

# Neurotox News

Nr 14  
June  
2006



The Scientific Committee on Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology  
of the International Commission on Occupational Health

## Chairman editorial

Dear colleagues,

I must admit to feeling a bit sad writing these lines, since this is the very last editorial I write as chairman of the committee!

Many years have passed since I joined the committee in the late 1980's, and became the secretary under the leadership of Renato Gilioli. At that time, there was no limit to two three year terms as chairman or secretary, as is enforced today. Dr Gilioli was the chairman until the congress in Nice 1993, when Shunichi Araki took over. I stayed on as the secretary until the year 2000, when Dr Araki resigned in Singapore and I was appointed chairman.

With the help of Roberto Lucchini, and some pressure from the ICOH board, we have structured the work in the committee somewhat, and updated membership lists, removing "sleeping members". This has hopefully made possible a greater activity within the committee, and recently we have seen an increase in the number of members.

I'm especially happy that the number of younger scientists is increasing, since we really do need the enthusiasm of young researchers to achieve continuity and a positive development of our activities.

It is also encouraging that we get members from new countries, and that we will have the next international symposium in such a country in Central America. Visiting Costa Rica will be a new experience for me, and I really do wish Dr Catharina Wesseling and her co-workers the best of luck in their work to coordinate this meeting with that of the scientific committee on epidemiology!

It feels good being able to retire and to leave the committee in the capable hands of Dr Roberto Lucchini as the new chairman, and Dr Seong-Kyu Kang as the secretary! They have both shown us their capacity by successfully organizing the two latest international symposia, and I am convinced that they will significantly contribute to the successful development of the activities within our committee!

With my very best wishes for the future,

Anders Iregren  
Retiring chairman

## From the secretary

Dear all,

First of all I would like to thank Anders on behalf of all the members of this SC, and on behalf of everybody in the field of research and prevention. His excellent work has built the foundation of behavioral toxicology and I am very grateful to him for such an important contribution !

The planning of the 10<sup>th</sup> International Symposium in Costa Rica is proceeding. Ineke Wesseling and Donna Mergler are working on the organization of the meeting that will merge with the one by the Scientific Committee on Epidemiology.

ICOH 2006 will start next week and I would like to summarize the most updated information regarding our Scientific Committee:

1. A key note lecture will be given by Anders Iregren "BEHAVIORAL TOXICOLOGY, FROM HISTORICAL BACKGROUND TO FUTURE TRENDS" on Thursday 15 from 12:00 to 12:30
2. The Special sessions "RECENT FINDINGS ON NEUROTOXIC EFFECTS OF METALS" Chaired by Monika Meyer-Baron and Helena Herrero-Hernandez will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> from 14:30 to 16:00
3. The Special sessions "NEURODEGENERATION AND METAL EXPOSURE. CASE-CONTROL STUDIES ON ALZHEIMER AND PARKINSON'S DISEASE", Chaired by Antonio Moccaldi and myself, will be on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> from 16:30 to 18:00
4. The Special sessions "ACUTE AND CHRONIC EXPOSURE TO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS AND SENSORY PERCEPTION IN WORKERS" Chaired by Fabrizio Maria Gobba and Christoph van Thriel will

be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> from 14:30 to 16:00

5. The Special sessions "CHRONIC SOLVENT-RELATED ENCEPHALOPATHY: SCREENING AND RECOGNITION OF AN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE" Chaired by Gert van der Laan and Markku Sainio will be on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> from 16:30 to 18:00
6. Two Parallel Sessions including free presentations on Neurotoxicology and Psychophysiology will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon
7. The business meeting of our Scientific Committee will be on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> from 13.00 to 14.30

Please check the conference website <http://www.icoh2006.it/en/home.htm> for further information.

The NTOXMET workshop is a satellite meeting of ICOH2006 and will take place in Brescia, Italy on June 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. This meeting is co-organized by our SC and the SC on Toxicology of Metals. The organizing committee has assembled a very exciting scientific program with experts in lead, mercury and manganese neurotoxicology. Please check the conference website [www.notxmet.it](http://www.notxmet.it).

