

TITLE: Exploring the Relationship Between Environmental Exposure and Parkinson's, Diabetes, and Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma

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Abstract: As our knowledge about the etiology of disease progresses, the evidence of environmental contributions to disease grows. Scientists are beginning to identify and research possible **environmental links** to such **chronic diseases** and health conditions as Parkinson's, diabetes, and Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. There is a need to evaluate the findings from such research, to assess possible emerging trends in chronic diseases for clues, and, to convene an expert panel of scientists to set a research and policy agenda. Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR) is undertaking a project to assess the scientific linkages between several chronic diseases and environmental exposures, and to generate a set of policy and research recommendations. PSR is conducting the project with Dr. Lynn Goldman at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health who serves as the project's lead researcher. This presentation will present the findings from this project, with specific emphasis on the scientific findings, trends and policy implications.

Participants will learn about the state-of-the-science findings and policy implications regarding the linkages between environmental exposures and Parkinson's disease, diabetes, and Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. In addition, the participants will learn about the importance of national health tracking of chronic disease and environmental exposures to public health.

Key Words:

Environmental Links
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ABSTRACT 10928: Employee Injuries during Accidental HazMat Releases in Oregon and Washington; Theodora Tsongas, Lucy Harter, and Linda Gunnells; Oregon Public Health Services, Harter Consulting, and Washington Department of Health.

The Hazardous Substances Emergency Events Surveillance (HSEES) System has been implemented in Oregon and Washington during the past decade. The goal of this surveillance project is to reduce the morbidity and mortality resulting from hazardous substances emergencies. Based on information obtained through the HSEES system, employees are most often adversely affected during accidental releases of hazardous materials, when compared with the general public, students, or responders. Furthermore, there are a high number of injuries for the number of events observed in professional services in both states. However, there have been difficulties obtaining information on incidents and injuries to employees in industries. Industrial spills and releases are under-reported in both states. Reporting may have been inconsistent due to the fact that the state health agencies are not regulatory agencies and reporting is voluntary. Improved outreach to forge better relationships with industry and improve reporting of incidents is necessary in order to properly interpret the findings of the HSEES system. An evaluation of incidents in professional services is recommended to assess the validity of these findings, to evaluate the preparedness of professional services for spill and release incidents, and to work with this group to reduce injuries.

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11101 - The Occurrence of *Baylisascaris procyonis* in Three North Bay Counties in California

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ABSTRACT

Baylisascaris procyonis, a common intestinal parasite of raccoons (*Procyon lotor*), in North America, can cause serious and sometimes fatal larva migrans in humans and many species of mammals and birds. The purpose of this study was to determine the occurrence of infection of *Baylisascaris* adults and eggs in raccoon and raccoon latrines in Marin and Sonoma Counties and at a university student housing facility in Alameda County in northern California. We found that 4 of 6 (67%) and 2 of 4 (50%) of raccoons necropsied in Marin and Sonoma Counties, respectively, were positive for *B. procyonis*, with an average intensity of infection of 3 worms (range =1-10). 13 of 35 (37%) and 5 of 9 (56%) of captive raccoons at wildlife centers in Marin and Sonoma Counties, respectively, were shedding *B. procyonis* eggs in their feces. 12 of 17 (71%), 1 of 3 (33%), and 13 of 19 (68%) of raccoon latrines examined in Sonoma and Marin counties and at the U.C. Berkeley student housing complex in Alameda County, respectively, were positive for *B. procyonis* eggs. These findings indicate that *B. procyonis* is common in these counties in northern California and that appropriate precautions should be taken concerning raccoons and their feces in order to prevent human and animal infection with this parasite.