

ICOH scientific committee

Reproductive Hazards in the Workplace

Work Programme for the period 2006-2009

I Organisational issues

1. Executive board.

An executive board of a limited number of researchers in the field is assigned to assist the chair and secretary to review proposals, comment on new initiatives and support carrying out all activities. The board should be balanced with respect to participants from developing and developed countries.

2. Business meetings.

Business meetings are to be held in relation to all scientific meetings and as a minimum an agenda is issued well in advance of the meeting and minutes are distributed to members as well as the ICOH SC officers.

3. Recruitment of members and mailing lists

Recruitment of new members of the Committee and update of the mailing list. Contacts to scientist currently working in the field all over the world to encourage signing up for ICOH and SC reproductive health (through personal contacts and scientific journals) and to encourage contributions to SC activities. This might be done in relation to announcement of the first ICOH SC-RH major activity – for instance a mini symposium in Alberta and the a Russian Conference to be held – but we start to create and extend an e-mail list immediately.

II Scientific issues

1. Workshops and mini symposia

The Committee take responsibility for the organisation of a mini symposium on reproductive health in relation to the 19th EPICOH conference in Alberta, Canada October 2007 as well as for symposias or workshops at the 20th EPICOH meeting in 2008 and the ICOH congress in 2009. Alternative suggestions for themes are

- a. Male mediated developmental toxicity (taken advantage of frontline researchers in this field in Montreal)
- b. Endocrine disruption in the occupational arena (considering the fact that so far this topic has been entirely based upon environmental issues)
- c. Gene-environment interaction in reproductive health (an emerging field)

- d. The risk conferred by physical strain during pregnancy (where we still are lacking reliable answers)
- e. Reproductive hazards in developing countries (where hazards may be more important to combat than in developed countries)
- f. Reproductive risk among hairdressers (where there seem to be a need for an exhaustive review of current knowledge with the aim to arrive at a position paper with recommendations for stakeholders and the community at large).

2. International conference in Russia 2008

The Committee support an international conference on work and Health to be held in Volgograd in 2008 that will also include one or ore sessions on reproductive hazards.

3. The first stand-alone International Conference ICOH SC Reproductive Hazards.

The Committee aim at organising the first ICOH reproductive health international conference in 2008 or 2009 with the objective to provide a broad review of all current issues in work related reproductive health issues and with the aim to gather together between 100 and 200 scientists in the fields from all over the world.

4. Position papers.

Workshops and symposias on specific themes of current interest are organised to obtain critical and exhaustive reviews of current knowledge in specific field and whenever feasible and appropriate extended abstracts and proceedings are aggregated and edited to become reviews with recommendations that may be published in peer-reviewed journals.

5. Service to update SC members on core publications in the field

It is to be explored if there is a need to provide references to core papers that are published in a large number of scientific journals that it may be difficult to keep track with. A systematic search strategy will be needed to accomplish that. Most people have search strings in their own naroo fields. There may be a need for attention more broadly. This should be explored.

Jens Peter Bonde and Olga Sivochalova

Chair and Secretary

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