

Occupational and Environmental Medicine



Adopted as the Journal of the Faculty of
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NOTICE TO CONTRIBUTORS *Occupational and Environmental Medicine* is intended for the publication of original contributions relevant to occupational and environmental medicine, including toxicological studies of chemicals of industrial, agricultural, and environmental importance, and epidemiological studies. As well as full papers, short papers dealing with brief or preliminary observations relevant to occupational and environmental medicine will also be considered. Case reports should cover substantial new ground to merit publication. Other articles, including review or position papers, will be considered but should not be submitted without first approaching the Editor to discuss their suitability for the *Journal*. Letters to the Editor are always welcome.

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS Three copies of all submissions should be sent to: The Editor, *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, BMJ Publishing Group, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, UK. All authors should sign the covering letter as evidence of consent to publication. Papers reporting results of studies on human subjects must be accompanied by a statement that the subjects gave written, informed consent and by evidence of approval from the appropriate ethics committee. These papers should conform to the principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki (*BMJ* 1964;ii:177).

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

Authors are asked to submit with their manuscript the names and addresses of three people who they consider would be suitable independent reviewers. They will not necessarily be approached to review the paper.

Papers are considered on the understanding that they are submitted solely to this *Journal* and do not duplicate material already published elsewhere. In cases of doubt, where part of the material has been published elsewhere, the published material should be included with the submitted manuscript to allow the Editor to assess the degree of duplication. The Editor cannot enter into correspondence about papers rejected as being unsuitable for publication, and the Editor's decision in these matters is final.

Papers should include a structured abstract of not more than 300 words, under headings of Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Please include up to three keywords or key terms to assist with indexing.

Papers should follow the requirements of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (*BMJ* 1991;302:338-41). Papers and references must be typewritten in double spacing on one side of the paper only, with wide margins. SI units should be used.

Short reports (including case reports) should be not more than 1500 words and do not require an abstract. They should comprise sections of Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion with not more than one table or figure and up to 10 references. The format of case reports should be Introduction, Case report, and Discussion.

Illustrations Photographs and photomicrographs on glossy paper should be submitted unmounted. Charts and graphs should be carefully drawn in black ink on firm white paper. Legends to figures should be typed on a separate sheet of paper.

References References will not be checked by the editorial office; responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of references lies with the authors. 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. References cited only in tables or in legends to figures should be numbered in accordance with a sequence estab-

lished by the first identification in the text of a particular table or illustration. Include only references essential to the argument being developed in the paper or to the discussion of results, or to describe methods which are being used when the original description is too long for inclusion. Information from manuscripts not yet in press or personal communications should be cited in the text, not as formal references.

Use the Vancouver style, as in this issue for instance, for a standard journal article: authors (list all authors when seven or fewer, when eight or more, list only six and add *et al*), title, abbreviated title of journal as given in *Index Medicus* (if not in *Index Medicus* give in full), year of publication, volume number, and first and last page numbers.

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the end of the shift. When the material landed on the skin, the uptake was slower and the maximum excretion occurred the next morning. This study has identified the need to take into account the most likely route of exposure when devising a biological monitoring strategy. Suitable judgements need to be made as to whether postshift or preshift urine samples collected the next day would give the better indication of uptake.

In this study about 90% of workers had urinary MDA values less than 50 nmol/mmol creatinine. The results collected from various groups of users and manufacturers show that it is possible to control MDA exposure to keep urine concentrations below 50 nmol/mmol. This value has been proposed as a "yardstick" by the United Kingdom Health and Safety Executive.¹¹

- 1 Rao TK, Dorsey GF, Allen BE, Epler JL. Mutagenicity of 4,4'-methylenedianiline derivatives in the salmonella histidine reversion assay. *Arch Toxicol* 1982;49:185-90.

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- 3 National Toxicology Programme. *Carcinogenesis bioassay of 4,4'-methylenedianiline dihydrochloride in rats and mice*. Bethesda: National Institute of Health 1983 (NIH Publ No 248).
- 4 Hotchkiss SAM, Hewitt P, Caldwell J. Percutaneous absorption of 4,4'-methylene-bis-(2-chloroaniline) and 4,4'-methylenedianiline through rat and human skin in vitro. *Toxicology in vitro* 1993;7:141-8.
- 5 Cocker J, Gristwood J, Wilson HK. Assessment of occupational exposure to 4,4'-diaminodiphenylmethane by gas chromatography/mass spectrometry analysis in urine. *Br J Ind Med* 1986;43:620-5.
- 6 Jaffe M. Measurement of creatinine using picric acid. *Zeitschrift fur Physiologische Chemie* 1886;10:391-400.
- 7 Campbell L, Marsh, DM, Wilson HK. Towards a biological monitoring strategy for toluene. *Ann Occup Hyg* 1987;31:121-33.
- 8 Health and Safety Executive. *Biological monitoring for chemical exposures in the workplace*. United Kingdom: HSE, 1992 (Guidance Note EH 56).
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- 10 Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG). *MAK-and BAT-values 1992*. Weinheim: DFG 1992. (Report No 28).
- 11 Fairhurst S, South D, Williams C, Cocker J, Brown R. *4,4'-Methylenedianiline—criteria document for an occupational exposure limit*. London: Health and Safety Executive, HMSO, 1993.

