



Collaborative on Health and the Environment

eNewsletter - December 2012

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Moving into a New Decade of Science and Civility with Your Support

by Elise Miller, MEd, CHE Director

Rereading CHE's e-newsletter introductions published over this past year in recognition of CHE's 10th anniversary, I am reminded how fortunate we are to work with such an array of truly remarkable leaders--leaders, like you, who are providing the critical thinking and unwavering commitment we need to move towards a healthier, more just and sustainable world. From the first piece in January 2012 by Philip Lee, MD, Former United States Assistant Secretary of Health and CHE's Chair, to last month's artful essay by Pam Miller, Executive Director of the Alaska Coalition Against Toxics and coordinator of CHE-Alaska, each introduction ([2012 CHE newsletters](#)) highlighted a different sector where CHE partners play a significant role in shaping environmental health research and policy.

Diabetes/obesity, healthy aging, reproductive health, and breast cancer are among the areas in which we've been most active. CHE has also been able to drive critical thinking on the emerging health science related to electromagnetic fields (EMFs) and cumulative impacts. Another major thrust of our work this past year has been finding ways to articulate a complexity model for understanding how cumulative stressors--meaning not only chemicals, but other factors including the built, food, natural, socioeconomic and psychosocial environments--can result in a range of diseases and disabilities. In addition, our [Environmental](#)

[Health Primary Prevention trainings](#) have educated a new cadre of professionals working in the areas of breast cancer, reproductive health and healthy aging about environmental health science who are now integrating this newfound knowledge in their respective sectors.

In other areas, CHE's new quarterly ["Top 10" list](#), which summarizes the science and related issues we think have been the most critical and course-changing over the previous three months, has already gotten high marks from readers. We have also expanded our social media presence through the [CHE blog](#) and [Twitter](#) and have more followers by the day. And of course, our national partnership calls with leading scientists on cutting-edge emerging research continues to be a cornerstone of our service to the field.

But how do we find the energy to keep on task as we absorb the daily deluge of often depressing articles on the latest studies and related articles in our field? Connecting with each other not only through the mind, but the heart, seems essential, but all too rare. With our meeting, [Healthy Environments Across Generations](#), at the New York Academy of Medicine last June, we attempted to do just that. Not only did colleagues have a chance to discuss research across a wide range of sectors but to embody that knowledge and relate to each other through arts and music as well. One participant captured the essence of that experience with this note:

Thank you for visioning and producing two of the most fulfilling days of my adult life. I felt so moved and engaged, challenged and welcomed, useful and connected, in ways that matter to me on such a deep level.



Peter Whitehouse, Case Western University and The Intergenerational School, and Gail Christopher, W.K. Kellogg Foundation, discuss environmental health at the *Healthy Environments Across Generations* conference, June 2012

We hope as you move into the New Year that CHE can continue to be a resource not only for impeccable scientific information and analyses, but for vision and inspiration, thereby energizing our collective efforts to put health at the heart of our common future.

Conceived in a few people's minds just a decade ago, CHE has evolved--with careful, concerted stewardship by many--into a thriving, active community bound by "science and civility." We intend to continue and expand this network and vision, and hope you continue to find our work worthy. If CHE has provided you with the information and inspiration you've needed to bolster the effectiveness of your work, we ask that you [make a donation today](#). Your gift will allow us to move into our second decade with the kind of nimbleness and acuity needed today to ensure we all enjoy a healthy tomorrow.

With gratitude and our very best wishes for a healthy, peaceful 2013.

CHE Partnership Calls

CHE Partnership call: Methods for Screening and Assessing Chemicals

Thursday December 13, 2012 at 10:00 am Pacific / 1:00 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

Screening and assessing chemicals has become a priority among a number of organizations and agencies. Because of the gaps in the data and other challenges in evaluating chemical toxicity, it is essential to understand the scope and limitations of different methods in order to make better decisions about chemical use and truly safer alternatives. To elucidate this process, Pete Myers, PhD, CEO and Chief Scientist of Environmental Health Sciences; Lauren Heine, PhD, Consulting Co-Director of Clean Production Action and co-author of the [GreenScreen for Safer Chemicals](#); and Scott Auerbach, PhD, Molecular Toxicologist at NIEHS will discuss some of these methods and their current and potential impact on chemical policy reform and market changes.

