PESTICIDE ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE and RESPONDING TO PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS RELATIVE TO ENVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL AND ERADICATION ACTIVITIES

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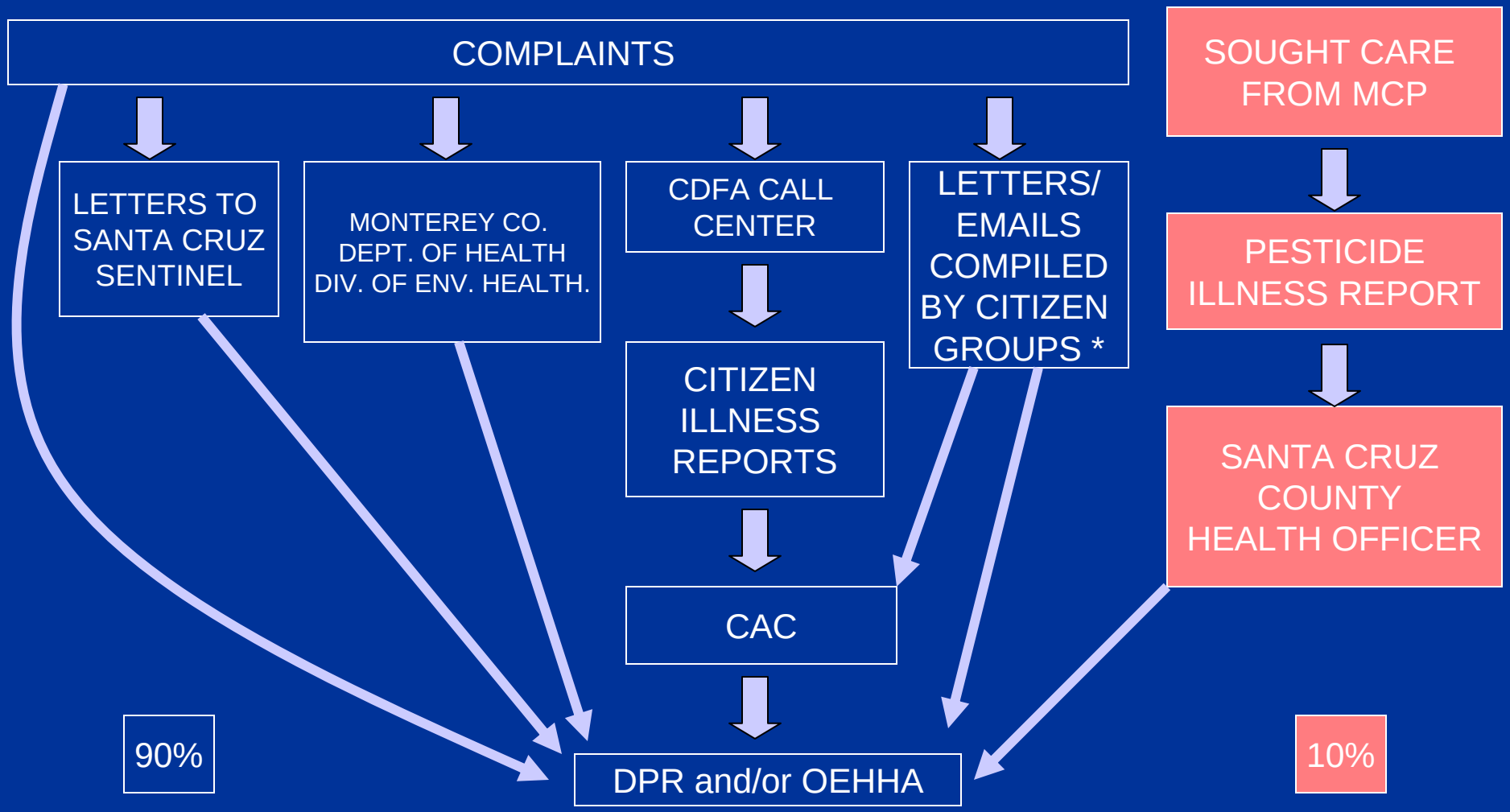