Once again, we are very happy to offer this variety of initiatives and I would like to thank everybody who is actively participating in the organization of these activities. See you soon in Italy!

Yours,  
Roberto Lucchini

- PS: I would like to remind the [new members](#) to complete the enrollment procedure through the ICOH website <http://www.icohweb.org/membership.asp> and subscribe the membership fee. Thank you for your collaboration !

## **ICOH2006**

# **MINISYMPOSIA SCHEDULED BY THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON NEUROTOXICOLOGY AND PSYCHOPHYSIOLOGY**

### **MINISYMPOSIUM "CHRONIC SOLVENT-RELATED ENCEPHALOPATHY: SCREENING AND RECOGNITION OF AN OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE"**

Chairs: Gert van der Laan, Netherlands, and Markku Sainio, Finland

- THE RISE AND FALL OF CSE IN NL by Gert van der Laan
- CHRONIC SOLVENT ENCEPHALOPATHY; TOWARDS TRANSPARENT DIAGNOSTICS by Maarten Verberk
- THE PRACTICE AND PROBLEMS OF DIAGNOSING CSE IN KOREA. Seong-Kyu Kang, Eun A Kim, Yeon-Soon Ahn
- SCREENING AND EVALUATION OF SOLVENT EXPOSURE AND NEUROTOXIC SYMPTOMS - AN APPROACH FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES by Ari Kaukiainen
- SOLVENT-RELATED CHRONIC TOXIC ENCEPHALOPATHY: LESSONS TO LEARN FROM CLINICAL DIAGNOSTIC EXAMINATIONS by Markku Sainio

### **MINISYMPOSIUM "RECENT FINDINGS ON NEUROTOXIC EFFECTS OF METALS"**

Chairs: Monika Meyer-Baron, Germany; Elena Herrero Hernández, Italy

- PHARMACOLOGICAL TREATMENT OF OCCUPATIONAL MANGANESE-INDUCED PARKINSONISM E Herrero Hernández, MC Valentini, G Discalzi, A Chiò, M Ferraris, E Pira, SQ Ky, HS Deng, PY Xie, WD Hu, Y Jiang, XA Mo, FQ Du, X Fu, XY Zhu, HY Gao, FL Liao, JL Xie, W Zheng
- MANGANESE: TRANSPORT AND MECHANISMS OF NEUROTOXICITY Michael Aschner, Vanessa Fitsanakis, Dejan Milatovic, Keith Erikson
- ANALYSIS OF THE NEUROPSYCHOLOGICAL TESTS USED FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE MANGANESE NEUROTOXICITY Silvia Zoni, Elisa Albinì, Roberto Lucchini
- THE INFLUENCE OF COGNITIVE RESERVE ON THE RELATIONSHIP OF LEAD EXPOSURE AND NEUROBEHAVIORAL PERFORMANCE Bleecker M. L., Vaughan C.G., Ford D. P., Lindgren K. N.
- DEVELOPMENTAL EFFECTS OF NEUROTOXIC METALS: CONSEQUENCES OF OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURES BEYOND THE WORKPLACE Philippe Grandjean
- ALUMINUM - WHICH EVIDENCE IS AVAILABLE FOR ITS NEUROBEHAVIORAL IMPACT? Monika Meyer-Baron, Ernst Kiesswetter, Stephan Letzel, Michael Schaeper, Christoph van Thriel

## **MINISYMPOSIUM “ACUTE AND CHRONIC EXPOSURE TO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS AND SENSORY PERCEPTION IN WORKERS”**

