



Collaborative on Health and the Environment's Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group



E-Bulletin September 30, 2011

This e-bulletin lists news and journal articles, organizational reports, calls for proposals, upcoming events and other items related to fertility, reproductive health and the environment. E-bulletins are archived and searchable on our website:

<http://www.healthandenvironment.org/fertility>

CHE-Fertility Highlights

New CHE-Fertility Partners

CHE-Fertility welcomes the following new members to the group:

- Janel C. Parham RN, MS, Maryland
- Victoria Maizes, MD, Arizona
- Naomi Takahashi, New York
- Darline Turner-Lee, Texas
- Michael A. Thomas, MD, Ohio

[Dr. Pat Hunt summarizes EDCs in Scientific American](#)

September 30, 2011

Scientists have become increasingly worried that even extremely low levels of some environmental contaminants may have significant damaging effects on our bodies and that fetuses are particularly vulnerable to such assaults. Some of the chemicals that are all around us have the ability to interfere with our endocrine systems, which regulate the hormones that control our weight, our biorhythms and our reproduction. Synthetic hormones are used clinically to prevent pregnancy, control insulin levels in diabetics, compensate for a deficient thyroid gland and alleviate menopausal symptoms. You wouldn't think of taking these drugs without a prescription, but we unwittingly do something similar every day. *Scientific American*.

[Webcast recording available: Scientists constructing tool to flag EDCs early in chemical development](#)

September 27, 2011

A group of biologists and green chemists, supported by the extramural research division of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, is developing a protocol for chemists to use to determine if the chemical they are developing is an endocrine disruptor. The project was highlighted during a panel discussion on practical approaches to integrating rapid testing into the chemical design process on Sept. 21 during the workshop "Applying 21st Century Toxicology to Green Chemical and Material Design."

[CHE Partnership call: Air Pollution and Neurodevelopment: How Prenatal Exposures May Impact I.Q.](#)

September 27, 2011

Air pollution is most often seen as a contributor to children's asthma and other respiratory problems. Emerging research, however, suggests that air pollution is linked

to neurodevelopment concerns as well. Studies recently published in *Pediatrics* and *Environmental Health Perspectives* found lower I.Q. levels in the children of mothers who were exposed during pregnancy to an array of pollutants, including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and organophosphate pesticides. On this call, leading researchers discussed their recent findings as well as the potential implications for children's neurodevelopment. Featured speakers included: Frederica Perera, DrPH, Director, Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health and professor of Environmental Health Sciences at Columbia University and Heather Volk, PhD, MPH, Assistant Professor of Research, Departments of Preventative Medicine and Pediatrics, Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute, University of Southern California. Visit the [call page](#) to view resources from this discussion.

[CNE Available: Environmental Health in the Health Care Setting](#)

Expiration Date: December 31, 2011

The American Nurses Association is offering continuing education credits for the on-line offering. Topics focus on the health care industry as a major contributor to environmental pollution. Through the processes of waste disposal, including incineration, the health care industry is one of the largest contributors to environmental dioxin and mercury. Mercury contamination of our waterways has created the conditions by which a significant number of fish are sufficiently mercury-laden so as to pose a threat to reproductive health. There are a number of positive actions that nurses can take to address the health threats posed by environmental exposures exposures.

New Science

A sampling of new research articles that are available on-line are gleaned from [Environmental Health News](#), and presented here.

[BPA levels higher in fetus during early pregnancy, compared to maternal and neonatal levels](#)

September 30, 2011

A rodent study finds that bisphenol A (BPA) levels were higher in the fetus during earlier parts of pregnancy when compared to the mother and newborns. While BPA exposure is widespread, scientists continue to debate its toxicity and human health risks. BPA is a chemical used in a wide variety of consumer products, including polycarbonate plastics, food can linings, and thermal receipts. A recent study also found that BPA levels are higher in women exposed to cigarette smoke. Some cigarette filters may be made of BPA. *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*.