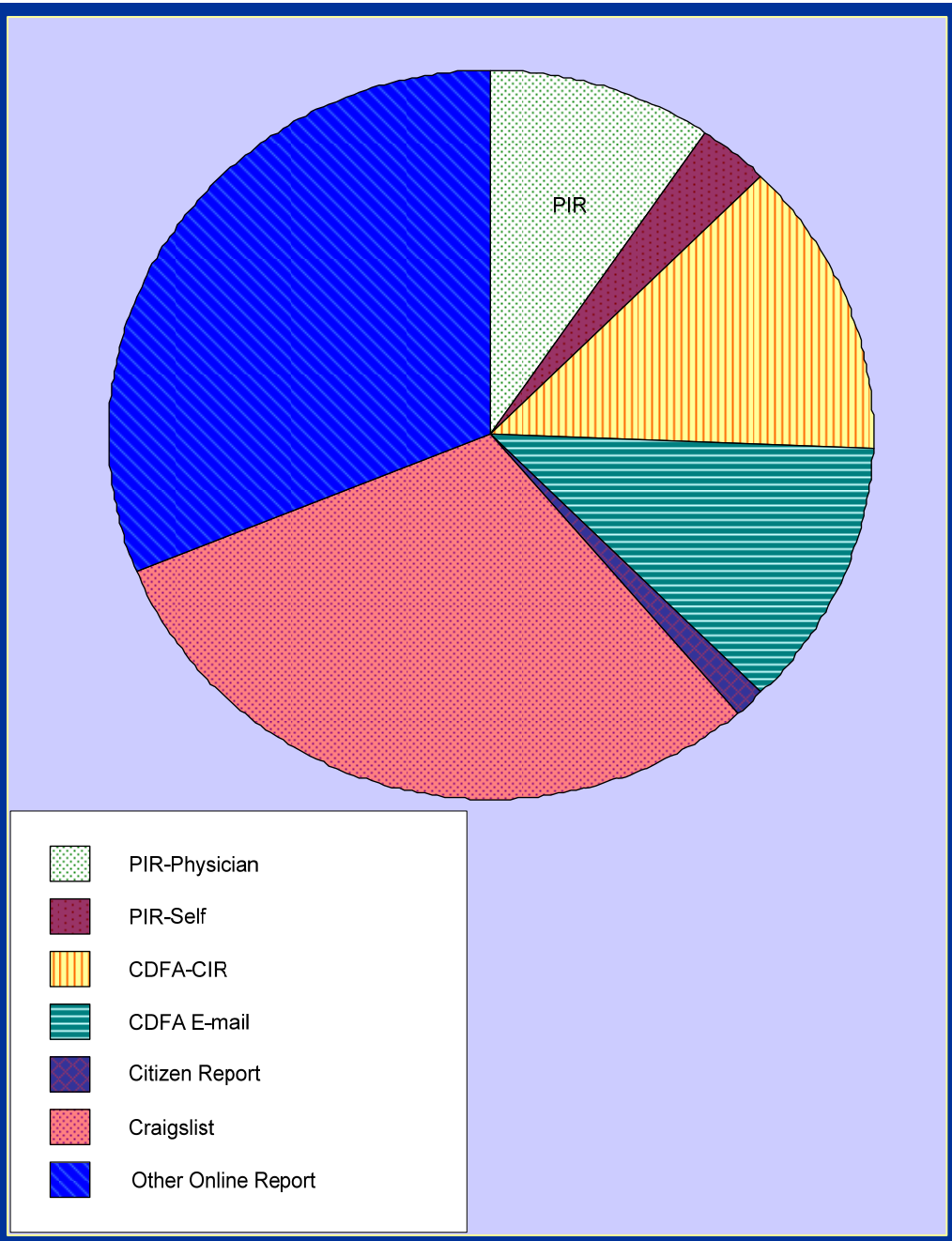
BACKGROUND

- March 2007 - LBAM findings confirmed
- Selected primary eradication tool: Mating disruption using synthetic moth pheromones
- Fall of 2007 - Aerial pheromone applications conducted in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties

HOW WERE LBAM RELATED ILLNESSES AND COMPLAINTS REPORTED IN 2007?