Chairs: Fabrizio Gobba, Italy, and Christoph van Thriel, Germany

- SENSORY PERCEPTION: AN OVERLOOKED TARGET OF CHRONIC OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE TO INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS Fabrizio Gobba
- CHEMICAL EXPOSURE AS A RISK FACTOR FOR HEARING LOSS: IMPLICATIONS FOR OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH. Thais Morata
- SENSORY EFFECTS OF OCCUPATIONAL TOLUENE EXPOSURE IN VIEW OF AN ENHANCED CONCEPT OF ADVERSITY Michael Schaeper
- TESTING THE VISUAL SYSTEM: SCREENING, COMPREHENSIVE MEASUREMENTS IN CROSS-SECTIONAL STUDIES AND CLINICAL ASSESSMENTS (ONLY A PROPOSAL) Markku Sainio
- ASSESSING CHEMOSENSORY PROPERTIES AND EFFECTS OF THE LOCAL IRRITANT ETHYL ACETATE Christoph van Thriel
- PRACTICAL PRESENTATION OF CURRENT METHODS FOR SENSORY TESTING: OLFACTION AND VISION van Thriel and Gobba:  
During this practical presentation the complete set of the Sniffin' Sticks will be available and, if Dick Doty agrees, an Italian and English version of the UPSIT (known commercially as the Smell Identification Test or SIT) will be accessible.  
The Lanthony d-15 desaturated panel and the Vistech test will be also available, and the method applied for "in the field" testing of visual function in group of workers will be presented and discussed. Participants can use the tests and discuss problems of designing epidemiological studies.

## **MINISYMPOSIUM “NEURODEGENERATION AND METAL EXPOSURE. CASE-CONTROL STUDIES ON ALZHEIMER AND PARKINSON’S DISEASE SUPPORTED BY ISPESL (National Institute Of Occupational Safety At Work, Rome)”.**

Chairs: Roberto Lucchini, Italy and Antonio Moccaldi, Italy

- ALZHEIMER DISEASE. AN EPIDEMIOLOGICAL STUDY ON THE ROLE PLAYED BY OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE Bruno Papaleo, Lorenzo Alessio, Piero Apostoli, Giuseppe Battista, Roberto Lucchini, Armando Pelliccioni, Laura Marcellini, Patrizio Pasqualetti
- A WEB APPLICATION FOR DATA GATHERING AND STORAGE: A STRATEGIC TOOL FOR A LARGE SURVEY ON RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN WORKING ACTIVITY AND ALZHEIMER DISEASE Luca Paulo, Daniele Milazzo, Paolo Maria Rossini, Patrizio Pasqualetti, AFaR-Associazione Fatebenefratelli per la Ricerca, Ospedale Fatebenefratelli – Isola Tiberina, Roma
- PARKINSONIAN DISTURBANCES AND EXPOSURE TO METALS. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF AN ITALIAN CASE-CONTROL STUDY Francesco Draicchio, Lorenzo Alessio, Pietro Apostoli, Roberto Lucchini, Giuliano Binetti, Antonella Alberici, Patrizio Pasqualetti, Laura Benedetti, Elisa Albini, Stefano Borghesi, Alessandra Corulli, PaoloMaria Rossini
- PARKINSONIAN DISTURBANCES AND EXPOSURE TO METALS. PRELIMINARY RESULTS FROM NEUROCHEMICAL, TREMORIMETRY AND BRAIN MRI ASSESSMENT Elisa Albini, Romana Coccaglio, Laura Benedetti, Stefano Borghesi, Margherita Caci, Annalisa Caruso, Roberto Lucchini, Roberto Gasparotti, Alessandro Padovani, Giovanni Parrinello, Giuliano Binetti, Lorenzo Alessio
- METALS AND OXIDATIVE STRESS IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE Squitti R., Binetti G., Ghidoni R., Barbiero L., Albini E., Benedetti L., Melgari J., Cassetta E., Cesaretti S., Lucchini R., Rossini P.M.

# International Meetings

**28<sup>th</sup> International Congress of ICOH  
(International Commission on  
Occupational Health)  
Milan, Italy  
11-16 June 2006**



## **NTOXMET workshop**

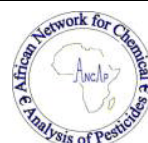
**Neurotoxic metals: lead,  
mercury and manganese  
FROM RESEARCH TO  
PREVENTION**