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.

- in workers exposed to inorganic mercury. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 1988;61:65-9.
- 16 Lindstedt G, Tisell L-E, Nyström E, Petersen K, Jagenburg R, Lundberg P-A. Thyroid function evaluation in the mid '80s. *Scand J Clin Lab Invest* 1984;44:265-70.
 - 17 Friberg L. Quality assurance. In: Clarkson TW, Friberg L, Nordberg GF, Sager PR, eds. *Biological monitoring of toxic metals*. New York: Plenum Press, 1988:103-26.
 - 18 Åkesson I, Schütz A, Attewell R, Skerfving S, Glanz PO. Mercury and selenium status in dental personnel—impact of amalgam work and own fillings. *Arch Environ Health* 1991;46:102-9.
 - 19 Langworth S, Elinder CG, Göthe CJ, Vesterberg O. Biological monitoring of environmental and occupational exposure to mercury. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 1991;63:161-7.
 - 20 Barregård L. Biological monitoring of exposure to mercury vapour. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 1993;19(suppl 1):45-9.
 - 21 Rothman KJ. *Modern epidemiology*. Boston: Little Brown, 1986.
 - 22 Thorlacius-Ussing O, Möller-Madsen B, Danscher G. Intracellular accumulation of mercury in the anterior pituitary of rats exposed to mercuric chloride. *Exp Mol Pathol* 1985;42:278-86.
 - 23 Möller-Madsen B, Thorlacius-Ussing O. Accumulation of mercury in the anterior pituitary of rats following oral or intraperitoneal administration of methyl mercury. *Virchows Arch B Cell Pathol* 1986;51:303-11.
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 - 25 Nishida M, Sato K, Kawada J. Differential function of methylmercurial chloride and mercuric chloride on oxidation and iodination reactions catalyzed by thyroid peroxidase. *Biochem Int* 1990;22:369-78.
 - 26 Beckett GJ, Russell A, Nicol F, Shau P, Wolf CR, Arthur JR. Effect of selenium deficiency on hepatic type I 5-iodothyronine deiodinase activity and hepatic thyroid hormone levels in the rat. *Biochem J* 1992;282:483-6.
 - 27 Högberg J, Alexander J. Selenium. In: Friberg L, Nordberg GF, Vouk VB, eds. *Handbook on the toxicology of metals Vol 2*. Amsterdam: Elsevier 1986:482-520.

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.

- and care of patients with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) and asthma. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 1987; 136:225-43.
- 8 Hnizdo E. Loss of lung function associated with silica dust exposure and with tobacco smoking in South African white goldminers. *Br J Ind Med* 1992;49:472-7.
 - 9 Beadle DG. The relationship between the amount of dust breathed and the development of radiological signs of silicosis: an epidemiological study of South African gold miners. In: Walton WH, ed. *Inhaled particles III*. Oxford: Pergamon Press, 1971:953-64.
 - 10 Hnizdo E, Shuis-Cremer GK. Risk of silicosis in a cohort of white South African gold miners. *Am J Ind Med* 1993;24:447-57.
 - 11 Weiss ST. Pulmonary function as a phenotype physiological marker of cardiovascular morbidity and mortality [editorial]. *Chest* 1991;99:265-6.
 - 12 Wiles FJ, Baskind E, Hessel PA, Bezuidenhout B, Hnizdo E. Lung function in silicosis. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 1992;63:387-91.

Vancouver style

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.
- 3 Weinstein L, Swartz MN. Pathogenic properties of invading micro-organisms. In: Sodeman WA Jr, Sodeman WA, eds. *Pathologic physiology, mechanisms of disease*. Philadelphia: W B Saunders, 1974:457-72.

NOTICES

Second European Forum on Science and Safety, Facultat de Química, Universitat de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. 30 November–2 December 1994.

The Organising Committee of the Forum is pleased to extend invitations to attend the "II European Forum on Science and Safety". The first Forum was held in Strasbourg in 1992.

The scientific programme will include invited lectures, contributed papers, and poster sessions.

General topic: "How can the risk resulting from basic and applied research be controlled? Information, communication, training, contributions, and constraints of European Legislation".

Special emphasis will be placed on:

- Ethics and safety regulations in research programmes
 - Design of laboratories and their surrounding areas
 - Prevention of chemical and biological risk: waste management
 - Information, communication and training.
- Lectures will be presented in English, French, Spanish, and Catalan with simultaneous translation. It is recommended that posters be prepared in English.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from:

II European Forum on Science and Safety, Facultat de Química, Universitat de Barcelona, Diagonal 647, 08028-Barcelona, Spain. Telefax: 34 (9) 3-411 14 92.