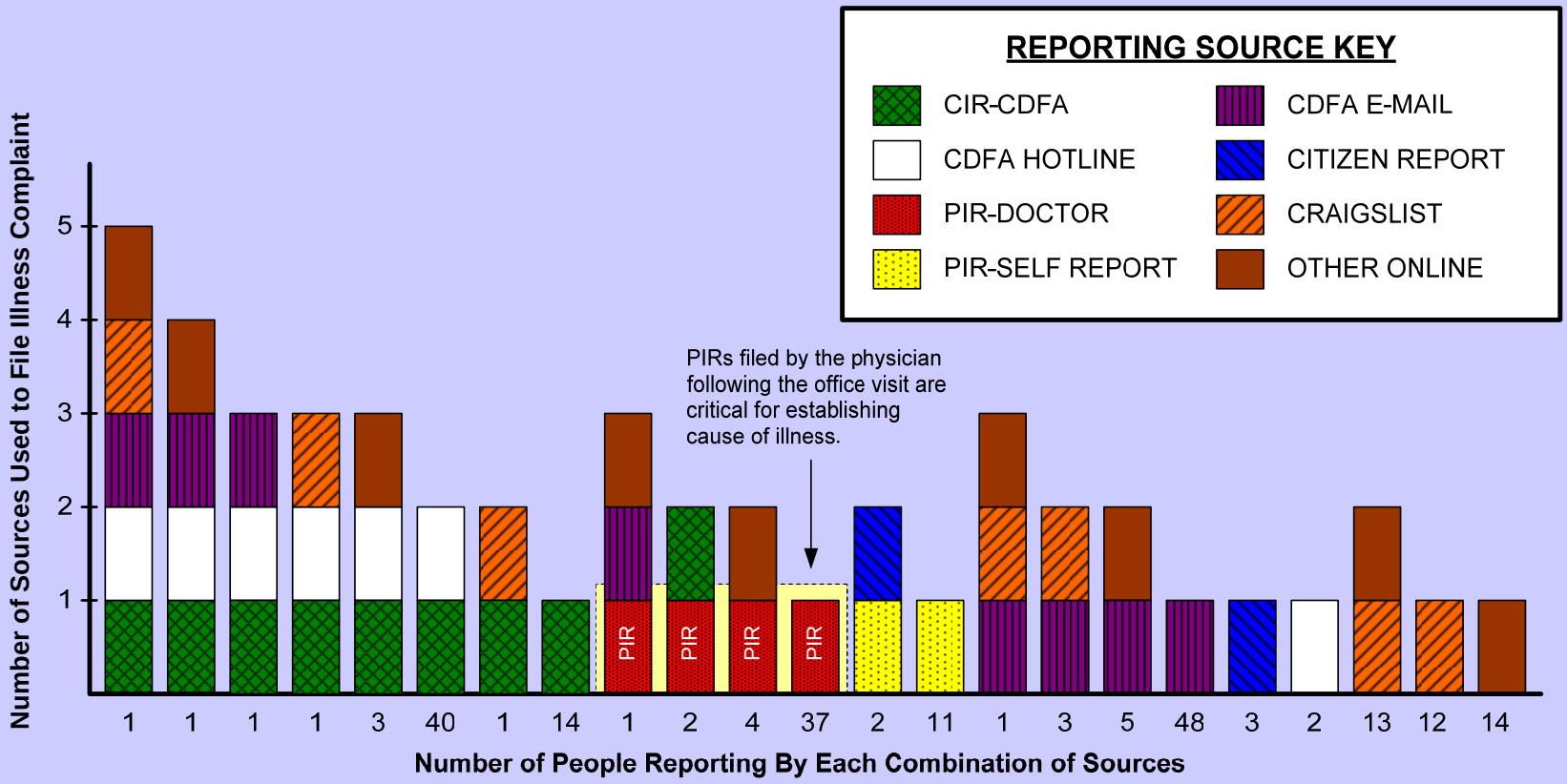


* Citizen's Groups:
www.stopthespray.com,
www.reactiontospraying@yahoo.com,
Mike Lynberg's 'compendium' of complaints



Source: OEHHA, DPR, DPH. 2008. Summary of Symptom Reports In Areas of Aerial Pheromone Application for Management of the Light Brown Apple Moth in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties September, October, and November 2007.