Featured speakers:

Pete Myers, PhD, CEO and Chief Scientist of Environmental Health Sciences

Pete Myers is founder, CEO and Chief Scientist of Environmental Health Sciences. He holds a doctorate in the biological sciences from UC Berkeley and a BA from Reed College. For a dozen years beginning in 1990, Myers served as Director of the W. Alton Jones Foundation in Charlottesville, Virginia. Along with co-authors Dr. Theo Colborn and Dianne Dumanoski, Myers wrote *Our Stolen Future* (1996), a book that explores the scientific basis of concern for how contamination threatens fetal development. Myers is now actively involved in primary research on the impacts of endocrine disruption on human health. He has chaired the board of the Science Communication Network since its founding in 2003. He has served on the board of the H. John Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment since 2007 and in May 2012 became Board Chair.



Lauren Heine, Consulting Co-Director, Clean Production Action

Dr. Lauren Heine applies green chemistry, green engineering and design for the environment for sustainable business practices. Lauren works closely with the US EPA Design for the Environment Program (DfE) to facilitate the development of DfE Screens for Safer Chemicals. She co-authored the GreenScreen™ for Safer Chemicals, a tool for benchmarking chemicals based on inherent hazard, and currently serves on the California Green Ribbon Science Panel. She is co-chairing the buyers tool development subcommittee for Wal-Mart's Sustainable Value Network for Chemical Intensive Products. She co-founded the Oregon-based Zero Waste Alliance and was a Fellow with the American Association for the Advancement of Science in the Green Chemistry Program at the US EPA.



Scott Auerbach, PhD, Molecular Toxicologist, NIEHS

Scott S. Auerbach, PhD, is a Molecular Toxicologist in the Molecular Toxicology and



Informatics Group within the Biomolecular Screening Branch of the National Toxicology Program (NTP) Division. He serves a dual role as a study scientist that designs and interprets guideline toxicity studies and as an experimentalist that seeks to understand variables that impact toxicity, such as species, genetics, disease state, nutrition, life stage and sex. In addition, Auerbach is interested in the development of genomic-based signatures derived from subchronic exposures that predict chronic toxicity and carcinogenicity.

The call will be moderated by Elise Miller, MEd, CHE's director. The call will last one hour and will be recorded for archival purposes.

CHE Partnership call: Breast Cancer and Occupational Health: A Discussion of a Canadian Case-Control Study

Tuesday January 8, 2013 at 10:00 am Pacific / 1:00 pm Eastern_

[RSVP for this call](#)

Historically, there has been a dearth of information on occupational exposures of women to chemicals and endocrine disruptors and therefore on links between occupational

exposures and breast cancer specifically. In November 2012, a landmark paper titled "[Breast cancer risk in relation to occupations with exposure to carcinogens and endocrine disruptors: a Canadian case-control study](#)" was published in the journal

Environmental Health. In this groundbreaking study the authors showed that across all sectors, women in jobs with potentially high exposures to carcinogens and endocrine disruptors had elevated breast cancer risk and that premenopausal breast cancer risk was highest for automotive plastics and food canning workers. The two key authors of this study, James Brophy, PhD and Margaret Keith, PhD will join Jeanne Rizzo, RN, President and CEO of the Breast Cancer Fund and Charlotte Brody, RN, Associate Director, Health Initiatives, BlueGreen Alliance to discuss this study and its implications for the safety of workers and others and on occupational health policy.



A worker builds a Ford Focus on the assembly line at the Ford Motor Co.'s Michigan Assembly Plant Dec. 14, 2011, in Wayne, Mich. (Bill Pugliano / Getty Images)

Featured speakers (see full speaker bios on the [call page](#)):

Jeanne Rizzo, RN, is the President and CEO of the Breast Cancer Fund.

