June 26, 2009

To Flight Attendants:

Volunteers are needed to provide urine samples to determine if spraying of pesticides on some airplanes (a procedure known as disinsection) increases the level of pesticides in the body of flight attendants above what is typically measured in the general adult population of the US or in other flight attendants that only fly on planes where pesticides are not used. Participants will be asked to collect urine samples on three days and send them to us for analyses in a pre-paid FedEx package.

This study is being funded by the US Federal Aviation Administration through their Center of Excellence Program (Airline Cabin Environment Research http://www.acer-coe.org/) in response to a mandate from congress to evaluate crew and passenger exposure to pesticides.

The results of your urine analysis will be provided to you along with the concentration ranges typical of the US adult population. We need volunteers from routes where spraying is done and where it is not done.

You will receive compensation of $50.00 for your time once the samples are received by the laboratory.

If you have any questions about the project or interested in participating please contact Dr. Clifford Weisel at 732-445-0154 (weisel@ehsi.rutgers.edu) or Ms. Teresa Boutilette 732-445-2073.
Thank you.

Sincerely,

Clifford Weisel, Professor
Exposure Science Division