[Preterm birth associated with higher risk of death in early childhood, young adulthood](#)

September 27, 2011

In a study that included more than 600,000 individuals born in Sweden between 1973-1979, those born preterm (less than 37 weeks gestation) had a higher risk of death during early childhood and young adulthood than persons born at term. The researchers write that, to their knowledge, this is the first study to report the specific contribution of gestational age at birth on mortality in adulthood. "The underlying mechanisms are still largely unknown but may involve a complex interplay of fetal and postnatal nutritional abnormalities; other intrauterine exposures, including glucocorticoid and sex hormone alterations; and common genetic factors." *JAMA*.

[No harm to mice testes from BPA in utero](#)

September 27, 2011

Researchers at Brown University found that giving even large doses of BPA to pregnant mice did not have a negative effect on their sons' reproductive systems. The digestive system - usual route of BPA exposure in humans - may detoxify it. Male mice whose mothers were exposed to either moderate or high levels of bisphenol A while pregnant did not grow up to show any adverse effects to their reproductive systems by several measures, according to a new study. Data on female mice is still forthcoming but less encouraging. *Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology*.

[Perinatal exposure to BPA may increase the propensity to develop breast cancer](#)

September 27, 2011

Researchers at the Swiss Institute for Experimental Cancer Research examined whether perinatal exposure to a range of low doses of BPA is sufficient to alter mammary gland hormone response later on in life, with a possible impact on breast cancer risk. To mimic human exposure, BPA was added to the drinking water of mice. Analysis of the mammary glands of their daughters at puberty showed that estrogen-dependent transcriptional events were perturbed and the number of terminal end buds, estrogen-induced proliferative structures, was altered in a dose-dependent fashion. Adult females showed an increase in mammary epithelial cell numbers comparable to that seen in females exposed to diethylbestrol, a compound exposure to which was previously linked to increased breast cancer risk. *Molecular Endocrinology*.

[Prenatal phthalate exposure and infant neuro and motor development](#)

September 06, 2011

Increasing exposure to phthalates in pregnant women was associated with poorer development in their baby boys, finds a study that examined mental and motor skills in 6-month-old infants. Researchers with the Prospective Mothers and Children's Environmental Health (MOCEH) Study examined data from 460 mother/infant pairs in Korea. Results show that the higher the exposure to phthalates in the moms, the lower the scores of infant development, including both cognitive and motor behavior. However, the association was only identified in sons, not in daughters. *Environmental Health Perspectives*.

[Phthalates affect child development](#)

September 06, 2011

Researchers from Columbia University have found a significant link between pregnant women's exposure to phthalates, used in all kinds of consumer products including flooring, cars and cosmetics, and negative impacts on their children's development. Three phthalates were significantly associated with behavioral disorders, or behavioral problems: anxious, depressed behaviors, emotionally reactive behaviors, withdrawn behavior. *Environmental Health Perspectives*.

[Prenatal exposure to BPA and sexually selected traits in male mice](#)

September 02, 2011

A new mouse study now suggests BPA may adversely affect development of sexually selected traits, potentially compromising animals' ability to reproduce. The dose used was designed to be relevant to human exposure. *Environmental Health Perspectives*.

Newsire and Useful Resources

Below you will find recent news, science, and other resources, gleaned from the [CHE Fertility Online Library](#), hosted by [Environmental Health News](#), and the [CHE daily news feed](#).

[Are flame retardants safe? Growing evidence says "No"](#)

September 29, 2011

New studies have underscored the potentially harmful health effects of flame retardants, used in everything from baby blankets to carpets. Health experts are now calling for more aggressive action to limit these chemicals, including cutting back on highly flammable, petroleum-based materials used in many consumer products. *Yale Environment 360*.

