, who can review the medical questionnaire?   |                |
| 3. | Are you qualified and willing to perform the medial evaluation?  | Yes / No       |
|    | If no, who can perform the medical evaluation?   |                |
| 4. | Do you plan to perform respirator fit tests in your community?   | Yes / No       |
|    | If no, who would be able to do this?   |                |
|    | Are you confident in your ability to recommend appropriate respiratory protection?   | Yes / No       |
|    | If no, who would be your resource to recommend appropriate respirator protection?  |                |
|    | List the organizations or individuals who would be part of your community-based respirator fit testing:  |                |
|    | a Medical professional   |                |
|    | b. Safety professional   |                |
|    | c. Professional Licensed Health Care Providers (PLHCP)   |                |
|    | d. Others  |                |
| 7  | Where can people purchase respiratory protection in your community?  |                |
|    | a. Research what respirators are available in the community  |                |
|    | b. Make a list (including prices) for people seeking fit testing   |                |
|    | <ul> <li>If respiratory protection is not available or is limited in your community, where else<br/>respiratory protection.</li> </ul>   | can people buy |
| ß. | Do you know the cost of respirators of all types?  | Yes / No       |
| 5. | a. Make a list of respirators commonly used  |                |
| 5. | The second of th |                |



### Have good resources available that are easy to follow.





### Pesticides

Have the ability to help us read the label or MSDS/SDS

Information on Personal Protective Equipment

I am thinking about application rate not the precautionary statement.

Ask me the right questions: Have you been applying pesticides?

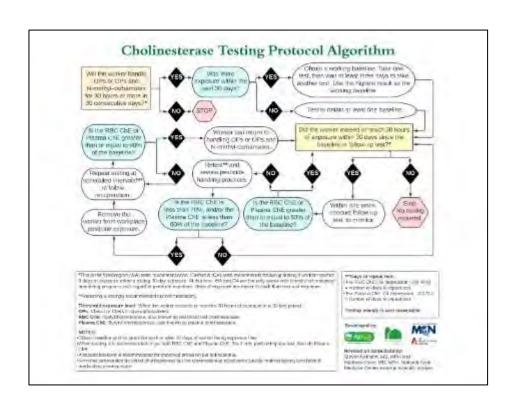




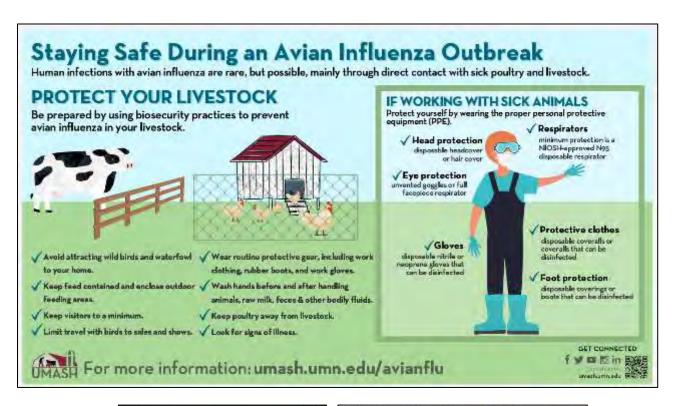
### Understand the Cholinesterase Protocol

Ask me what pesticides I use. Know if I should be tested.

- Whom to Test?
- Testing
- Post Exposure Testing
- Medical Removal
- Level of Return to Handling
- Review of Handling Practices







# Emerging Issues







### Agricultural Occupational Health

- Identification of High-Risk Areas
  - Producer /worker
  - Young adults
  - Women in agriculture
  - Older adults
  - Spouse, children, other family members











### Occupational Health Services

Know the difference between Occupational and Agricultural Health Services

### **Agricultural Specific Screening Services**

- Occupational History
- Lung Function screening
- Hearing Test
- Skin Cancer Screening
- Back/Spine Lifting Safety Assessment
- Cholinesterase
- Tetanus Immunization

## General Health Screening Services

- Height/weight evaluation
- Blood Pressure
- Cholesterol



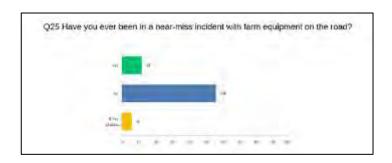


### Where I Seek CARE

- Family Physicians
  - Nurses
- Advanced Practice Nurse
- Nurse Practitioner
- Hospitals
- Public Health
- Emergency Departments
- Specialists
  - Ear/Nose/ Throat
  - Pulmonologists
  - Audiologists

- Chiropractor
- Mental Health
   Services
- Pharmacists
- Social Services
- Occupational Health
- Public Health Nurses
- Veterinarian





# Q24 Have you ever been in a crash involving farm equipment on the road?

### Natural Disasters & Man made Disasters









### **Immediate**

- Safety
- Reaction to event (neighbors, family, friends)

### Short term

- Harvest
- Stress
- Insurance

### Long term

- Financial
- Behavior change
- Motivators (Experience? Incentives?)

