

Occupational and Environmental Medicine



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

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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 including a brief 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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- 18 Morgan RW, Wong O. A review of epidemiological studies on artificial sweeteners and bladder cancer. *Fundam Appl Toxicol* 1985;23:529-33.
- 19 Pocock SJ, Thompson SG. Assessing the evidence: the role of meta-analysis. In: Marmot M, Elliott P, eds. *Coronary heart disease epidemiology, from aetiology to public health*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1992.
- 20 Dickersin K, Berlin JA. Meta-analysis: state-of-the-science. *Epidemiol Rev* 1992;14:154-75.
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- 22 Meier P. Commentary. *Stat Med* 1987;6:329-31.
- 23 Bailey KR. Inter-study differences: how should they influence the interpretation and analysis of results? *Stat Med* 1987;6:351-8.
- 24 Glass G, McGaw B, Smith ML. *Meta-analysis in social research*. Beverly Hill, California: Sage, 1981.
- 25 Yule GU. On some points relating to vital statistics, more especially statistics of occupational mortality. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society* 1934;97:1-72.
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- 29 Elveback LR. Discussion of "Indices of mortality and tests of their statistical significance." *Hum Biol* 1966;38:322-4.

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. *BMJ* 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.

- 21 Davis MG, Cowie HA. The relationship between fibrosis and cancer in experimental animals exposed to asbestos and other fibers. *Environ Health Perspect* 1990; 88:305-9.
- 22 Lippmann M. Asbestos exposure indices. *Environ Res* 1988;46:86-106.
- 23 Dufresne A, Harrigan M, Massé S, Bégin R. Fibers in lung tissues of mesothelioma cases among miners and millers of the township of Asbestos, Québec. *Am J Ind Med* 1995;27:581-92.
- 24 Dufresne A, Case B, Fraser R, Perrault G. Protocol of lung particulate analysis by electron transmission microscopy for decoding occupational history from lung retention. *Ann Occup Hyg* 1994;38(suppl 1):503-17.
- 25 Jaurand MJ. Observations on the carcinogenicity of asbestos fibers. In: Landrigan PJ, Kazemi H, eds. The third wave of asbestos disease: exposure to asbestos in place. *Ann NY Acad Sci* 1991;643:258-70.
- 26 Wagner JC, Moncrief CB, Coles R, Griffiths DM, Mundy, DE. Correlation between fibre content of the lungs and disease in naval dockyard workers. *Br J Ind Med* 1986; 43:391-5.
- 27 Gylseth B, Mowé G, Skaug V, Wannag A. Inorganic fibres in lung tissue from patients with pleural plaques or malignant mesothelioma. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 1981; 7:109-13.
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- 29 Churg A, Wiggins B, DePaoli L, Kampe B, Stevens B. Lung asbestos content in chrysotile workers with mesothelioma. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 1984;130:1042-5.
- 30 Mowé G, Gylseth B, Hartveit F, Skaug V. Fibre concentration in lung tissue of patients with malignant mesothelioma: a case-control study. *Cancer* 1985;56:1089-93.
- 31 Roggli VL, Pratt PC, Brody AR. Asbestos content of lung tissue in asbestos associated diseases. A study of 110 cases. *Br J Ind Med* 1986;43:18-28.
- 32 Churg A, Wright JL, Vedal S. Fiber burden and patterns of asbestos-related disease in chrysotile miners and millers. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 1993;148:25-31.
- 33 Mcfadden D, Wright JL, Wiggins B, Churg A. Smoking inhibits asbestos clearance. *Am Rev Respir Dis* 1986;133: 372-4.
- 34 Case BW, Sébastien P. Environmental and occupational exposures to chrysotile asbestos. A comparative microanalytic study. *Arch Environ Health* 1987;42:185-91.
- 35 Case BW, Sébastien P. Biological estimation of environmental exposure to asbestos. *Ann Occup Hyg* 1988;32 (suppl 1):181-6.

Occupational and Environmental Medicine and the electronic age

OEM has an Email address which is 100632.3615@compuserve.com. We welcome contact by Email, including letters to the editor. Some of our reviewers already send us their reports by Email, helping to speed up the peer review process.

We are moving towards electronic publishing and for some months now we have been asking authors to send us their revised papers on disk as well as a hard copy. I am delighted to report that nearly all our authors are managing to comply with this

request. Oddly enough, the few authors who have not sent us a disk version of their revised papers have been almost exclusively from the United Kingdom. I would be interested in suggestions for why this might be. Perhaps United Kingdom based authors read our correspondence and instructions less assiduously? Watch for revised Instructions to Authors.