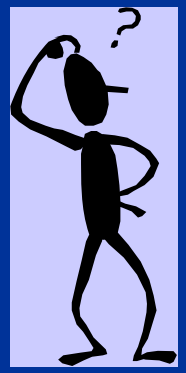
FIGURE . SOURCES OF ILLNESS COMPLAINTS AFTER AERIAL PHEROMONE SPRAYING IN MONTEREY AND SANTA CRUZ COUNTIES IN FALL 2007



PIR-DOCTOR: Pesticide Illness Report [Form OEH 700 (9/2006)] completed by a physician.
PIR-SELF REPORT: PIR [Form OEH 700 (9/2006)] completed by a person that did not consult a physician.
CIR-CDFA: Citizen illness report received from persons that called the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) call center to report health effects of the spraying.
CITIZEN REPORT: Letters sent by individuals directly to OEHHA, CDFA and DPR.
CDFA HOTLINE: Phone number individuals called to complain to CDFA about the spraying, but not specifically for health-related complaints.
CDFA E-MAIL: Reports received from individuals who sent an e-mail to the CDFA Office of Public Affairs.
CRAIGSLIST: Website where individuals posted their health-related complaints in relation to the LBAM spraying in Monterey County.
OTHER ONLINE: Other online sources included reactiontospraying@yahoo.com, www.stopthespray.org, and the Santa Cruz Sentinel website.

Source: OEHHA, DPR, DPH. 2008. Summary of Symptom Reports In Areas of Aerial Pheromone Application for Management of the Light Brown Apple Moth in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties September, October, and November 2007.

LIMITATIONS OF ILLNESS DATA COLLECTED DURING 2007 LBAM AERIAL APPLICATONS



- Variable data quality
  - Ranged from adequate information (PIR) to ‘one liners’
  - Some reports without any identifiers (i.e.anonymous emails)
  - Inadequate or no information on:
    - Exposure circumstances – Where? When? How?
    - Symptoms
- Symptoms were only assessed by a trained medical provider if the complainant sought medical care (and generated a PIR.)

Sat, 15 Sep 2007 01:36:07 -0700 (PDT)
[redacted]***@sbcglobal.net>*** wrote:

I have had a scratchy, dry throat - cough - and burning eyes since the first day of the spray.