### Immediate

- Stress
- Reaction to event (neighbors, family, friends)
- Watching and Waiting

### Short term

- Stress
- Modify established farming practice
- Crop Insurance

### Long term

- Stress
- Modify established farming practice
- Crop Insurance
- Financial
- Health care



### **Outcomes**

### Outcomes – Healthcare Access











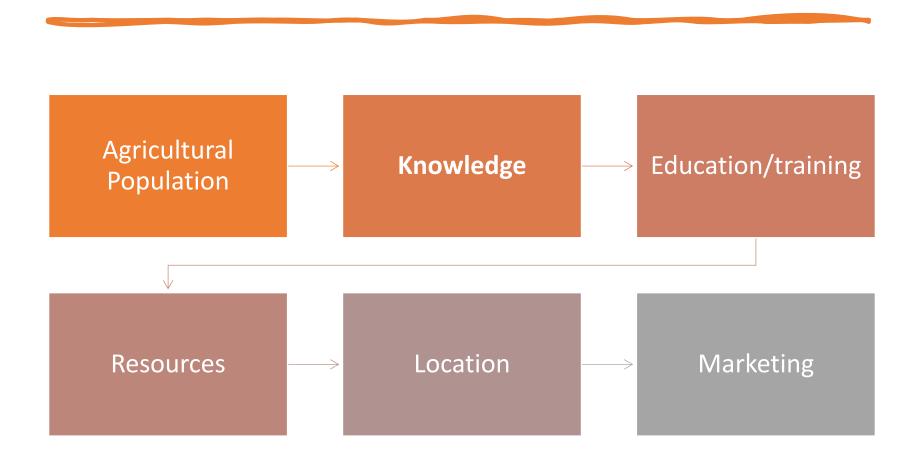
### INTEGRATING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH INTO EXISTING SERVICES

What you can do to help us.

- Provide services that fit the need in your area.
- Include Ag specific questions in exam
- Research what is currently available in PPE
- Review current literature
- Incorporate element of preventive health care into current job
- Be a reliable resource
- Have appropriate products available
- Find ways to ask what they need & want
- Be the expert
- Know what is happening in agriculture
- Learn how to do fit testing



# IMPORTANT STEPS IN DEVELOPING AGRICULTURAL HEALTH AND SAFETY SERVICES



### SERVICE LOCATIONS

- Commodity Groups Meetings/conferences
- Pesticide Applicator Training
- Farm Association Meetings/conferences
- Grain Elevators
- County Fairs
- Seed Dealers
- Stockyards
- Machine Dealerships



# Example: Clay County Fair

9 days \$7000 PPE Sales Contacts

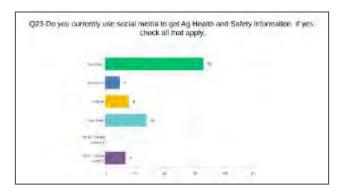






### Health and Safety Messages

- Social Networking
  - Facebook live streaming
  - Instagram
  - Snap Chat
  - Blogs
  - Twitter
- Radio Show
- Internet Newsletters
- Displays in new places
- Online catalogs and ordering
- New Partners













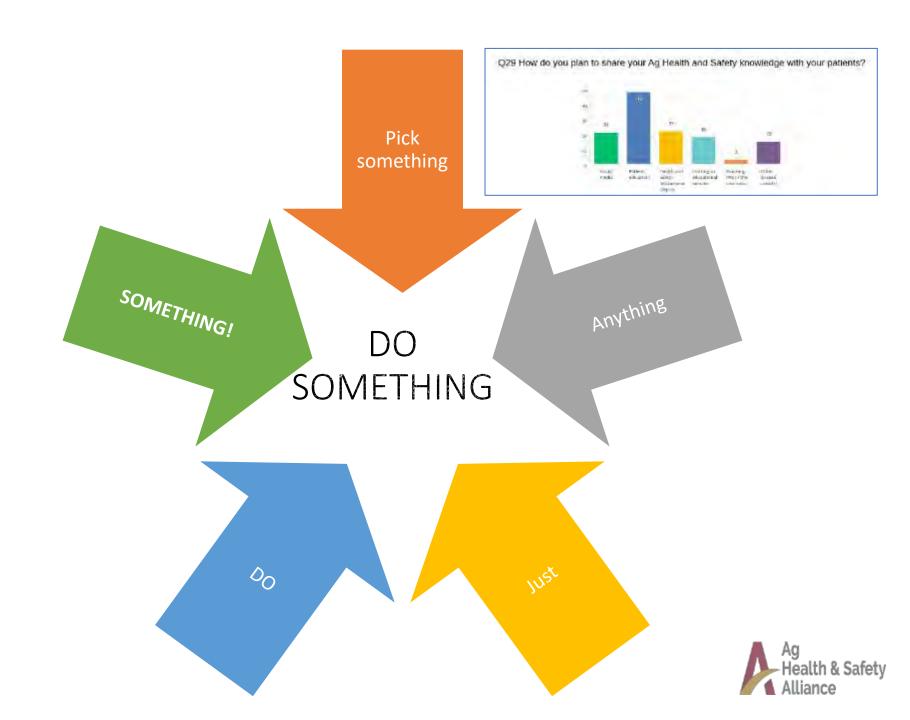
### **RESOURCES - OPTIONS**











Learn about Ag in your region

**Demonstration PPE** 

Find out what PPE is available locally

Set up programs

Be the expert at something (hearing, respiratory, PPE)

Network

Resources

### To Do List









### Protection From Hazards

Farming as an Occupation
Not just a Life Style
Work Place is also Home

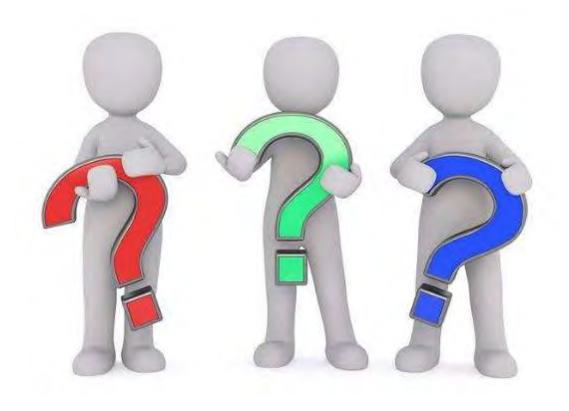














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