The Editor

- 29 Alexander FE, McKinney PA, Ricketts TJ, Cartwright RA. Community lifestyle characteristics and risk of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in children. *Lancet* 1990;336:1461-6.
- 30 Greaves MF, Alexander FE. An infectious aetiology for common acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in childhood. *Leukaemia* 1993;7:349-60.
- 31 Kinlen LJ, O'Brien F, Clark K, Balkwill A, Matthews F. Rural population mixing and childhood leukaemia: effects of the North Sea oil industry in Scotland, including the area near Dounreay nuclear site. *BMJ* 1993;306:743-8.
- 32 Jablon S, Hrubec Z, Boice JD junior. Cancer in populations living near nuclear facilities: a survey of mortality nationwide and incidence in two states. *JAMA* 1991;265:1403-8.
- 33 Michaelis J, Keller B, Haaf G, Kaatsch P. Incidence of childhood malignancies in the vicinity of West German nuclear power plants. *Cancer Causes Control* 1992;3:255-63.
- 34 Hill C, Laplanche A. Overall mortality and cancer mortality around French nuclear sites. *Nature* 1990;347:755-7.
- 35 McLaughlin JR, Clarke AE, Nishri ED, Anderson TW. Childhood leukaemia in the vicinity of Canadian nuclear facilities. *Cancer Causes Control* 1993;4:51-8.

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.

- 40 Abdullah MA. Lead poisoning among children in Saudi Arabia. *Journal of Tropical Medical Hygiene* 1984;87: 67-70.
- 41 Alkhawajah AM. Alkohl use in Saudi Arabia. Extent of use and possible lead toxicity. *Trop Geogr Med* 1992;44:373-7.
- 42 Warley MA, Blackledge P, O'Gorman P. Lead poisoning from eye cosmetic. *BMJ* 1968;i:117.
- 43 Snodgrass GJAI, Ziderman DA, Gulati V, Richards J. Cosmetic plumbism. *BMJ* 1973;4:230.
- 44 Ali AR, Smales ORC, Aslam M. Surma and lead poisoning. *BMJ* 1978;ii:915-6.
- 45 Sprinkle RV. Leaded eye cosmetics: a cultural cause of elevated lead levels in children. *J Fam Pract* 1995;40: 358-62.
- 46 Gogte ST, Basu N, Sinclair S, Ghai OP, Bhide NK. Blood lead levels of children with pica and surma use. *Indian J Pediatr* 1991;58:513-9.
- 47 Attenburrow AA, Campbell S, Logan RW, Goel KM. Surma and blood lead levels in Asian children in Glasgow. *Lancet* 1980;i:323.
- 48 Moghraby SA, Abdullah MA, Karrar O, Akiel AS, Shawaf TA, Majid YA. Lead concentrations in maternal and cord blood in women users of surma eye cosmetics. *Ann Trop Paediatr* 1989;9:49-53.
- 49 Silbergeld EK. Lead in bone: implications for toxicology during pregnancy and lactation. *Environ Health Perspect* 1991;91:63-70.
- 50 Rothenberg SJ, Karchmer S, Schnaas L, Perroni E, Zea F, Alba JF. Changes in serial blood levels during pregnancy. *Environ Health Perspect* 1994;102:876-80.
- 51 Mahaffey KR. Biokinetics of lead during pregnancy. *Fundam Appl Toxicol* 1991;16:15-6.
- 52 Jacobssen LB, Soderberg HA, Nordberg GF, Ekesydh S, Englyst V. Biological monitoring of arsenic, lead and cadmium in occupationally and environmentally exposed pregnant women. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 1993;19: 50-3.
- 53 Fullmer CS. Intestinal interaction of lead and calcium. *Neurotoxicol* 1992;13:799-808.
- 54 Pirkle JL, Brody DJ, Gunter EW, Kramer RA, Paschal DC, Flegal KM, Matte TD. The decline in blood lead levels in the United States. *JAMA* 1994;272:284-91.

Rejected manuscripts

From February 1994, authors whose submitted articles are rejected will be advised of the decision and one copy of the article, together with any reviewers' comments, will

be returned to them. The *Journal* will destroy remaining copies of the article but correspondence and reviewers' comments will be kept.

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Bioaerosols Handbook. Edited by CHRISTOPHER COX, CHRISTOPHER WATHES. (Pp 621; £59.) 1995. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press. ISBN 1-87371-615-9.

Bioaerosols are of great importance for many reasons. They may be a source of infection for humans, animals, or plants. They may cause allergies, either by themselves or in combination with other atmospheric pollutants. Cox and Wathes point out in their introduction to the handbook that in the United States alone there are around 250 million episodes of respiratory infection a year at a cost of some \$10 billion in medical care, plus another \$10 billion from loss of income. Bioaerosols also play an essential part in the propagation of life as we know it. The spread through the air of the organisms which cause the decay of much organic matter, of the essential germination spores for mosses and ferns, and the colonisation of barren, or environmentally altered, sites being a few examples of such vital processes.

The relevance and timeliness of a book which sets out to be a compilation of relevant and up to date knowledge and expertise on the subject of bioaerosols is therefore very apparent.

Each chapter of the book has been contributed by one or more experts in the area it covers and is accompanied by an excellent set of references to original publications. After two short introductory chapters, the contributions are arranged in four main sections: (a) chapters 3 to 6 establish the fundamental variables used in characterising bioaerosols; (b) chapters 7 to 10 give comprehensive descriptions of modern bioaerosol samplers and ways of calibrating them; (c) chapters 11 to 15 describe how bioaerosols can be analysed chemically, physically and biologically; and finally (d) chapters 16 to 21 deal with bioaerosols in real situations, such as hospitals, animal houses, industrial workplaces, and the open air.