Symposium of the International Social Security Association on Safety and Health. Which decisions? Which partners? What training? Cité des Sciences et de l'Industrie de la Villette, Paris. 13–15 December 1994.

Today barriers to economic, commercial, and social exchange are being lifted—decision makers throughout the world must be able to anticipate change, to pool different experiences and information that are available internationally.

This Symposium, which deals with Safety/Health, and is sponsored by various international organisations, will offer participants a chance to meet internationally recognised specialists from both the large industrial countries and those in the process of development.

Round table sessions will be held, where you will be able to discuss problems directly relevant to your interests.

We are certain that this Symposium will increase your knowledge of decision making processes in this field of safety and health. It will also help in answering your needs concerning your own training programme as well as those of your partners.

Round table sessions:

- Current practice
- The role of public authorities
- The influence of consumer associations, trade unions and employers' federations
- The contribution of experts
- Summary and perspectives: expectations and needs of those making decisions and their partners.

These forums for discussion will aim to bring together all the ideas under debate and draw on up to date experience acquired in companies or training programmes.

Symposium languages: French, English, German, Spanish.

Further information and applications forms may be obtained from: Elvire Silberzahn, Comité International de l'Aiss, "Education et formation à la Prévention", Cram Ile de France, 17/19 Place de l'Argonne - F 75019 Paris. Telephone (1) 40 05 38 02. Fax (1) 40 05 38 84.

International Congress on Safety, Health, and Environmental Risk Management. Geneva, Switzerland. 7–9 September 1994.

People working in technical fields of industry often face the difficult task of expressing let alone demonstrating the impact of technical information to those who make business decisions. Equally, those in business need to understand the implications of technical issues and how to use that information. This will be a unique opportunity to hear the world's leading authorities on safety, health, and environmental risk management. The congress will appeal to all those working in industry in safety, health and environmental roles as well as business managers.

The paints industry has built up a considerable bank of knowledge based on its experience in dealing with the safety, health, and environmental issues which it has faced in recent years. Leading scientists and businessmen working in these areas from both inside and outside the industry have come together to demonstrate how science and business work together in managing complex issues facing them.

Congress speakers and chairmen include: **Dr Stanislaw Tarkowski**, *World Health Organisation, Copenhagen, Denmark*; **Professor Christer Edling**, *University Hospital Uppsala, Sweden*; **Professor Malcolm Harrington**, *Birmingham University, UK*; **Professor Krishna Gopal Rampal**, *University Kebangsaan Malaysia*; **Dr Edward Baker**, *Centers for Disease Control, Atlanta, USA*; **Dr Dan Krewski**, *Environmental Health Center, Ottawa, Canada*; **Dr Frank Rose**, *ICI Paints, UK*; **Professor Vincent Covello**, *University of Columbia, USA*; **Mr Herman Scopes**, *ICI Paints, UK*; **Dr Edward Bennett**, *Director of Nuclear Safety, DGXI, European Union*.

Congress subjects:

- Technology improvement—lower risk or different risk?
- Interpreting scientific data for business decision making
- Managing workplace risk—the role of health surveillance

- The public perception of risk. Safety, Health and Environmental risk management—burden or opportunity?
- Running a global paints business in a changing world
- Risk communication
- Risk management in the developing world
- Product stewardship—risk management in the marketplace.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from: Parsons and Associates, 2 Milkhouse Gate, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3EZ, UK. Telephone 0483 453044.

The Second International Federation of Clinical Chemistry/Arnold O Beckman European Conference on Biomarkers in Environmental Toxicology, Hotel Martinez, Cannes, France. 1–3 June 1995.

The conference represents a unique international forum for discussion on the methodology, findings, and applications of biomarkers of exposure, effect and susceptibility. With developments in analytical chemistry and biochemistry, methods have become available to trace the fate of environmental chemicals in the human body so as to assess the chemical exposure status of an individual and the risk of developing disease. Methods of determining biomarkers can be used for preventive purposes and risk assessment.

The primary sessions of the conference will be a series of plenary presentations that will cover major aspects and front-line research on biomarkers, particularly those that reflect early adverse effects and health risks. Specific plenary subjects will cover:

- Chemical and biochemical indicators of toxic exposures
- Biomarkers of damage to DNA
- Signs of early organ dysfunction
- Indicators of inherited hypersusceptibility
- Detection of individual sensitivity to chemicals
- Analytical and diagnostic validity
- Applications in biological monitoring and risk assessment
- Implications for preventive strategies.

Controversial issues and questions raised by new research will be considered in a series of round table discussions.

Biomarkers in Environmental Toxicology promises to be a stimulating forum for clinical chemists, toxicologists, environmental epidemiologists, occupational health personnel, public health policy officials, and others with an interest in human toxicology, environmental health, and preventive medicine.

For additional information, please contact:

Gerald Bishop Associates, Hillview House, 34 New Street, Charfield, Wotton-under-Edge, Gloucestershire GL12 8ES, UK. Telephone and fax: (44) 453 843172.

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