

Type: *Review Article*

Title: Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning

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Abstract: Neurotoxic Shellfish Poisoning (NSP) is a disease caused by the consumption of shellfish contaminated with brevetoxins produced by the marine dinoflagellate, *Karenia brevis*. Blooms of *K.brevis*, known as Florida red tides, are reported in relatively few locations including the Gulf of Mexico, eastern coast of Florida and as far up as North Carolina. Brevetoxins induce a channel-mediated Na⁺ ion influx producing moderate gastrointestinal and neurological symptoms. There are less than 100 cases reported in the literature although the duration and frequency of red tides appears to be increasing. The present review summarizes geographical distribution, mechanisms of toxicity, case histories, symptoms, and evolving risk factors.