

AOEC E-News January 2010

This newsletter is purposely designed to be informal. Click on the following to go directly for news on; *AOEC Activities, View from Vermont Avenue, Actions of the AOEC Board, Courses, Positions Available, New from Federal Agencies, and Meetings and Conferences.*

AOEC Activities

In honor of our late member by the Connecticut Council for Occupational Safety and Health (ConnectiCOSH) has established **The Dr. Marcia Trapé Farm Worker Health Memorial Fund** to help migrant farm workers has been established. Donations will be directly used to provide health and safety equipment to farm workers during health fairs. More information on the Trapé Memorial Fund is available at <http://today.uchc.edu/features/2010/jan10/trape.html>

Dean Baker, MD, MPH of the University of California Irvine clinic has been elected President of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology for 2010-2011.

Hold the Date: AOEC will once again be hosting a breakfast at the Annual American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC) at the Shingle Creek Resort. Join us for coffee and conversation. This year's breakfast will be held on **May 1, 2010** beginning at 7 am. More details will be forthcoming as we get closer to the date including the room assignment.

A couple of reminders about existing AOEC resources are in order.

There is a need to let medical students know what OM physicians do and what OM actually is. AOEC member William Buchta, MD, MPH donated a well received PowerPoint presentation to the AOEC library *Occupational Medicine: Whazzat?* It is available now through the AOEC office and will soon be available on the AOEC website at <http://www.aoec.org/resources.htm> under the Downloadable PowerPoints link.

As BPA and Phthalates get more publicity and your offices are asked more questions you may want to download the AOEC BPA/Phthalate Fact Sheets. The AOEC Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (PEHSU) program had developed fact sheets which although written for the PEHSU project are applicable to all ages. There are two sets of the fact sheets; one for patients and one for health professionals at <http://aoec.org/PEHSU/facts.html>. The fact sheets are also available in Spanish.

Actions of the AOEC Board

One of the responsibilities of AOEC is to periodically review our core documents to ensure they are still relevant to our organizational goals and consistent with best clinical practices and current legal standards. Two AOEC documents have been reviewed in the past 12 months. One of these, the AOEC *Personnel Policies and Procedures* is considered an internal document and therefore only needs to be approved by the Board of Directors.

The second document reviewed is the AOEC *Patient Bill of Rights*. That is considered a core document to the organization and as such, any changes must be approved by the clinic members of AOEC. A copy of the proposed changes has been sent to the member clinics for vote. Their responses are due February 5 2010.

If you would like to see a copy of either the proposed revision to the *AOEC Patient Bill of Rights* or the *Personnel Policies and Procedures* please contact the AOEC office.

View from Vermont Avenue by Katherine Kirkland, Executive Director

In the ongoing changes at CDC that accompany any change of Director, there are changes afoot in ATSDR/NCEH. Howard Frumkin, MD, MPH, DrPH has taken a new position. He will serve as Special Assistant to the Director for Climate Change and Health, effective January 19, 2010. This new position will be responsible for expanding CDC's capacity and collaboration to study the health effects from climate change. Replacing Dr. Frumkin as Acting Director will be Henry Falk, MD, MPH, while a search for a new director is undertaken. The fact that there is a search for a new director does not necessarily mean Dr. Falk won't remain in the position. We need only look to the John Howard/NIOSH example to see the Dr. Frieden is more than willing to reappoint.

It's way too early to make any predictions on the 2011 budgets for federal agencies. While the President is recommending no increase in discretionary funding there's an old expression in DC that the President *proposes* and Congress *disposes*. To the best of my knowledge, no Presidential budget has made it through the legislative process unaltered and given the current political climate, this isn't the year history will be made.

New from Federal Agencies

The Department of Labor will hold a *National Action Summit for Latino Worker Health and Safety / Cumbre de Acción Nacional para la Salud y Seguridad del Trabajador Latino* on April 14 - 15, 2010 in Houston, Texas.

OSHA envisions the Conference will bring together representatives from employer associations, labor groups, community organizations, worker centers, the medical community, safety and health professionals, educators, government officials, Consulates, the media and other non-traditional partners to develop new partnerships, target and expand outreach and share the most effective strategies to reach Hispanic workers. There will be more information, including registration information, in the next few weeks at www.osha.gov. In the meantime, please save the date.

