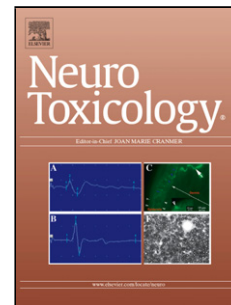


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Association between environmental exposure to pesticides and epilepsy

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Highlights

- The relationship between environmental exposure to pesticides and epilepsy is unknown
- 4007 subjects diagnosed with epilepsy over the years 1998 and 2010 were examined
- Areas of high vs. low pesticide used were defined based on agronomic data
- A high prevalence rate of epilepsy was found in areas of greater pesticide use
- Environmental exposure to pesticides might increase the risk of having epilepsy

Abstract

There is increasing evidence of an association between long-term environmental exposure to pesticides and neurodegenerative disorders; however, the relationship with epilepsy has not been addressed thus far. This study was aimed at determining the prevalence and risk of developing epilepsy among people from South-East Spain living in areas of high vs. low exposure to pesticides based on agronomic data. The study population consisted of 4007 subjects with a diagnosis of epilepsy and 580,077 control

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