[Fluorescent fish glows to show feminizing chemicals](#)

September 28, 2011

For people worried about the feminizing effect of estrogen-like chemicals in the water there is now a modern-day equivalent of the canary in the coal mine: a genetically modified fish in a bowl. Scientists at Vitargent, a biotechnology company in Hong Kong, have created a genetically engineered fish that glows green when it is exposed to oestrogen-like chemicals. The research team took the green fluorescent protein gene from jellyfish and spliced it into the genome of the medaka fish, *Oryzias melastigma*,

next to a gene that detects estrogen. Chemicals that have estrogen-like activity cause the fish to express the modified gene, making them glow. New Scientist.

[Mother's job can increase danger of asthma for unborn baby](#)

September 28, 2011

A pregnant woman's job can give asthma to her unborn baby, researchers say. Women exposed to certain chemicals and natural substances are known to be at risk of developing the breathing condition. London Daily Mail, United Kingdom.

[New study to examine pregnancy outcomes after Gulf oil spill](#)

September 27, 2011

Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine will take a close look at the spill's health impacts in pregnant women and women of reproductive age in Louisiana's coastal parishes. The NIEHS provided \$6.5 million to do the work. In the first long-term study to examine a major spill's effects on pregnant women and women's health, researchers will study will follow 500 pregnant and 500 women of reproductive age over five years. The study will also look at the impact of repeated disasters on pregnancy outcomes and women's health. Daily Comet, Louisiana.

[No regs are good regs: Single senator blocks pipeline safety bill on principle](#)

September 27, 2011

A senator who opposes federal regulation on philosophical grounds is single-handedly blocking legislation that would strengthen safety rules for oil and gas pipelines, a bill that even the pipeline industry and companies in his own state support. Associated Press.

[What is the most polluted country and city in the world?](#)

September 26, 2011

Air pollution figures are gathered all over the globe, but it takes some serious effort to bring them all together so that countries and cities can be compared. The World Health Organisation has valiantly attempted just this today in their Database of outdoor air pollution in cities. London Guardian, United Kingdom.

[Would a lower ozone level be safer? A closer look](#)

September 25, 2011

The Obama administration recently pulled the plug on lowering EPA limits. It seems clear, though, that the lower the level, the fewer effects on health. Los Angeles Times, California. [Registration Required].

[Air pollution in the natural gas fields](#)

September 24, 2011

Water pollution is not the only potential problem from gas fracking. Some residents in America's west say it's also increasingly difficult to breathe the air near drilling sites. Tests show high levels of ozone and toxic benzene. Living On Earth.

[EPA to enforce earlier standard on ozone levels](#)

September 23, 2011

The Environmental Protection Agency will enforce a three-year-old Bush administration standard for smog-forming ozone following the White House's decision to abandon a more stringent standard opposed by business groups, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson said this week. Wall Street Journal [Subscription Required].

[Methylmercury disrupt hormone levels in both sexes of white ibis](#)

September 22, 2011

Levels of methylmercury commonly measured in the environment disrupt hormone levels in both sexes of white ibis, a bird species that lives in US southeast coastal marshes. Altered courtship and chick rearing behaviors tied to the hormone changes reduced reproduction. The experimental study is among the first to show that methylmercury can act as an endocrine disruptor and reduce reproductive success in wildlife.

[Smoggiest U.S. cities?](#)

September 21, 2011

They may be dirtier than reported. The 10 smoggiest U.S. metro areas extend beyond California and many experience more days of dirty air than are publicly disclosed, says a report this week by an environmental group. USA Today.

[Obama's smog decision called a "huge loss for public health"](#)

September 21, 2011

President Obama's decision early this month to side with anti-regulation business interests against the U.S. EPA to stop a plan to tighten smog regulations comes during an election cycle in which Obama has received campaign donations from top polluters. Washington Independent.

[Illegal pesticides for sale in New York City](#)

September 20, 2011

Some 6,000 packages of rat and cockroach poison were seized from shops and street vendors in and around Chinatown during a five-month undercover investigation into the sale of illegal pesticides. One chemical, brodifacoum, was reported to be 61 times as potent as the legal limit. New York Times [Registration Required].

