



“DOSIMETRY MEETS EPIDEMIOLOGY”

1st international workshop in the framework of NRP 57 “Non-Ionising Radiation – Health and Environment”

A research programme of the Swiss National Science Foundation

Organizer: Swiss National Science Foundation, National Research Programmes
Date: 09.00-17.30, January 11, 2008
Venue: Zurich, Hotel Zürichberg (www.zuerichberg.ch)
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Goals

In view of the scientific uncertainties regarding non-ionising radiation and the public concern in Switzerland and abroad, the National Research Programme NRP 57 is dedicated to state-of-the-art research to identify potential, adverse non-thermal effects of ELF and RF exposures on human health and to facilitate the risk assessment of current and future technologies. In its framework, 11 research projects covering four research areas address various aspects ranging from interaction mechanisms at the cellular level to risk perception in the general population. The projects are also in the focus of a series of scientific workshops. More information on the programme and the projects can be found on the programme web page www.nrp57.ch.

This first scientific workshop “Dosimetry Meets Epidemiology” is aimed at an interdisciplinary approach exploring the difficulties as regards exposure assessment in EMF epidemiology. Despite 20 years of extensive epidemiologic investigation of the relation of ELF EMF to risk of chronic disease and in more recent years, the considerable effort devoted to research on RF EMF and brain cancer, sophisticated exposure assessment remains problematic due to ubiquitous exposure from multiple sources that can vary greatly over time and short distance. Particular difficulties are the incomplete characterisation of sources, how to combine exposures from different sources into one metric in the absence of an established biological mechanism, and more generally, how to combine dosimetric and epidemiologic principles to meaningfully determine personal exposure.

Designated experts and researchers from the programme have been invited to actively discuss these scientific issues, providing a unique opportunity for a fruitful exchange of views between the disciplines. The two sessions are chaired by Members of the Steering Committee of NRP 57 (for details, see programme web page). Attendance is open also to researchers not involved in the programme and other interested parties on a national and international level.



Workshop Agenda

- 09:00-09:20 Registration
09:20-09:30 Welcoming address (Alexander Borbély, President SC NRP 57)
- Session 1** **Chairs: Jørgen Bach Andersen and Yngve Hamnerius**
- 09:30-10:00 Dosimetry and Exposure: Experiences from Air Pollution Research
Nino Künzli, Center for Research in Environmental Epidemiology, Institut Municipal d'Investigació Medica (IMIM), Barcelona, Spain
Discussion
- 10:10-10:40 Exposure of the General Public: Lessons from Dosimetry for Occupational Epidemiology
Joe Bowman, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health NIOSH, Cincinnati, USA
Discussion
- 10:50-11:10 *COFFEE BREAK*
- 11:10-11:40 Exposure Variability as Function of Technology
Sven Kühn, IT'IS Foundation, Zürich, Switzerland
Discussion
- 11:50-12:20 Dosimetry as Function of Anatomy and Exposure Source
Andreas Christ, IT'IS Foundation, Zürich, Switzerland
Discussion
- 12:30-13:30 *LIGHT LUNCH*
- Session 2** **Chairs: Elisabeth Cardis and Anders Ahlbom**
- 13:30-14:00 Optimal Dosimetry for Mobile Phone Studies: Factors Influencing Exposure and Implications for Epidemiological Exposure Assessment
Michael Kelsh, University of California (UCLA), School of Public Health, Los Angeles, USA
Discussion
- 14:10-14:40 Challenges from the Perspective of Dosimetry
Niels Kuster, IT'IS Foundation, Zürich, Switzerland
Discussion
- 14:50-15:20 Challenges from the Perspective of Epidemiology
Martin Röösli, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Bern, Switzerland
Discussion
- 15:30-16:00 *COFFEE BREAK*
- Session 3** **Chair: Alexander Borbély**
- 16:00-17:30 Panel (synthesis by the speakers) and plenary discussion with all participants
17:30 Final remarks (Alexander Borbély)



VENUE

Location

Hotel Zürichberg, Orellistrasse 21, 8044 Zurich; Phone +41 44 268 35 35; Email info@zuerichberg.ch; Web <http://www.zuerichberg.ch/>. The hotel is easily accessible by public transport from both the airport (approx. 30 min) and the city center (approx. 20 min).

How to get there

Taxi from airport: No reservation necessary. Approx. 60 CHF and 20-30 min drive.

Ben Bus: From airport to hotel no reservation necessary; booking needed from hotel to airport. Approx. 25 CHF per person and 35 min drive. Departure between Terminal 1 and 2.

Train/Tram: Regular trains connect the airport with the city center ("Main Station"). Departure every few minutes, duration 11 min. From the **Main Station**, tram nr. 6 to terminal stop "Zoo", duration 16 min. The hotel is a 10 min minute uphill walk from the terminal stop. Ticket Airport-Zoo: 6 CHF ("3 Zones").



Accommodation

A large range of hotels can be found at the official Zürich Tourism webpage: www.zuerich.com.