Medical-Technical article

→ Principles for occupational exposure limit value calculation in France and comparison with European methods

As the organisation charged with developing occupational exposure limit values in France, the AFSSET (French Agency for Environmental and Occupational Health Protection) has published a methodology. These functions have been transferred to the ANSES (French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety), offering an opportunity to present it to occupational physicians and compare it with the methodology used in other European countries.

Studies and surveys

→ Cancer-related lost working days in a self-employed population

Various studies, all carried out on populations of salaried workers, showed that the frequency and nature of cancer could vary depending on occupational activity. For the first time, a study shows differences for self-employed professionals.

→ Presenting RNV3P data from 2007

This article describes the results of data gathered by the RNV3P (National network for surveillance and prevention of occupational diseases) in 2007 and gives excerpts from the activity report. The network was described in a previous issue, here its role is explained and developed.

Conference reports


As part of the government’s 2008-2011 plan to fight drugs and addiction, the French ministry of Labour and MILDT (Inter-ministerial task force combating drugs and addiction) organised a national conference on addictive behaviour in the occupational setting.

→ Optimisation of radioprotection in the electro-nuclear, industrial and medical sectors. Saint-Malo, 29 and 30 September 2010

The 5th meeting of the SFRP (French radioprotection society) was organised to promote experience sharing between those involved in implementing the principles of radioprotection optimisation.

Radioprotection: medical field

→ Conventional radiology. Fixed installations in a medical setting

A collection of data sheets has been developed, classed by activity type. This data sheet concerns fixed installations used in conventional radiology. It is aimed at those involved in staff radioprotection.
Occupational allergy

→ Occupational respiratory allergy to phytosanitary products

Occupational respiratory disorders due to phytosanitary products are little studied and their frequency of occurrence is unknown. They have been reported with some fungicides, herbicides and insecticides.

DMT-Assistance

→ Three questions and answers

- What are the health risks for workers exposed to photocopier and laser printer toners?
- Is there a risk in leaving two pregnant technicians at an MRI post, given that they never enter the room during examinations? Would it be preferable to transfer them to the scanner?
- What are the risks for operators manipulating pre-mixed sealing materials such as plaster with added calcium carbonate and vermiculite during maintenance operations?

→ Medical surveillance of workers exposed to nanomaterials. Insights from the Keystone conference

The first international conference specifically devoted to medical surveillance and epidemiological research in workers exposed to nanomaterials was held in Keystone, United States, from 21 to 23 July 2010.