[Gender-bent fish found downstream of pharmaceutical plants](#)

September 19, 2011

A French study finds that more than three-quarters of wild gudgeon fish examined had a mix of male and female traits in their sex organs if they lived directly downstream from a plant that manufactures pharmaceutical drugs. This is the first study to link discharge from a drug manufacturing plant - rather than a sewage treatment plant - with physical and chemical changes in fish living downstream.

[Science lags as health problems emerge near gas fields](#)

September 17, 2011

Residents of dozens of communities nationwide that have experienced extensive natural gas drilling are reporting symptoms that include respiratory infections, headaches, neurological impairment, nausea and skin rashes. More rarely they have reported more serious effects, from miscarriages to cancer. ProPublica.

[Scientists: drilling threat to water](#)

September 16, 2011

Dozens of scientists, including four from the prestigious National Academy of Sciences, warned Gov. Andrew Cuomo that it will be practically impossible for municipal drinking water systems to protect against chemicals used in natural gas hydraulic fracturing, also called hydrofracking. Albany Times Union, New York.

[Engineer sues US health agency over response to allegations about lead in drinking water](#)

September 15, 2011

An engineer who believes the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention fudged a study of lead in drinking water is suing the agency under the US Freedom of Information Act. Nature.

[Concerns raised over use of toxic pesticides to fight sea lice in Canada](#)

September 15, 2011

A drug long used by the fish farming industry to control sea lice infestations has become increasingly ineffective, forcing the industry to seek alternatives and raising concerns that toxic pesticides are being released into the ocean under emergency authorizations. Toronto Globe and Mail, Ontario.

[Water testing in Chicago raises concerns about screening process for lead](#)

September 14, 2011

Nationwide, water is screened for lead by checking the first sample of water from homeowners' faucets. But results of recent federal testing in Chicago show that although all homes passed that first test, nearly 45 percent had lead levels spike directly

afterward. Chicago Tribune, Illinois.

[Finnish emissions 'cause Swedish birth defects'](#)

September 14, 2011

Emissions from steel giant Outokumpu, in the Finnish city of Tornio (Torneå in Swedish), are believed to be the cause of several infants in Haparanda in northern Sweden being born with serious birth defects this year, according to a Swedish media report. The Local Sweden, Sweden.

[As floodwaters stall, powerless Cyanamid seeps benzene into Raritan](#)

September 14, 2011

Carcinogenic benzene 20,000 times regulatory levels continues to leak into the Raritan River because the water treatment plant at the American Cyanamid Superfund site remains without power, the US Environmental Protection Agency reported. Somerville Courier News, New Jersey.

[Chemicals of concern](#)

September 13, 2011

The White House is under pressure from two democratic senators to release a list of chemicals the Environmental Protection Agency says could endanger human health or the environment. The chemical industry has attempted to block release of EPA's proposed list over the past year. Chemical & Engineering News.

[Obama's second chance on air toxics rule](#)

September 10, 2011

President Obama's recent decision to go against EPA recommendations for ozone standards shocked environmentalists. Soon the president will have another opportunity to make a decision on another EPA clean air regulation. Living On Earth.

[EPA aims to clean up polluted air in Western gas fields](#)

September 05, 2011

Although water contamination from natural gas fracking has been grabbing headlines, the impact of natural gas development on air quality is better understood. Gas production laces the air with toxic substances like sulfur dioxide and benzene and emits pollutants that form smog. Yet air-quality standards for oil and gas production haven't been updated in years. High Country News.

[Perc remains in dry-cleaned clothes](#)

September 03, 2011

Researchers, led by a high school student, have found that perchloroethylene, a dry cleaning solvent that has been linked to cancer and neurological damage, stays in fabrics and that levels increased with repeat cleanings, particularly in wool. Washington Post [Registration Required].