One of the great strengths of the book is that each contributor has not merely reiterated the cold facts about his or her chosen topic, but also honestly shared their perceptions of the difficulties and knowledge limitations within their area of interest.

Partly for this reason, the book is more likely to be of value to the investigator, than to the person who wants to find ready made answers. Everyone who is considering embarking on a project involving the study of bioaerosols would do well to consult it

before starting. The opening chapters will help to define the variables that should be used to characterise the aerosol system being investigated. The chapters on sampling systems will provide invaluable guidance on the most appropriate equipment and sampling procedures to use, and sound advice relevant to the investigator's particular environment is likely to be contained in one of the closing chapters. Armed with the information and guidance contained in the book, it should not be too difficult to construct a sound research programme with realistic objectives.

A minor criticism of the book is that it has an index which seems to have been compiled with the aid of a computer and is not always very helpful. For example, under the heading "sampling"—and before making any subdivisions—there are 111 separate references, which between them cover almost 50% of the pages in the text! Conversely, there are only two entries under "hay fever", one of which turns out only to be the use of those words in the title of one of the papers listed at the end of a chapter. The effect of this is to make it difficult to use the book as a "handbook" in the usual sense of this term.

Nevertheless the book will be a valuable addition to the library of any organisation which is likely to undertake, or to sponsor, investigations into any aspect of the important subject of bioaerosols. I have little doubt that in the words used by J M Hirst in his thought provoking introductory chapter, the *Bioaerosol Handbook* will prove to be an "honest and significant milestone" in the history of the subject and I share his hope that it will stimulate others to develop and strengthen our understanding of this important class of materials.

JOHN BARTLETT

Handbook of Environmental Health and Safety, Principles and Practices, Volume I (3rd ed). By HERMAN KOREN, MICHAEL BISESI. (Pp 674; price £65.) 1996. Boca Raton, FL: CRC Press. ISBN 1-56670-124-4.

This handbook provides a comprehensive overview of a wide range of environmental health topics. The first chapter of the book introduces general concepts relevant to environmental problems and health issues. This includes a brief description of the ecosystem and the impact of humans on the environment and the relevance of toxicology, epidemiology, risk assessment, risk-benefit analysis, and environmental law in assessing and improving environmental health problems. This is then put into context with the part played by environmental health practitioners.

Subsequent chapters provide detailed information on specific environmental health areas. Topics covered are food protection, food technology, insect control, rodent control, pesticides, the indoor environment, institutional environment, recreational environment, and the occupational environment. Each of these areas is treated separately in individual chapters. All chapters follow the same general format, with sections on (a) background information and status of each environmental health problem; (b) scientific, technological, and general information; (c) sources of exposure and potential for environmental and health problems; (d) potential for intervention; (e) resources that may be used within the United States—that is, a list of agencies,

institutions, universities, and other organisations which have expertise on the specific environmental health issue; (f) the standards, practices, and techniques available to reduce the problem; (g) the modes of surveillance and evaluation available; (h) specific control measures that can be applied; (i) summary of the information presented in the chapter; and (j) research needs.

The final chapter follows a different format, presenting a useful summary on basic sampling and analytical instrumentation to monitor occupational, residential, and public indoor environments, specifically for particulate and gaseous air pollutants, noise levels, indoor lighting, microwave and ionising radiation, and electric and magnetic fields.

This handbook presents specific aspects of environmental health in a comprehensive and accessible way. It is aimed at providing relevant information for undergraduate students as an introduction to environmental health issues. It also provides sufficient detail on specific issues to make it an attractive reference book for environmental and occupational health scientists and other related professionals. Its structured format allows for the easy use of the handbook as a source of references for specific environmental health issues. However, it is mainly directed to the United States readership, as the emphasis is on United States experience, laws, and resources. In this context it might not be as appropriate for professionals outside the United States that require specific information on their country's environmental and health policies. None the less, the book does provide much useful background information relevant to most countries.

RAQUEL DUARTE-DAVIDSON

NOTICE

Invitation to contribute to the next edition of *Hunter's Diseases of Occupations*

Readers are invited to submit material to be included in a new section of the next revision of *Hunter's Diseases of Occupations*. This well known textbook aims to give authoritative information about diseases related to different occupational exposures. Many of its readers have no first hand knowledge of industrial processes and the associated hazards. The new section aims to provide an overview of important industries and occupations in a series of short pieces. The authors of pieces included in the section will be acknowledged in the book.

Articles for the section should explain in clear terms the main processes and associated hazards of the industry. We are particularly looking for articles on the following industries: welding, plating, grinding and rivetting, food handling, transport, communications, retail and service industries, oil industry, electronics, agriculture and fisheries, mining, nuclear power, electricity, armed forces, and engineering. We would be happy to consider pieces on other important industries. Articles should be up to 500 words long and can include a simple chart, diagram or picture. Please send submissions as soon as possible, and before the end of March 1997, to Dr Anne Cockcroft, Occupational Health and Safety Unit, Royal Free Hospital, 5 Rosslyn Hill, London NW3 2QG, UK.

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