Pacific Grove Resident

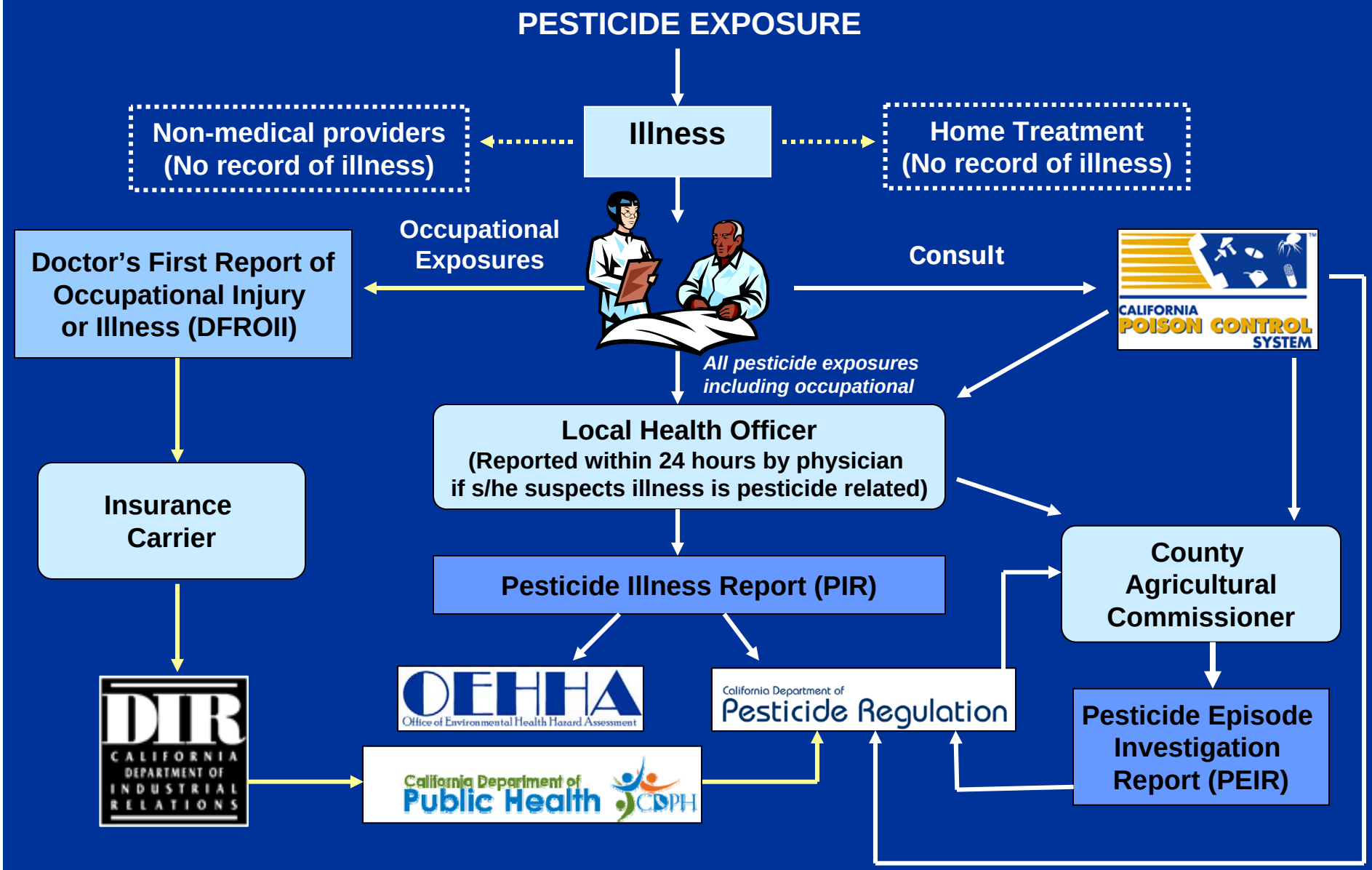
SUMMARY OF SYMPTOM REPORT
Collaboration of DPR, OEHHA and DPH