[Mercury poisoning linked to Mexican beauty product](#)

September 03, 2011

Twenty people in South Texas have tested positive for high levels of mercury. The common denominator in the cases was Crema Aguamary, which is marketed as a skin-lightening and anti-aging cream and is not approved for sale in the United States. McAllen Monitor, Texas.

[Toxicologist: Oil spill far more toxic than admitted](#)

September 02, 2011

Riki Ott, an environmental toxicologist, has been tracking the health impacts of oil spills on human beings since her home was impacted by the Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska. Many of the chemicals of concern to occupational and environmental health officials have been shown to impact fetuses in the first trimester. Michigan Messenger, Michigan.

[US researchers find Roundup chemical in water, air](#)

September 01, 2011

Significant levels of the world's most-used herbicide, glyphosate, have been detected in air and water samples from two U.S. farm states, government scientists said this week, in groundbreaking research on the active ingredient in Monsanto Co's Roundup. Glyphosate has been shown to impair sperm production in animal studies. Reuters.

[Fighting flames with greener materials](#)

September 01, 2011

Materials scientists have developed flexible coatings mere billionths of a meter thick that keep cotton clothing from going up in flames and plastic foam from melting. Unlike the widely used but potentially toxic flame retardants they've been designed to replace, these nano-coatings appear relatively safe, their designers say. Science News.

[Using bacteria to clean water](#)

September 01, 2011

As water passes through soil, natural populations of bacteria help cleanse the liquid of contaminants such as nitrate, perchlorate, and chlorinated organic compounds. Now, two water utilities in California are capturing those bacteria, allowing them to create biofilms in reactors and purify water. Chemical & Engineering News.

[California officials ignored scientists in approving pesticide](#)

August 30, 2011

The state's former top pesticide regulatory official dismissed safety guidelines suggested by her own staff scientists on the grounds that they were "excessive" and too onerous for the pesticide manufacturer, recently released internal documents show. Methyl iodide, a pesticide used primarily by strawberry growers, may cause brain damage in developing fetuses. California Watch.

[Children with older dads at greater risk for mental illness](#)

August 29, 2011

Older fathers and large parental age differences increase the risk for psychiatric disorders in offspring, whereas other environmental factors decrease risk. Is this a function of biology, environment or both? Scientific American.

[Genetics' new frontier: A mother's diet and weight during pregnancy affect baby's genes](#)

August 29, 2011

Cracking the human genome is already old news for those riding the next wave of genetic research. The rising field of epigenetics is revealing how diet, behavior and the environment are reprogramming the genes we're dealt at conception. Orlando Sentinel, Florida. [Registration Required].

Announcements & Grant Opportunities

A daily news feed with these announcements is now available on CHE's website:

<http://www.healthandenvironment.org/news/announce>.

[NOT: Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers \(P01\)](#)

Expected publication: Fall 2011

Sponsors: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Environmental Protection Agency, National Institutes of Health

Notice of Intent to Publish a Request for Applications: The NIEHS and the US EPA intend to renew an initiative by publishing a FOA to solicit applications for Children's Environmental Health and Disease Prevention Research Centers. The purpose of this program is to support a multidisciplinary program of applied and basic research along with an active community outreach translation effort to examine and translate the effects of early exposure to environmental hazards on children's health and wellbeing.

[FOA: Male Reproductive Health Research \(MRHR\) Career Development Program \[K12\]](#)

Application due by: November 14, 2011

Sponsor: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to increase the clinical research capacity among practitioners in the area of male reproductive biology and promote the translation of basic science advances to clinical practice. The MRHR program will accomplish this through a mentored program, bridging clinical training with research independence. The intent is to stimulate clinical research in male reproductive health and bring a more holistic approach to fertility regulation in clinical practice in which the male is an equal partner.