Positions Available

Nurse Practitioner

The Occupational Health Clinical Center (OHCC) is looking for an NP. Job duties for this position include obtaining medical and occupational histories, performing physical examinations, ordering and interpreting appropriate diagnostic tests, and making referrals for a shared panel of patients with work-related illnesses. Ability to travel regionally in the North Country and periodically to Central New York and Troy is essential. To find out more about this position and apply, visit our web site at www.upstate.edu and search for job #027169.

Occupational Health Clinic

Opening for Southern Tier Regional Office of the Occupational Health Clinic in Binghamton.

Part-time Outreach Education Coordinator-Job # 027915

Coordinate outreach and education programs, serve as a liaison to advisory board outreach committee, and develop outreach activities for targeted areas and occupations.

Full-Time Medical Office Assistant-Job # 027913

Prepare patients for examinations and assist practitioners in carrying out patient care plans.

Arrange and expedite diagnostic and treatment process for patients.

Full-Time Nurse Practitioner-Job # 027916

Work independently and in collaboration with the Medical Director in providing diagnostic and treatment services to individuals with work related illnesses and in the screening of high risk groups. Ability to travel regionally is essential.

For more information and to apply, visit our website at www.upstate.edu. Apply to position number indicated.

Conferences and Meetings

11th Annual RSI^{PLUS} Awareness Day

February 26, 2010

Webinar sponsored by the Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers. The registration form, agenda, and speaker biographies can be found at the following link

http://ohcow.on.ca/clinics/sudbury/RSIDAYPLUS_2010.html For more information please contact Trevor Schell, E-Mail: tschell@ohcow.on.ca Phone: (705)523-2330

Derived No Effect Levels (Dnels): What Are They And How Will They Change The Occupational Health OEL Landscape?

March 3, 2010 - 2:00 -4:30 PM ET

Derived No Effect Levels (DNELs) are examples of the information being generated as a result of the new REACH requirements, and are used for purposes of risk characterization. There are some concerns that DNELs will become de-facto occupational exposure limits (OELs) — an issue this webinar will address. **Registration and Course Information Link:**

http://www.acgih.org/events/course/DNEL_webinar.htm

Emerging Issues and Controversies in Occupational Health and Safety

March 4, 2010

Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) presents

Continuing Education and Conference Center, St. Paul Campus, University of Minnesota

Register online: cpheo.sph.umn.edu Questions: 612.626.4515 or 800.493.2060

ACMT's Spring Conference 2010
Mother Nature's Gift to Toxicologists

An exploration of the animal, botanical and mineral toxic world

March 12 - 14, 2010 at the Hyatt Regency Resort and Spa at the Gainey Ranch, Scottsdale AZ
http://www.acmt.net/cgi/page.cgi?aid=3090&_id=52&zine=show

The Medical Toxicology Foundation (MTF) in conjunction with the American College of Medical Toxicology (ACMT) and the Agency for Disease Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) is pleased to announce a Travel Scholarship for underrepresented minority medical trainees to attend the 2010 ACMT Spring Conference. The application deadline is February 8, 2010. Questions can be directed to Trevonne Thompson, MD, at travelscholarship@gmail.com <<mailto:travelscholarship@gmail.com>> .

Agricultural Medicine: The Core Course

Occupational and Environmental Health for Rural Health Professionals

Thursday – Saturday • March 18 - 20, 2010

This AgriSafe Training course is the first in Wisconsin to offer a core curriculum in agricultural medicine, health, and safety. It is designed to train rural health care providers for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of agricultural occupational illnesses and injuries.

Registration information at <http://www.marshfieldclinic.org/cme> or contact Marshfield Clinic CME at 715-389-3776 or 1-866-894-3622, ext. 9-3776.

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses Annual Conference
Anaheim, CA April 9-15, 2010

AAOHN Annual Conference is the premier educational and networking event for occupational health nurses and other professionals in related disciplines.

<https://www.aaohn.org/conference-items/aaohn-2010-annual-conference.html>

International Symposium of Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace and Environment (RHICOH 2010)

Taipei, Taiwan, April 20-21, 2010

The symposium is organized by the Department of Environmental and Occupational Medicine, National Taiwan University Hospital and in collaboration with the International Commission of Occupational Health (ICOH) Scientific Committee on Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace.

