



No.134 April/May/June

# HEADLINES

#### TO KEEP IN MIND

An artificial-nail technician presents with occupational hypersensitivity pneumonitis linked to the use of ethyl methacrylate when fitting artificial nails

A case of hypersensitivity pneumonitis linked to the use of ethyl methacrylate is reported in a nail studio. Recommended preventive measures are also presented.

Bisphenol A: new collective expertise on the human health risks reported by ANSES (French Agency for Food, Environmental and Occupational Health & Safety)

This phenolic compound could cause effects in unborn children when pregnant women are occupationally exposed through handling thermal receipt paper.

## SALTSA: report on experiments and perspectives

Field experiments have revealed the strengths and weaknesses of SALTSA training. Suggestions are made for implementing the tool, improving data collection, and networking.

#### Cellulose insulation and ammonium salts

Cellulose insulation treated with ammonium salts (replacing sodium borate) is used for domestic insulation. Ammonia-like odours have been reported and measurements are being made.

# **KNOWLEDGE AND REFERENCES**

## **BROAD VIEW**

### Occupational toxicity of monoclonal antibodies

Monoclonal antibodies are increasingly used in research and as part of therapy. Despite lack of evidence on toxicity, preventive measures should be implemented to limit exposure.

#### FIELD VIEW

## SUMER: tasks interrupted or refused by workers for health or safety reasons

The SUMER 2010 survey reports on decisions to refuse to perform or to cease an activity for health or safety reasons declared by some workers: Who? Why? In what conditions?

## **PRACTICES AND PROFESSIONS**

# Screening for and managing misuse of psychotropic substances (PTS) likely to cause behavioural disorders in an occupational setting

These good practice recommendations provide occupational health professionals with tools and procedures to improve identification and management of dangerous use of PTS.

# **FOLLOWED FOR YOU**

# Biological effects of electromagnetic radiation. 7<sup>th</sup> International conference.

This conference reviews the biological and pathological effects of electromagnetic radiation and their applications in the medical and industrial field.

## Growing older in good health in a working society.

This conference addressed cancer, ageing, mental health, MSD, etc. which are at the core of occupational integration, reintegration and marginalisation.

Working in animal facilities: risk factors, human factors, prevention, technical changes The recent regulatory and scientific changes will lead to adaptations to the profession of animal handler,

risk assessment and preventive measures in laboratory animal facilities.

# Occupational accidents and diseases: from social compromise to full compensation

This symposium uses key examples to retrace how occupational diseases are compensated from a historical and judicial point of view.

#### **CLOSE-UP**

# Shift-work and stroke and cardiovascular disease: critical review and summary of epidemiological evidence

This article analyses the studies performed to examine the causal link between shift-work and the incidence of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

# REFERENCE TOOLS

### **OCCUPATIONAL ALLERGY**

## Occupational dermatitis in the electronics sector

The use of various solvents and other chemical substances in the electronics sector poses a particular risk of dermatitis for workers despite extensive automation.

## **PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS**

## Mini International Neuropsychiatric Interview (MINI)

This questionnaire is used to structure diagnosis of the main psychiatric disorders.

## YOUR OUESTIONS/OUR ANSWERS

## Can exposure to butanone cause a positive breathalyser result?

Both chemical and electronic breathalysers are based on compounds reacting with the alcohol function. This function is not found on any of the compounds eliminated in the exhaled air after exposure to butanone.

# Can an electrical tool be used by those with an implantable cardioverter-defibrillator (ICD)?

As a general rule, electromagnetic fields can cause ICDs to malfunction. Even if serious accidents appear to be rare, the risk should be assessed.

# Cost of additional examinations. Who should pay these, in particular as part of biological monitoring for occupational exposure?

Covering the costs of additional examinations has raised numerous questions in the past. The new version of article R. 4624-26 of the French Labour Code sheds light.

# WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS

## **FOR YOUR PERUSAL**

Selection of books and articles

### **LEGAL**

Official texts relating to occupational health and safety, published between 1 February and 31 March 2013