



No 136 October/November/ December

# **HEADLINES**

#### TO KEEP IN MIND

# INRS toxicology factsheets. Outcome of the readership survey 2012-2013

The readership survey gave us an overview of the opinions of occupational health professionals on the toxicology factsheets and the changes they would like to see (publication format, digital copies, etc.).

# A new tool to assess psychosocial risks in health and social sector settings

Presenting a new application for use by small businesses in the health and social sectors to assess psychosocial risks and integrate them into their occupational risk assessment document ("document unique") that should be established and updated at least once a year.

#### Asbestos. A frequently unperceived risk

Return on a study relating to asbestos exposure in plumbers and heating engineers, performed using sampling badges.

# Decree of 10 July 2013 relating to prevention of biohazards in workers handling sharps

This decree defines the preventive measures to be implemented if there is a risk of blood exposure accident (BEA); it also defines how accidents should be handled.

# Decree of 17 July 2013 relating to the medical monitoring card and dosimetric monitoring of workers exposed to ionising radiation

This decree sets out the usage conditions for the individual medical monitoring card along with the conditions for the individual dosimetric monitoring of workers exposed to ionising radiation.

# Decree of 2 August 2013 setting the conditions for immunising the categories of people mentioned in article L. 3111-4 of the French public health code

This decree sets out the conditions in which people who are exposed to an occupational risk of contamination by biological agents should be immunised. It specifies the conditions relating to hepatitis B.

#### **CONTRIBUTE TO RESEARCH**

Using biometrology to assess percutaneous exposure to bisphenols A and S in till operators

Returning to work after time off for depression

Using biometrology to assess occupational exposure to multiple solvents

Assessing auditory fatigue after a days' work

Assessing occupational exposure to di-isononyl phtalate (DINP)

Characterisation of situations in which 1,3-butadiene exposure may occur

# **KNOWLEDGE AND REFERENCES**

#### **FIELD VIEW**

# Life, work and health of subcontractors in the nuclear industry

This survey analyses the life and working conditions of subcontractors in the nuclear industry, as well as how they perceive strain at work and their health.

# Q fever: study of seroprevalence in small-ruminant breeders in South-West France

This survey studies the link between a high seroprevalence for Q fever and the type of breeding facility involving risk for humans.

# SUMER: Prevention of occupational risks, the occupational physicians' view

The SUMER 2010 survey establishes a relationship between the presence of a CHSCT (committee for occupational hygiene, safety and working conditions) or formalised preventive measures and the quality of prevention in companies.

#### PRACTICES AND PROFESSIONS

# Occupational-medical monitoring for lumbar risk in workers handling heavy loads

These recommendations of good practices, established by the SFMT (French society for occupational medicine), aim to improve the identification, assessment and management of occupational situations presenting a risk of injury to the lower spine.

#### **FOLLOWED FOR YOU**

Cutaneous risk in the public works and civil engineering sector, 32nd national days of the construction industry. Lille, 28-30 May 2013

This seminar proposes elements to limit work-related skin disorders in the construction sector, such as learning prevention from the start of training and following some simple rules of hygiene.

How to change your work: relieving distress, eliminating risk factors, «taking care of your work»? 1st international seminar of the DIM GESTES (Group studying work and work-related distress), Montrouge, 10-11 June 2013

The theme of this seminar is prevention of psychosocial risks: identification, analysis of activity, actions taken and their effects on work.

# REFERENCE TOOLS

#### **OCCUPATIONAL ALLERGY**

Non-infectious occupational respiratory disorders in swimming pool and spa personnel Life-guards, pool monitors etc, are exposed to a risk of asthma and hypersensitivity pneumonitis.

#### RADIOPROTECTION IN THE RESEARCH SECTOR

# In vitro handling of unsealed sources

This factsheet and its annex review the usage, management and risk assessment procedures linked to handling unsealed radionuclide sources.

#### **PSYCHOSOCIAL HAZARDS**

# Inventory of occupational activity descriptions (IDAP)

This questionnaire aims to determine the relationship between the tasks performed at work and stress in the workplace.

# Copenhagen Psychosocial Questionnaire, COPSOQ

This questionnaire assesses the psychosocial factors related to the work environment (working conditions), to physical and mental health and to well-being.

# YOUR QUESTIONS/OUR ANSWERS

# Intraocular implants and welding activity

What are the effects of ultraviolet and infrared radiation on a welder who has had a cataract operation?

#### Working on electric vehicles in a garage

Does a mechanic working on electric vehicles need specific authorisation or a medical aptitude certificate?

#### Alcohol in the workplace

What steps should be taken to avoid apprentices consuming alcohol during their training?

# WITH OUR COMPLIMENTS

# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

January to June 2014

#### TRAINING

Places available in the 2014 training sessions offered by INRS

# FOR YOUR PERUSAL

Selection of books and articles

# **LEGAL**

Official texts relating to occupational health and safety, published between 15th July and 31st October 2013