Jim Brophy, PhD, is the Executive Director of the Occupational Health Clinic for Ontario Workers (OHCOW) in Sarnia, Ontario Canada.

Margaret Keith, PhD, is the Research Co-ordinator at the Occupational Health Clinic for Ontario Workers (OHCOW) in Sarnia, Ontario.

Charlotte Brody is the Associate Director for Health Initiatives for the BlueGreen Alliance.

The call will be moderated by Steve Heilig, MPH, CHE Director of Public Health & Education, and Director of Public Health & Education, San Francisco Medical Society. The call will last one hour and will be recorded for archival purposes.

Special Announcements

Save the date

CHE will host a Partnership call on Thursday January 24, 2013 in collaboration with our colleagues in Europe, the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL), on new data from EU and California biomonitoring studies. Please mark your calendars and watch the CHE website for more details and RSVP information.

Resources from recent CHE calls:

If you missed any of the following CHE calls, you may listen to MP3 recordings and find supporting materials at the following links:

- November 27, 2012 - [Dr. Barry Commoner: Reflections on a Life and Work](#)
- October 18, 2012 - [A Conversation with Dr. Jeanne Conry, President-Elect for the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists](#)
- October 11, 2012 - [50 Years After "Silent Spring": Pesticides, Children's Health and the State of the Science](#)
- September 20, 2012 - [Healthy Environments Across Generations: What We Learned and What Comes Next](#)

You can subscribe via podcast to receive notifications of new call recordings added to the CHE archives. [View a list of past calls and subscribe to the podcast.](#)

CHE Working and Regional Group Updates

Stay in touch with CHE through social media:

Visit [CHE's blog](#) to read recent posts including commentary from Ted Schettler, MD, MPH, on BPA exposure in the human fetus, and commentary from Sarah Howard, National Coordinator of CHE's Diabetes-Obesity Spectrum Working Group on air pollution's relationship to diabetes and weight gain.

Visit CHE's [Facebook page](#).

Join CHE on [Twitter](#).

CHE Asthma

~ coordinated by Genon Jensen, for more information contact info@healthandenvironment.org

~ [Declining air pollution levels continue to improve life expectancy in US](#)

A new study led by researchers at Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) has found an association between reductions in fine particulate matter and improved life expectancy in 545 counties in the U.S. from 2000 to 2007. Health Canal.

~ **Exposure to traffic air pollution in early years damages lung function in children:**

A new study of the leading Karolinska Institute of Environmental Medicine in Sweden highlights that exposure to ambient air pollution from traffic during infancy is associated with lung function deficits in children up to eight years of age. Children sensitized to common

allergens are particularly vulnerable. This study adds weight to earlier studies which have shown that children are highly susceptible to the adverse effects of air pollution and suggest that exposure early in life may be particularly harmful. _

[Read more](#)

~ **European Air Quality in the spotlight in 2013:** 2013 will be the EU Year of Air and include a series of expert meetings, consultations and EU research results to assess the



significant public health problems and costs linked to air pollution, and which will contribute to policy reforms expected later in the year by the European Commission. HEAL partner Genon Jensen will participate in the [high-level kick-off event](#) on January 8, 2013, organized by the European Environmental Bureau (EEB), followed by an air quality and health conference organized by the EU Commission, WHO and the US Health Effects Institute at the end of the month.

CHE Climate Change

~ coordinated by Genon Jensen, for more information contact info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Global health community united in call for climate action:** At the international climate talks in Doha, Qatar last week, HEAL with other health organisations from around the world released a statement on the health benefits of taking action on climate change. The Doha Declaration on Climate, Health and Well-being, signed by more than 50 organisations and almost 2000 individuals calls on governments to recognize that a carbon intensive economy and changing climate contributes to major health problems and increased mortality rates, and to put health at the centre of climate negotiations. It also highlights how reductions in emissions can deliver many benefits to health worldwide: "Reducing fossil fuel consumption simultaneously improves air quality and improves public health. Shifting to cleaner, safer, low carbon energy systems will save millions of lives each year."

