

A brief medical case history was compiled on each subject who was hospitalized or obviously ill. Healthy subjects were simply asked the general questions as indicated on the questionnaire.

In the case of the nine Hmong refugees claiming to have been attacked with "yellow rain", further details were sought, not only as regards the reported sickness and/or death of humans, but also as to any other visible effects, such as on plants and animals. Among the symptoms reported were nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, bloody diarrhea, headache and weakness. Epidemic diseases might normally explain illnesses affecting many villages over a short period, but they would not explain the accompanying death of crops or livestock.

It should be noted that many of the people sampled, including those not claiming to have been exposed to "yellow rain", had heard stories about the use of such substances. This was particularly true of the Khmer refugees sampled, only one of whom claimed "yellow rain" exposure. In view of frequent Khmer Rouge reporting of Vietnamese use of toxin/chemical weapons, the Khmer refugees were generally aware of such allegations.