Information at: <http://www.rhicoh2010.tw/index.html>

Occupational Health under Globalization and New Technology

Taipei, Taiwan, April 20-25, 2010

The EPICOH and MEDICHEM Conferences are a series of annual meetings of the world's leading scientists and students working in Epidemiology and Chemical Safety in Occupational Health, where all participants share their latest research findings, exchange ideas and establish new collaborations. Information at: <http://www.epicohmedichem2010.tw>

American Occupational Health Conference

Orlando, FL May 2-5, 2010

The brochure is now available for the **2010 American Occupational Health Conference (AOHC)** to be held May 2-5 at Rosen Shingle Creek in Orlando, Florida.

Occupational Health and Safety Principles & Nursing Certification Review

May 13-14, 2010; University of Illinois at Chicago

State of the art information in the field of occupational and environmental health and safety; Comprehensive workbook/resource manuals and classroom materials; Test taking techniques and strategies for examination preparation; Written tests prior, during, and at conclusion of seminar; Participative lectures. For more information: www.publichealthlearning.com and click Conference

Hindsight is 2020: Looking Back at the Last Decade, Looking Ahead to the Next Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) Annual Meeting

June 6 -10, 2010

Portland, Oregon

The conference connects with over 1,000 public health epidemiologists from across the country and will include workshops, plenary sessions with leaders in the field of public health, oral breakout sessions, roundtable discussions and poster presentations.

<http://www.cste.org/conference/>

4th Int'l Conference on the History of Occupational and Environmental Health

June 19-22, 2010

San Francisco, CA

The event is organized by the Office of Continuing Medical Education of the University of California San Francisco (UCSF) and includes a half-day pre-meeting workshop on Occupational and Environmental History Methods on June 19th. Fellows are invited to view detailed event information at <http://www.cme.ucsf.edu/cme/>

Annual Conference of the National Institute for Farm Safety (nifs)

June 27 - July 1, 2010

Wilmington, NC

North Carolina Agromedicine Institute and NC Cooperative Extension in collaboration with Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health For more information, contact Robin Tutor, Interim Director, NC Agromedicine Institute, tutorr@ecu.edu or Julia Storm, Agromedicine Information Specialist, julia_storm@ncsu.edu.

Educational Courses

Free Online CME Course for Health Care Providers – Adult Lead Poisoning

The California Department of Public Health's Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Program is pleased to announce a new online course - *Overview of Adult/Occupational Lead Poisoning in California*. Based the latest health information about lead poisoning, this course:

- Describes the problem of adult lead poisoning
- Uses a case to illustrate issues and challenges in diagnosing lead poisoning in adult patients
- Offers guidelines for providing state-of-the-art clinical management of adult lead poisoning

- Provides an overview of the medical responsibilities under OSHA Lead Standards While developed for a California audience, the material in this course is applicable to anyone interested in the care of lead-exposed adults.

Course available at <https://chtapps.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/servlet/QaStudy?tid=269>

US-Mexico Border Health Training Opportunity

The South Texas Environmental Education and Research (STEER) Program of the University of Texas School of Medicine-San Antonio (UTSOMSA) provides in vivo training experiences at the US-Mexico Border for medical students, residents and other health professionals in an unique and informative setting. STEER engages nearly 100 instructors, most of them volunteers, including health department leaders, community healthcare workers, and professors, to teach the dozens of ½ to 1-day segments that make up the 4-week program.

STEER program is offered monthly if there are at least three qualified applicants. Limit of 10 students per rotation. See the website <http://steer.uthscsa.edu> for information and a downloadable application, or contact directly: steer@uthscsa.edu.

NIOSH Approved Spirometry Courses

All the currently approved NIOSH spirometry courses which are available are listed at <http://www2a.cdc.gov/drds/spirometry/schedule.asp>

North Carolina Occupation Safety and Health Education and Research Center

Occupational Health Nursing

Master's in Public Health in the Occupational Health Nursing concentration via distance education from The University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill is only a click away. You can attend classes on-line anytime of the day or night. Tuition assistance is available. For more information contact Judy Ostendorf (judy_ostendorf@unc.edu) or Bonnie Rogers (rogersb@email.unc.edu) and visit our website:

http://www.sph.unc.edu/phlp/distance_mph_in_occupational_health_nursing_2083_7115.html