[Read more](#)

[See new report on the health costs of climate change](#)

~ **European Environment Agency (EEA) assessment of Europe's vulnerability to climate change:** The EEA report findings showcase how climate change is already contributing to disease and premature death in Europe and assess the vulnerability of different sectors including human health to climatic changes. It also identifies the regions most at risk.

The report's key message is that climate change is already occurring in Europe and that it has caused a wide range of impacts on society and ecosystems. The report also shows how projected changes are expected to cause substantial health costs in Europe, for example 26,000 heat-related premature deaths per year are projected for 2020, increasing to more than 120,000 by 2080.

[Read the executive summary or the report](#)

CHE Diabetes-Obesity Spectrum

~ coordinated by Sarah Howard, for more information contact info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Study: Over the next 40 years, the number of youth with type 1 and type 2 diabetes may increase by 23% and 49%, respectively, at the current incidence**

rates. If the incidence of type 1 or type 2 increases, there may be over a threefold increase in the number of youth with type 1, and a fourfold increase in the number of youth with type 2, especially among minority youth.

[Read more](#)

~ **Call for abstracts:** Abstracts are due for the [American Diabetes Association's 2013 Scientific Sessions](#) on January 7, 2013.

~ **New articles and research published in academic and scientific journals**

[Fat from plastics? Linking bisphenol A exposure and obesity](#) _

- [Bisphenol A Exposure Increases Liver Fat in Juvenile Fructose-fed Fischer 344 Rats](#). Rönn M, Kullberg J, Karlsson H, et al. Toxicology. _

- [Mercuric compounds induce pancreatic islets dysfunction and apoptosis in vivo](#). Chen KL, Liu SH, Su CC et al. 2012. Int.J.Mol.Sci. 13(10):12349-12366.



[Maternal diets with low healthy eating index or Mediterranean diet adherence scores are associated with high cord-blood insulin levels and insulin resistance markers at birth.](#)

E Gesteiro, B Rodríguez Bernal, S Bastida and F J Sánchez-Muniz
European Journal of Clinical Nutrition 66, 1008-1015 (September 2012).

CHE Working Group on Electromagnetic Fields

~ coordinated by Antoinette Stein, tweil@igc.org

~ **Webinar on cell phone radiation, pregnancy and sperm: videos, speaker slides and additional resources available**

On November 12th CHE-EMF hosted several international experts and scientists to discuss what the growing body of international science is now telling us about the risks to pregnant women and sperm and prenatally exposed offspring from cell phone radiation.

Two videos are now available on the [webinar's resources webpage](#). One is the webinar itself and the other is a video of the presentations given at the National Press Club event on November 12, 2012. Additionally you will find speakers slides and research papers on the webpage.

In particular, speakers highlighted several points:

- Süleyman Kaplan, PhD, presented results suggesting that intrauterine exposure to EMFs during the critical period of organogenesis may damage normal development of the rat hippocampus and may also induce neurodevelopmental retardation.
- Nesrin Seyhan, PhD, presented new rabbit findings showing RF EMF exposures increased programmed brain cell death/apoptotic cells, created oxidative stress disrupting normal metabolism and physiology of liver tissue, and damaged two-day-old newborn rabbit eyes, along with blood-brain barrier permeability, induced hypothyroidism and caspase activation and oxidative damage in liver, heart, lung and testis tissues in rats.
- Igor Belyaev, PhD, reported his stunning findings that non-thermal EMF microwave

exposures from mobile phones inhibits DNA repair in human, providing a mechanistic link to the epidemiologic data on increased brain cancer risk in heavy users of mobile phones.

- Devra Davis, PhD, MPH, posted a link to Novocure, an EMF treatment that leads to physical disruption of the cell membrane and to programmed cell death.
- Hugh Taylor, MD, PhD, presented the first experimental evidence of neuropathology due to in-utero cellular telephone radiation.