[NOT: Extramural Loan Repayment Program for Contraception and Infertility Researchers \(NOT-OD-11-088\)](#)

Applications accepted September 1-November 15, annually

Sponsors: National Institutes of Health, Office of Extramural Programs Division of Loan Repayment, Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

Extramural LRPs provide for the repayment of educational loan debt of up to \$35,000 annually for qualified health professionals performing research within the mission of NIH at domestic, non-profit, or government entities.

[RFA: Environmental Influences on Stem Cells in Development, Health, and Disease \(R01\)](#)

Application Receipt Date: November 28, 2011

Sponsor: National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences

The microenvironment directs the behavior of stem and progenitor cells, the fundamental source from which all tissues derive. The impact of the environment is not limited to in utero exposure. While most organs are formed in the womb, many continue to develop after birth. Reproductive tissues, for example, begin a lengthy maturation process that begins with puberty. Mammary glands notably do not completely mature until pregnancy and the glands degenerate somewhat after lactation ceases, but the tissues continue to include stem and self-renewing cells. The goal of this initiative is to support novel research directions leading to understanding the potential of environmental exposures to alter function, proliferation, survival, and differentiation of stem cells, including embryonic and adult pluripotent and multipotent cells.

[NOT: Administrative Supplements to Enable Continuity of Research Experiences of Maternal Fetal Medicine and Neonatal-Perinatal Physicians During Fellowship Training and Early Academic Career](#)

Applications will be accepted until December 19, 2011

Sponsor: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

NICHD announces an administrative supplement program to provide additional funds to Neonatal Research Network (NRN) and the Maternal-Fetal Medicine Units (MFMU) Network (U10) grants to support advanced research experiences of exceptional individuals early in their research careers in the field of maternal fetal medicine or neonatology. The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities for clinically trained individuals to continue to conduct research and to enhance their research skill set during the years of fellowship or early academic career (within 5 years of completion of maternal fetal medicine or neonatal-perinatal medicine fellowship training).

[FOA: Gamete Quality in Natural and Assisted Reproduction \(R01\)](#)

Expiration date January 8, 2014

Sponsors: Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, Office of Dietary Supplements

The purpose of this Funding Opportunity Announcement is to encourage applications from the scientific community to support outstanding research in the area of female and male gamete quality. For both natural and assisted reproduction, a focal point of the initiative is on the production, identification, and use of healthy gametes. In this regard, the identification and validation of biomarkers that assess gamete quality is critical.

Additional areas of interest are the impact of nutrition, environmental exposures, disease states, and aging on oocyte and sperm quality.

Calendar of Events & Submission Deadlines

Online Calendar

These and more upcoming events and abstract deadlines are listed in the [CHE-Fertility searchable calendar](#).

[Call for abstracts: SGI 2012 Annual Meeting](#)

Deadline for abstracts: October 14, 2011

San Diego, CA, USA

Sponsor: Society for Gynecologic Investigation

SGI's mission includes establishing the scientific basis and clinical translation of reproductive science and women's health through leadership mentoring, advocacy for research, and collaboration with academia, government, industry and professional organizations. The theme of this year's conference, to be held March 21-24, 2012, is 'Improving Women's Health through Personalized Medicine'.

[Conference: American Society of Reproductive Medicine](#)

October 15-19, 2011

Orlando, Florida

Sponsor: American Society of Reproductive Medicine

The 67th Annual Meeting of ASRM will explore the theme of Realizing Scientific Dreams. ASRM is a non-profit organization whose members demonstrate the high ethical principles of the medical profession, and evince an interest in infertility, reproductive medicine and biology.

[Conference: APHA: Healthy Communities Promote Healthy Minds & Bodies](#)

October 29-November 2, 2011

Washington, D.C.

Sponsor: American Public Health Association

The APHA Annual Meeting & Exposition is the oldest and largest gathering of public health professionals in the world, attracting more than 13,000 national and international physicians, administrators, nurses, educators, researchers, epidemiologists, and related health specialists. APHA's meeting program addresses current and emerging health science, policy, and practice issues in an effort to prevent disease and promote health. APHA has a world of public health in store for you.