**Brescia, Italy  
June 17-18, 2006  
[www.ntoxmet.it](http://www.ntoxmet.it)**



**Institute of Neuroscience and  
Biomedical Research (INBR)  
Announces a NeuroScience Congress:**

**Environment and the Developing Brain  
Owerri, Nigeria  
July 10-13, 2006  
<http://www.inbr2006.org/>**



*A Conference Organized by ANCAP in  
Collaboration with  
**SETAC AFRICA BRANCH**  
16th - 24th October 2006*

***Arusha International  
Conference Centre  
Arusha, Tanzania***

<http://www.ancap.org/ANCAP-SETAC.html>

## ◆ The newsletter

*This newsletter is compiled quarterly by*

*Roberto Lucchini, MD  
Institute of Occupational Health  
University of Brescia  
P.le Spedali Civili 125123 Brescia, ITALY  
Fax: +39030 3996-080  
Tel: +39030 3996-604  
E-mail: [lucchini@med.unibs.it](mailto:lucchini@med.unibs.it)*

*Contributions to the newsletter are most welcome, preferably as .rtf files via E-mail.*

*Preferred file format is Rich Text Format or MSWord. The newsletter layout is produced using MSWord.*

*Feel free to contact me when you have any questions or suggestions related to contributions and/or the contents of this newsletter!*

# Committee's members

1. Elisa Albini, Italy
2. Mahmoud Amr, Cairo, Egypt
3. Kent Anger, Portland, USA
4. Shunichi Araki, Kawasaki, Japan
5. Rita Bast-Pettersen, Norway
6. Margit Bleecker, Baltimore, USA
7. Natalia Bobko, Kiev, Ukraine
8. Maria Grazia Cassitto, Milan, Italy
9. Hae-Kwan Cheong, Kyongbuk, South Korea
10. Nicola Cherry, Alberta, Canada
11. Sin Eng Chia, Singapore, Singapore
12. Jamal Darandari, Randwick, Australia
13. Evan Dryson, Auckland, New Zealand
14. Christer Edling, Uppsala, Sweden
15. Xing Gao, Beijing, PR China
16. Fabriziomaria Gobba, Modena, Italy
17. Philippe Grandjean, Odense, Denmark
18. Raul Harari, Quito, Ecuador
19. Elena Herrero, Turin, Italy
20. Mamoru Hirata, Japan
21. Gunnar Höglund, Sweden
22. Hideki Igisu, Kitakyushu, Japan
23. Anders Iregren, Sweden
24. Huiqing Jin, Hefei City, PR China
25. Wilawan Juengprasert, Nonthaburi, Thailand
26. Juhani Juntunen, Helsinki, Finland
27. Gaku Ichihara, Japan
28. Seong-Kyu Kang, Rep. Of Korea
29. Eun A Kim, Incheon, South Korea
30. Yangho Kim, Ulsan, South Korea
31. Reiko Kishi, Sapporo, Japan
32. Philip J Landrigan, New York, USA
33. You Xin Liang, Shanghai, PR China
34. Leslie London, South Africa
35. Roberto Lucchini, Brescia, Italy
36. Esko Matikainen, Helsinki, Finland
37. Tatjana Novakovic-Agopian, California
38. Jonny Myers, South Africa
39. Iman Nuwayhid, Beirut, Lebanon
40. Akio Ohnishi, Kitakyushu, Japan
41. Krystyna Pawlas, Sosnowiec, Poland
42. Harry Roels, Bruxelles, Belgique
43. Joon Sakong, Rep. of Korea
44. Andreas Seeber, Dortmund, Germany
45. Lance Simpson, Philadelphia, USA
46. Eva Sovcikova, Bratislava, Slovakia
47. Yasuhiro Takeuchi, Chiba, Japan
48. Gerhard Triebig, Heidelberg, Germany
49. Song-Yen Tsai, Shilo, Yunlin Taiwan
50. Pavel Urban, Praha, Czech Republic
51. Gert van der Laan, Amsterdam, Netherlands
52. Christoph van Thriel, Dortmund Germany
53. Arne Wennberg, Stockholm, Sweden

54. Ineke Wesseling, Heredia, Costa Rica

55. Kazuhito Yokoyama, Mie, Japan

56. Max Vojtíšek, Tcheck Republic

57. Silvia Zoni, Italy