

evidence of higher occupational exposures. If they had used work intensity as a more objective criterion than age, they might have prevented possible misclassifications by age. Working conditions of hairdressers and exposures depend on country and regional variability, which might also affect study results. In the United States and United Kingdom, the term "hairdressers" is inclusive, denoting women's hairdressers and barbers for men.⁶ In Turkey, however, the term addresses women's hair salons only. Most of the studies on hairdressers have been published from Nordic and industrialised countries.⁷⁻¹¹ Studies from developing countries will help to describe the extent of occupational health problems among hairdressers and to identify aetiological factors.

M Akpinar-Elci, O C Elci

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, DRDS/FSB MS2800, 1095 Willowdale Road, Morgantown, WV 26505, USA; mra8@cdc.gov

References

- Hollund BE**, Moen BE, Lygre SH, *et al*. Prevalence of airway symptoms among hairdressers in Bergen, Norway. *Occup Environ Med* 2001;**58**:780-5.
- Blainey AD**, Ollier S, Cundell D, *et al*. Occupational asthma in a hairdressing salon. *Thorax* 1986;**41**:42-50.
- Parra FM**, Igea JM, Quirce S, *et al*. Occupational asthma in a hairdresser caused by persulphate salts. *Allergy* 1992;**47**:656-60.
- Schwaiblmair M**, Vogelmeier C, Fruhmann G. Occupational asthma in hairdressers: results of inhalation tests with bleaching powder. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 1997;**70**:419-23.
- Akpinar-Elci M**, Cimrin AH, Elci OC. Prevalence and risk factors of occupational asthma among hairdressers in Turkey. *J Occup Environ Med* 2002. In press.
- Occupational exposures of hairdressers and barbers and personal use of hair colorants; some hair dyes, cosmetic colorants, industrial dyestuffs and aromatic amines. *IARC monographs on evaluation of carcinogenic risks to human* 1993;**57**:43-66.
- Leino T**, Tammilehto L, Luukkonen R, *et al*. Self-reported respiratory symptoms and diseases among hairdressers. *Occup Environ Med* 1997;**54**:452-5.
- Leino T**, Tammilehto L, Paakkulainen H, *et al*. Occurrence of asthma and chronic bronchitis among female hairdressers. A questionnaire study. *J Occup Environ Med* 1997;**39**:534-9.
- Leino T**, Tammilehto L, Hytonen M, *et al*. Occupational skin and respiratory diseases among hairdressers. *Scand J Work Environ Health* 1998;**24**:398-406.
- Leino T**, Tuomi K, Paakkulainen H, *et al*. Health reasons for leaving the profession as determined among Finnish hairdressers in 1980-1995. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 1999;**72**:56-9.
- Hollund BE**, Moen BE. Chemical exposure in hairdresser salons: effect of local exhaust ventilation. *Ann Occup Hyg* 1998;**42**:277-82.

NOTICES

27th International Congress on Occupational Health: The Challenge of Equity in Safety and Health at Work, Iguassu Falls, Brazil, 23-28 February 2003

The Congress will have about nine keynote conferences, approaching different angles of the Central Theme; those themes will then be discussed in depth by Panels (60), where different opinions will be debated. There will be about 60 mini-symposia organised by the ICOH Scientific Committees and Work Groups; facilities for the presentation of 1000 posters; and about 500 free papers. Interest groups may schedule meetings in Congress areas.

Conference Secretariat

Tel/Fax: (5541) 353 6719

Email: icoh2003@com.br

Website: www.icoh2003.com.br

First World Congress on Work-Related and Environmental Allergy (1st WOREAL), and Fourth International Symposium on Irritant Contact Dermatitis (ICD), Helsinki, Finland, 9-12 July 2003

Congress on Work-Related and Environmental Allergy

- Work related and environmental aspects of respiratory and skin allergy
- Specific issues related to pathophysiology and skin allergy

- Management and prevention of allergy

Irritant Contact Dermatitis Symposium

- Occupational irritant dermatitis
- Prevention of irritant dermatitis
- Alternative methods for the assessment of irritants
- Irritant dermatitis from cosmetics

Satellite events

- Satellite Symposia, 9 July 2003
- Allergy School, 9-10 July 2003
- 7th International NIVA Course on Work-Related Respiratory Hypersensitivity, 11-15 July 2003

Congress Secretariat

Ms Kirsi Saarelma, Congress Manager

Pyykkö & Saarelma Ltd

Limingantie 9

FIN-00550 Helsinki, Finland

Tel: +358 9 79 00 80

Fax: +358 9 757 36 30

Email: secretariat@woreal.org

Website: www.woreal.org

CORRECTIONS

We apologise for the following errors in table 4 of the paper by Wong *et al* (Associations between daily mortalities from respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and air pollution in Hong Kong, China. *Occup Environ Med* 2002;**59**:30-5).

- Mortality from pneumonia and influenza: 4 Pollutant model, under NO_x: "1.004 (1.017 to 1.025)" should read: "1.004 (0.984 to 1.025)".
- Mortality from ischaemic heart diseases: 2 Pollutant model, also under NO_x: "1.022 (1.011 to 1.003)" should read: "1.022 (1.011 to 1.033)".

We apologise for the following error in the paper by Yassin *et al* (Knowledge, attitude, practice, and toxicity symptoms associated with pesticide use among farm workers in the Gaza Strip. *Occup Environ Med* 2002;**59**:387-393).

The page reference at the start of the paper should be 387-393, and not 387-394.