CHE Fertility and Reproductive Health

~ coordinated by Karin Russ, karin@healthandenvironment.org

~ **New articles and research published in academic and scientific journals**

[Most doctors don't warn pregnant patients about environmental risks.](#) A new nationwide survey of 2,600 obstetricians and gynecologists found that most do not warn their pregnant patients about chemicals in food, consumer products or the environment that could endanger their fetuses. Environmental Health News.



[Decline in semen concentration and morphology in a sample of 26,609 men close to general population between 1989 and 2005 in France.](#) There was a significant and continuous decrease in sperm concentration of 32.2% during the study period. Projections indicate that concentration for a 35-year-old man went from an average of 73.6 million/ml in 1989 to 49.9 million/ml in 2005. To our knowledge, it is the first study concluding a severe and general decrease in sperm concentration and morphology at the scale of a whole country over a substantial period. This constitutes a serious public health warning. Human Reproduction.

[Fetal liver bisphenol A concentrations and biotransformation gene expression reveal variable exposure and altered capacity for metabolism in humans.](#) This study provides evidence that there is considerable exposure to BPA during human pregnancy and that the capacity for BPA metabolism is altered in the human fetal liver. Journal of Biochemical and Molecular Toxicology.

[Persistent environmental pollutants and couple fecundity: The LIFE Study.](#) In a couple-based prospective cohort study with preconception enrollment and quantification of exposures in both female and male partners, a subset of persistent environmental chemicals were associated with reduced fecundity. Environmental Health Perspectives.

[Multiple environmental chemical exposures to lead, mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls among childbearing-aged women \(NHANES 1999-2004\).](#) These findings are among the first description of US childbearing-aged women's body burden and risk factors for multiple chemical exposures. This study supports increasing age, any fish consumption and heavy alcohol consumption as significant risk factors for body burden. History of breastfeeding lowered the body burden. Limited evidence was found of increased risk among minority women independent of other risk factors. Environmental Research.

[In utero and childhood polybrominated diphenyl ether \(PBDE\) exposures and neurodevelopment in the CHAMACOS study.](#) This study, the largest to date, contributes to growing evidence suggesting that PBDEs have adverse impacts on child neurobehavioral

development. Environmental Health Perspectives.

CHE Healthy Aging Initiative

~ coordinated by Maria Valenti, mvalenti@igc.org

~ **The Healthy Aging Initiative has joined as a Research Translation Core partner with the [Boston University Superfund Research Project \(BUSRP\)](#)** to help disseminate information on basic research on health impacts of environmental exposures. The Boston University Superfund Research Program is an interdisciplinary program that conducts and communicates research on the effects on reproduction and development in humans and wildlife of exposures to substances commonly encountered in hazardous waste disposal on reproduction and development in humans and wildlife. The program is supported with funding from the [National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences'](#) Superfund Research Program. The purpose of the Research Translation Core is to make research outcomes available to governmental organizations responsible for protecting the health of local communities, to the scientific community in general, and to other SRPs in particular. The principal goal is to provide knowledge of exposure and health effects useful in risk assessment needed for consequential decision-making. This year the Superfund program is 25 years old. We will launch our collaborative effort with a Partnership Call on February 7th co-coordinated by Karin Russ, national coordinator of CHE's Fertility and Reproductive Health Working Group and BUSRP's Dr. Madeleine Scammell, Assistant Professor of Environmental Health at Boston University School of Public Health.

~ **Our Environmental Threats to Healthy Aging report was suggested "for further reading"** in a recent commentary in [The Lancet](#) entitled "The art of medicine: Through the amyloid gateway" written by CHE colleagues Drs. Peter Whitehouse and Danny George and their colleagues Drs. Simon D'Alton and Jesse Ballenger. The article explores Dr. Rudolf Virchow's contributions to the understanding of Alzheimer's disease and provides further analysis. "Potential solutions to mitigating Alzheimer's diseases suddenly become much more complex than the simple arithmetic of anti-amyloid drugs, and might encompass such Virchowian public health initiatives as universal access to health care, quality public education, economic justice, urban renewal, clean drinking water and sanitation, and community-based programmes and health coaching to increase physical activity and improve nutrition. Advocating such large-scale infrastructural actions will not be easy, and will require the field to stray from its molecular comfort zone. However, for a field that extols the virtues of keeping the mind active, there has never been a more auspicious time to apply Virchow's social medicine framework to the global challenge of Alzheimer's diseases."