[Conference: Environmental Excellence in Health Care](#)

November 10, 2011

Baltimore, Maryland

Sponsor: Maryland Hospitals for a Healthy Environment

Join regional and national health care professionals, environmental industry experts, and educators for this learning and networking event designed to showcase the measurement practices of hospitals as they journey toward more sustainable environments for hospital staff, patients, and communities. The keynote speaker, plenary session, and smaller breakout sessions will explore how facilities are measuring sustainability success using quantitative and qualitative measures.

[Conference: World Congress on Controversies in Obstetrics, Gynecology & Infertility \(COGI\)](#)

November 17-20, 2011

Paris, France

The groundbreaking series of COGI Congresses provide a unique platform to discuss controversial issues in all fields of Obstetrics, Gynecology and Infertility. The ability to discuss only controversial topics with emphasis on clinical solutions in cases where no agreed-upon answers or consensus exist, provides clinicians with an insight and a take-home message that ameliorates treatment in the most difficult situations.

Conference: 14th World Congress on Human Reproduction

November 30-December 3, 2011

Melbourne, Australia

Sponsors: International Academy for Human Reproduction, Fertility Society of Australia
The Congress will bring together experts from the world of fertility, obstetrics, gynaecology to discuss advancements in human reproduction and consider the technical and ethical aspects of human reproductive and women's health. Invited speakers include Dr. Hugh Taylor, Yale University, presenting 'Endometriosis: Genetics, Epigenetics and Stem Cells.'

Conference: Best Practices of ASRM and ESHRE

March 1-3, 2012

Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy

Sponsors: American Society for Reproductive Medicine, European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology

Best Practices of ASRM and ESHRE is a three-day workshop intended to assess the evidence for both established and emerging approaches to the science and art of reproductive health care. Faculty from the American Society for Reproductive Medicine and the European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology will compare and contrast global procedures and technologies for diagnosis and treatment of reproductive disorders.

Conference: The Contribution of Epigenetics in Pediatric Environmental Health

May 30, 2012 - June 01, 2012

San Francisco, California

Sponsor: Children's Environmental Health Network

This conference is intended for research scientists in the fields of environmental health, epidemiology, and environmental toxicology, as well as for public health professionals. Its objective include fostering collaborations among scientists and the public to conduct and translate research findings on epigenetic regulation important to pediatric health outcomes (i.e. the etiology and prevention of abnormal neurodevelopment, asthma/allergy, obesity, endocrine disorders, etc.).

Conference: Environmental Endocrine Disruptors

June 3-8, 2012

West Dover, VT

Sponsor: Gordon Research Conferences

The unifying goal for the 2012 conference is to link basic research, clinical investigation, epidemiological studies, and public health research to the real world environment.

Session Topics are: EEDs, Society and Public Policy; Women's Health and EEDs; Men's Health and EEDs; Gene-Environment Interactions, Epigenetics, and EEDs; Thyroid and Immune System Disruptors; Neuroendocrine Disruptors; Resolving Controversies in Endocrine Disruption; Evolution in a Contaminated Environment; and EEDs and Ecosystems: In Honor of Rachel Carson.

The Collaborative on Health and the Environment offers this information as a service but does not endorse any of the events, articles or announcements.

Please email Karin Russ, CHE's Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group Coordinator, at karin@healthandenvironment.org with any questions, comments, or suggestions.

If you would like to join the Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE) and the Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group, please complete the application on the CHE website: <http://www.healthandenvironment.org/application>. Joining CHE means receiving up to four email messages a month from the CHE National listserv. CHE costs nothing to join and the benefit is shared information and opportunities for further engagement, if you choose. Be sure to mark that you want to join the CHE Fertility/Reproductive Health Working Group at the bottom of the application.

Collaborative on Health and the Environment

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