Earn a Certificate in Occupational Health Nursing via distance education from The University of North Carolina @ Chapel Hill. Earn 11 – 12 academic credits in 12 months, which could be transferred into the MPH Program. You can attend classes on-line anytime of the day or night. For more information contact Judy Ostendorf (judy_ostendorf@unc.edu) or Bonnie Rogers (rogersb@email.unc.edu) and visit our website:

http://www.sph.unc.edu/phlp/occupational_health_nursing_certificate_4796_8853.html

30th Annual Occupational Safety and Health Winter Institute February 15-19, 2010 in St Pete Beach, FL <http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/institutes/winter10/index.htm>

Short Course in Occupational Safety

Apr 19-23, 2010; May 18-20, 2010 in Chapel Hill, NC

<http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/email/shortcourses2.htm>

Certification Review Courses http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/cert_review.htm

Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene Online August 24-December 8, 2010
http://osherc.sph.unc.edu/ce/courses/fund_ind_hyg_online.htm

Respirator Selection and Cartridge Change Out Schedules

February 23 & 24, 2010 Hampton Inn and Suites, Salt Lake City, UT Fee \$430. Contact Roy McKay, PhD, University of Cincinnati Medical Center, PO Box 670458, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0458, 513-558-1234 or www.DrMcKay.com Sponsored by the University of Cincinnati Medical Center

**Correspondence Course: Practical Aspects of Health and Safety Management
Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (RMCOEH)**

Practical Aspects of Health and Safety Management, that is based on the Royce Moser, MD, MPH text, "Effective Management of Health and Safety Programs--A Practical Guide, 3rd Edition". Reflecting the additional chapters and other material in the 3rd edition, it is approved for a maximum of *45 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits*™. It is also approved by the American Board of Preventive Medicine as meeting the requirements of an educational module under the ABPM re-certification program. Information on the book can be found at <http://www.oempress.com/product/347/1>. A brochure for the correspondence course can be found at <http://medicine.utah.edu/rmcoeh/ContEdProg/pammgmt1.pdf>.

**Free Online Continuing Education Course for Health Professionals on
Pediatric Environmental Health**

Now Available at: http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/emes/health_professionals/pediatrics.html

This course is based on the Pediatric Environmental Health Toolkit: An American Academy of Pediatrics endorsed clinical tool. This is an online course developed in conjunction with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's (ATSDR) Division of Toxicology and Environmental Medicine, the University of California San Francisco Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit, and Physicians for Social Responsibility, Greater Boston. Free 1.5 Credit Hours for: Physicians, Nurses, Nurse Practitioners, other health professionals (check the course site). Access this interactive online course in the comfort of your own home or office to increase your knowledge base of common pediatric environmental health issues. Users can log in and out to complete the course in several sessions.

Additional ATSDR Environmental Health and Medicine continuing education offerings can be found at <http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/emes>

Massachusetts Nurses Association- Health and Safety Courses Online

Available at <http://www.massnurses.org/nursing-resources/continuing-education/mna-ce-online>
Course topics currently include: Workplace Violence, Fragrance Free! Creating a Safe Healthcare Environment, Latex Allergy Program, Fatigue and Sleeplessness, and Work-related Asthma in Nurses and their Co-workers.

Program requirements: To successfully complete a program and receive contact hours, you must read the entire program, take and pass the Post-Test and complete the Program Evaluation. To pass the Post-Test, you must achieve a score of 80% or above.

Accreditation: The MNA is accredited as a provider of continuing nursing education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.

*All programs are free to MNA members and others.

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA[®]) will now offer "Advancements in Exposure Assessment: Practical Tools and Rules for Decision Making," a virtual symposium on March 1 - 3, 2010. Register Today: <http://bit.ly/1kuOHJ>

Sponsored by AIHA's Exposure Assessment Strategies Committee, the sessions will provide a valuable experience with new and existing exposure assessment tools and strategies for more effective and efficient risk management decisions.

Group trained employees can earn up to 1.5 IH CM Points/1.0 CEUs/1.0 COCs. One registration covers an unlimited number of participants in the live virtual presentations scheduled throughout each day. Individuals who register before February 17, 2010 will save \$100. Register today! (link to <http://www.aiha.org/education/dl/Pages/VirtualSymposium.aspx>)