~ [The Healthy Environments Across Generations e-book](#) is on the horizon! Stay tuned for the release of a multi-media tour of the conference as well as its central concepts including how and where we live, eat, work, play and socialize influence our physical and mental health throughout life.

~ Recent and upcoming meetings, conferences and presentations:

December 10, 2012: [Healthy Aging in](#)

[Massachusetts: Where Do We Go From Here?](#)

statewide summit organized by the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative, Newton, MA. Maria

Valenti presented the poster "Environmental Determinants of Health Across the Lifespan:

Opportunities for Health-Promoting Interventions" at



CHE Partners Dr. Polly Hoppin (left) and Ellie Goldberg in front of CHE poster at the summit.

this forum attended by over 300 people. Hers was the only presentation on the full spectrum of environmental issues that influence health across the lifespan, including the chemical environment. At this forum we introduced to a broader audience the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Brigade for the Environment, a new collaborative effort of CHE's Healthy Aging Initiative and CHE partner Clean Water Fund.

February 7-9, 2013: [New Partners for Smart Growth](#), Kansas City. CHE will present a 90-minute panel *Designing Healthy Environments Across Communities and Generations* in partnership with the UW Population Health Institute County Health

Rankings & Roadmaps program. Speakers will include CHE working group coordinator Maria Valenti, moderator; Ted Schettler, SEHN and CHE; Erika Svendsen, US Forest Service; Angela Russell, Community Engagement Lead on the County Health Rankings project at the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute; Leslie A. Meehan, Director of Healthy Communities for the Nashville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization; and Arthur M. Wendel, Team Lead, Healthy Community Design Initiative, National Center for Environmental Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

March 3-6, 2013: [Environmental Health 2013: Science and Policy to Protect Future Generations](#), Boston, Massachusetts. The Healthy Aging Initiative will present a poster at this conference on "Environmental Determinants of Health Across the Lifespan: Opportunities for Health-Promoting Interventions". Working group coordinators from CHE's Diabetes-Obesity Spectrum Working Group and Fertility and Reproductive Health Working Group will also present.

March 12-16, 2013: [Aging in America Conference](#), Chicago. CHE will present two 90-minute panels, including *Safer Chemicals, Healthier Aging: A Prescription for Positive Change* with presenters Medha Chandra, Pesticide Action Network North America; Kathey LaRoche, The Health Councils of Florida; Ted Schettler, SEHN and Collaborative on Health and Environment; and Kathy Sykes, US Environmental Protection Agency. The second panel, *Healthy Environments Across Generations: A Lifecourse Approach to Health* will feature presenters Ted Schettler of SEHN and CHE; Yolanda Savage-Narva, America Walks; Harry (Rick) Moody, AARP; Peter Whitehouse, Intergenerational School; and Jennie Smith, Elders Share the Arts. CHE will also be organizing an Aging and the Environment breakfast with AARP.

CHE Regional Working Groups Updates

CHE HEAL

~ coordinated by Lisette Van Vliet, lisette@env-health.org

~ **Reforming the European Food Safety Agency:** HEAL joined other public interest organizations in handing over a statement to the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) with recommendations on how to improve the independence, transparency and use of non-industry funded experts and science in its work.

[Read more](#)

~ Chlorpyrifos to be reviewed in EU: The European Commission's Directorate General for Health & Consumer Affairs will begin a review of the pesticide chlorpyrifos, approved provisionally in 2006. It is one of the first-ever cases of approved pesticides being reviewed, and is used as an insecticide on grapes and potatoes. PAN Europe is recommending that the Commission takes on board new science in this review, such as the recent US research showing brain damage in children exposed to chlorpyrifos at every-day exposure levels, and consider implementing a full ban.

