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All papers should be submitted in triplicate to The Editor, *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, BMJ Publishing Group, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Each author must sign the covering letter as evidence of consent to publication. Papers reporting results of experiments on human subjects will not be considered unless the authors state explicitly that each subject gave his or her informed written consent to the procedure and that the protocol was approved by the appropriate ethics committee.

If requested, authors shall produce the data upon which the manuscript is based for examination by the editor.

Papers are accepted on the understanding that they are contributed solely to this journal and are subject to editorial revision. The editor cannot enter into correspondence about papers rejected as being unsuitable for publication, and his decision is final. Papers should follow the requirements of the International Steering Committee of Medical Editors (*BMJ* 1979;i:532-5). **Papers should be prefaced by an abstract of the argument and findings which should be more comprehensive than a summary. Papers and references must be typewritten on one side of the paper only, both in double spacing, and with a wide margin. Both SI units and their equivalents must be given throughout** (Baron *et al*, *J Clin Pathol* 1974;27:590-7). Photographs and photomicrographs on glossy paper should be submitted unmounted. Charts and graphs should be carefully drawn in black ink on tracing linen or Bristol board or stout white paper. Legends to figures should be typed on a separate sheet of paper.

References will not be checked by the editorial office; responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of references lies with the author. Number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Identify references in texts, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals above the line. References cited only in tables or in legends to figures should be numbered in accordance with a sequence established by the first identification in the text of a particular table or illustration. The number of references should be kept to the absolute minimum and only those essential to the argu-

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All manuscripts submitted to *Occup Environ Med* should conform to the uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals (known as the Vancouver style.)

Occup Environ Med, together with many other international biomedical journals, has agreed to accept articles prepared in accordance with the Vancouver style. The style (described in full in the *BMJ*, 24 February 1979, p 532) is intended to standardise requirements for authors.

References should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text by Arabic numerals above the line on each occasion the reference is cited (Manson¹ confirmed other reports²⁻⁵ . . .). In future references to papers submitted to *Occup Environ Med*

should include: the names of all authors if there are seven or less or, if there are more, the first six followed by *et al*; the title of journal articles or book chapters; the titles of journals abbreviated according to the style of *Index Medicus*; and the first and final page numbers of the article or chapter. Titles not in *Index Medicus* should be given in full.

Examples of common forms of references are:

- 1 International Steering Committee of Medical Editors, Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. *Br Med J* 1979;1:532-5.
- 2 Soter NA, Wasserman SI, Austen KF. Cold urticaria: release into the circulation of histamine and eosinophil chemotactic factor of anaphylaxis during cold challenge. *N Engl J Med* 1976;294:687-90.
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Correspondence and editorials

Occupational and Environmental Medicine welcomes correspondence relating to any of the material appearing in the journal. Results from preliminary or small scale studies may also be published in the correspondence column if this seems appropriate. Letters should be not more than 500 words in length and contain a minimum of references. Tables and figures should be kept to an

absolute minimum. Letters are accepted on the understanding that they may be subject to editorial revision and shortening.

The journal also publishes editorials which are normally specially commissioned. The Editor welcomes suggestions regarding suitable topics; those wishing to submit an editorial, however, should do so only after discussion with the Editor.

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Destruction of manuscripts

From 1 July 1985 articles submitted for publication will not be returned. Authors whose papers are rejected will be advised of

the decision and the manuscripts will be kept under security for three months to deal with any inquiries and then destroyed.

BOOK REVIEW

Review of NCRP report No 116: Limitation of Exposure to Ionising Radiation. Available from NCRP Publications, 7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 800, Bethesda, Maryland 20814, USA. \$25.00. ISBN 0-929600-30-4.

Since 1931 the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP) has been issuing reports on a wide range of topics and issues associated with radiation protection. Report 116 supersedes and replaces report 91 — *Recommendations on Limits for Exposure to Ionising Radiation*. The recommendations of the present report are broadly similar to those of report 91, but here the NCRP is reiterating and updating its stance on radiation protection issues after publication of additional data on the biological effects of ionising radiation, in particular a more than threefold increase in the estimated fatal cancer risk/unit radiation dose.

Recommendations are presented for both occupational and public exposures to ionising radiation—for instance, cumulative (lifetime) effective dose for occupational exposure should not exceed age in years \times 10 mSv with an annual limit of 50 mSv. This can be compared with the most recent recommendations of the International Commission on Radiological Protection (ICRP60), which include 100 mSv effective dose in five years and no more than 50 mSv in any one year; NCRP and ICRP start from slightly different dose-rate upper limit presumptions, however, for both uniform and worst case exposure. NCRP work to a cumulative exposure of 640 mSv giving an average fatal cancer risk of 0.025 for uniform exposure to radiation and 0.031 for worst case conditions. ICRP assume a cumulative exposure of 940 mSv, giving an

average risk of 0.037 for uniform exposure and 0.039 for worst case exposure.

NCRP's declared objective is to achieve a level of radiation safety where risks are comparable to, or less than, those in safe industries. An average annual risk of about 1 in 10 000 is therefore taken to be acceptable but admitting that workers close to the maximum permissible may run 10 times as high a risk. This report also takes some note of non-fatal radiation risks, conceding that radiation exposure is not the only source of risk to workers in industries using radiation. It also recognises that fatal accident rates in industry in the United States are progressively declining.

The present volume is an important addition to the range of definitive reports from the NCRP, and is recommended to those with a professional interest in radiation safety in industry.

E J WOOD

NOTICES

Pro Health Care '94

26–29 June 1994, Stockholm, Sweden. This is the second international conference on the working environment of health care workers. It is organised by the Swedish National Institute of Occupational Health under the auspices of the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) Scientific Committee on Occupational Health for Health Care Workers.

For further information, please contact: Ms Britt Gardelach, National Institute of

Occupational Health, S-171 84 Solna, Sweden. Telephone +46 (8) 730 91 00; Fax +46 (8) 27 35 05.

Work with display units *Fourth International Scientific Conference*, 2–5 October, 1994, University of Milan.

Since the mid 1980s, there have been three international scientific conferences held on the topic of biological and safety issues related to VDU-assisted workplaces. The Milan WVDU '94 will take into account the updated knowledge from different disciplines in many countries.

VDU operators' problems are often common to other workers involved in traditional office activities. A major goal of the conference will therefore be the development of interdisciplinary syntheses, as no discipline applied independently of the others can provide exhaustive responses to these problems.

Emphasis will also be placed on studies about positive psychophysiological effects of work with display units, because so far only negative effects have been brought to light. The main conference topics will be: ● man at work (risk assessment, medical surveillance, etc); ● work characteristics and contents (software and work contents, etc); ● environment, equipment and layout (environmental conditions, furniture requirements, etc); ● legislation and technical standards (international legislation and national policies, etc). Accepted scientific papers will be published in the proceedings of WVDU '94.

For further information please contact the **Scientific secretariat**: *G Molteni, B Piccoli, E Occhipinti*, Istituto di Medicina del Lavoro, Via S Barnaba, 8 20122 Milano, Italy. Telephone: +39 2 5511610; Fax: +39 2 55187112; or the **Organising secretariat**: *AES Congressi Srl*, Via Scheiwiller, 1 20139 Milano, Italy. Telephone: +39 2 55210523/57403891; Fax: +39 2 57400473.