

Protocols for Uniform Evaluation of Insecticides for use in Vector Control



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PREFACE

Vector control has been and still the cardinal strategy in ameliorating people from the scourge of emerging and re-emerging arthropod-borne diseases. Deployment of chemicals especially insecticides had tantalising success in eradicating a few major vector borne diseases from different parts of the world. The role of insecticides is still relevant in controlling vector borne diseases during outbreaks and for routine vector control to limit the transmission. However, the specific use of insecticide in varied ecological situations and different disease paradigms have registered significant technological advancements resulting in developing precise and focussed insecticide intervention techniques. In order to make proper selection of insecticides to be used in different strategies under the national programme, evaluation of insecticides must be done by different institutes by adopting and adhering to common protocols. This will facilitate National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) and other nodal agencies to finally select the insecticide for control of vector borne diseases.

Malaria Research Centre (MRC) is involved in the evaluation of insecticides for the programme since its inception. Since many institutes are involved in this task both MRC and Vector Control Research Centre (VCRC), Pondicherry decided that common protocols are quite essential to compare the results of different trials. For this purpose MRC, constituted an expert committee under the chairmanship of Prof. M.K.K. Pillai, former Head, Dept. of Zoology, University of Delhi who himself is a renowned insect toxicologist. The committee elicited contributions from scientists of NVBDCP, NICD (National Institute of Communicable Diseases), VCRC besides MRC. I am indeed happy that the expert committee deliberated the subject during the last three months and finalised these protocols for uniform evaluation of insecticides for different intervention methods. This draft was also perused by NVBDCP, NICD, Delhi; VCRC, Pondicherry; CRME (Centre for Research in Medical Entomology), Madurai; and Prof. R.C. Mahajan, Chairman and Dr. S. Pattanayak and Shri N.L. Kalra, Members of the Scientific Advisory Committee of MRC .

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