More information on the US studies:

- [Brain anomalies in children exposed prenatally to a common organophosphate pesticide](#)
- [Does the home environment and the sex of the child modify the adverse effects of 2 prenatal exposure to chlorpyrifos on child working memory?](#)
- [Pesticide Action Network Europe press release on EU decision](#)

CHE Washington

~ coordinated by Aimee Boulanger and Steve Gilbert, for more information contact info@healthandenvironment.org

~ CHE-WA Children's Environmental Health Working Group meeting

Thursday December 13, 2012 from 9:30 am to 11:30 am

Speaker/topic: Toni Nunes (WA Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics) will present information on state and national child advocacy priorities, partners and projects, with a focus on those that relate to children's environmental health.

Location: Public Health--Seattle & King County at 401 Fifth Ave, Seattle, WA 98104, conference room #115

Calling in by phone? The call in number is: 206-684-1467 and there is no passcode.

Parking: Office is located in downtown Seattle. You are encouraged to carpool or use the bus.

RSVP: Gail Gensler at gail.gensler@kingcounty.gov

For last minute help on the day of the event: Contact Toni Nunes at (206) 937-1461.

Announcements and News Highlights

The Annual Conference of the Environment and Health Fund: From science to policy (EHF) will be held in Jaffa, Israel on Monday December 31, 2012. The general aims of the conference will be on bridging the gap between science and policy. There will be one session on air pollution and one session on EDCs. The conference will be entirely in English. Professor Jonathan Samet and Andrea Gore will be keynote speakers on air pollution and EDCs.

[More information](#)

Environmental Health Perspectives announces paper of the year, 2012

EHP is pleased to announce that the 2012 Paper of the Year award will be shared by three papers published in the same issue: "Prenatal Exposure to Organophosphates, Paraoxonase 1, and Cognitive Development in Childhood" by Stephanie M. Engel, James Wetmur, Jia

Chen, Chenbo Zhu, Dana Boyd Barr, Richard L. Canfield, and Mary S. Wolff (Engel et al. 2011); "Prenatal Exposure to Organophosphate Pesticides and IQ in 7-Year-Old Children" by Maryse F. Bouchard, Jonathan Chevrier, Kim G. Harley, Katherine Kogut, Michelle Vedar, Norma Calderon, Celina Trujillo, Caroline Johnson, Asa Bradman, Dana Boyd Barr, and Brenda Eskenazi (Bouchard et al. 2011); and "Seven-Year Neurodevelopmental Scores and Prenatal Exposure to Chlorpyrifos, a Common Agricultural Pesticide" by Virginia Rauh, Sriresh Arunajadai, Megan Horton, Frederica Perera, Lori Hoepner, Dana B. Barr, and Robin Whyatt (Rauh et al. 2011).

[Read more](#) (includes link to papers)

* * *

EHN and its sister site, The Daily Climate, offer a wealth of valuable information each day at no cost to subscribers. The daily email subscriptions and the 350,000-item news archive have recently been supplemented by a Facebook page and Twitter feed.

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December 2012 issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* available online

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December 2012 issue of *Environmental Factor* available online

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CHE maintains a [news feed](#) of environmental health related news announcements and events collected from a multitude of sources on CHE's website.

Reports, Resources and Other Updates

Designing endocrine disruption out of the next generation of chemicals

A proposed endocrine disruption testing protocol for use by chemists in the design of new chemicals. The Tiered Protocol for Endocrine Disruption (TiPED) has been created under the oversight of a scientific advisory committee composed of leading representatives from both green chemistry and the environmental health sciences. Green Chemistry.

[Read more](#)

CHE lists hundred of reports, books, videos, databases and other resources in a searchable [Portal to Science](#) on CHE's website.

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest about CHE. As always, we welcome your questions and suggestions. Please direct comments to Elise Miller, Director of CHE, at elise@healthandenvironment.org.

Best wishes,

Elise Miller, MEd, Director

Steve Heilig, Director of Public Health and Education at San Francisco Medical Society and CHE

Erika Sanders, Administrative Coordinator

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