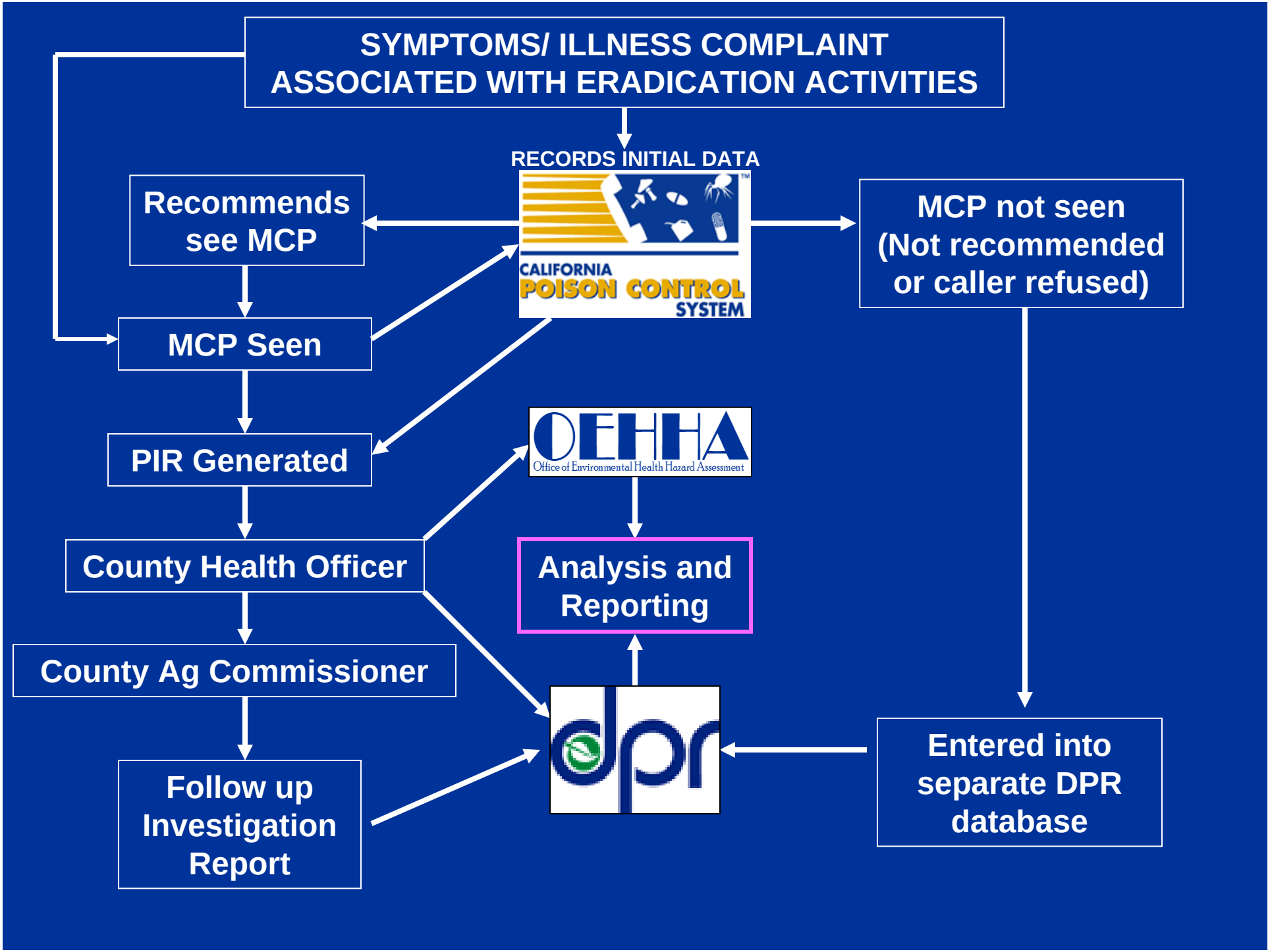
– Recommendations:
  - Improve Communication
  - Provide Health Risk Information
  - Inform Health Care Providers to Recognize Pesticide-Related Illness
  - Centralized Illness Reporting

GOALS FOR IMPROVING THE PESTICIDE ILLNESS SURVEILLANCE and RESPONDING TO PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

- Encourage single location reporting
- Provide accurate and consistent information
- Evaluate symptoms experienced
- Collect complete information
- Rapid analysis and reporting
- Streamline with other ancillary activities
  - Physician outreach
  - Public Outreach

WHAT'S ALREADY IN PLACE?: REPORTING PESTICIDE RELATED ILLNESSES AND INJURIES IN CALIFORNIA




SYMPTOMS/ ILLNESS COMPLAINT ASSOCIATED WITH ERADICATION ACTIVITIES
RECORDS INITIAL DATA
CALIFORNIA POISON CONTROL SYSTEM
Recommends see MCP
MCP not seen (Not recommended or caller refused)
MCP Seen
PIR Generated
OEHHA
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment
County Health Officer
Analysis and Reporting
County Ag Commissioner
dpr
Entered into separate DPR database
Follow up Investigation Report

QUESTIONS?