



Capsule

Ed Krisiunas

WNWN International, Burlington, Connecticut

What's new, what's hot, what's timely? If you don't have time to search the Internet for the latest developments that might impact your work environment, you just might find some of this information in this "Capsule" column. Please e-mail any comments or suggestions to ekrisiunas@aol.com or to Co-Editor Barbara Johnson at barbara_johnson@verizon.net or Co-Editor Karen B. Byers at karen_byers@dfci.harvard.edu.

Public Health Training Network—PHTN

The Public Health Training Network (PHTN) is a distance learning network of people and resources that brings training and information to the learner. PHTN uses a variety of instructional media ranging from print-based to videotape and multimedia to meet the training and information needs of the health workforce nationwide. Since 1993, PHTN has delivered nearly 1,000,000 training and information opportunities to health professionals in a variety of settings. PHTN's success has stimulated state and federal agencies to produce training programs and to build their own capacity to meet the training and information needs of the health workforce through distance learning. State health departments are expanding their capacity, supporting field operations, and developing new training and information opportunities that address their unique needs. International partners are taking similar action and helping PHTN move toward realization of its long-term vision of a global network that will serve the training and learning needs of health practitioners worldwide.

For a listing of upcoming programs, see <http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/PHTN/default.asp>.

Emergency and Terrorism Preparedness for Environmental Health Practitioners

The field of environmental health has expanded over the last 50 years to cover many new responsibilities. Environmental health practitioners help ensure that the vulnerable areas of our environment are protected from accidental or intentional contamination.

The emergence of many new issues and threats, such as food and water security, exposures to hazardous chemicals, building environments, radiation, vectors, biologic and infectious wastes, and terrorism threats, establishes the need for an educated and well-prepared environmental health workforce. Practitioners must be able to anticipate, recognize, and respond to many issues. They must also stay current on all of the latest information and technology available.

This web site serves as a clearinghouse of information resources related to emergency and terrorism preparedness for environmental health practitioners: <http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/ETP/default.htm>.

List of Cancer-Causing Agents Grows

The Department of Health and Human Services recently released its 11th edition of the "Report on Carcinogens," adding 17 substances to the growing list of cancer-causing agents, bringing the total to 246. For the first time ever, viruses are listed in the report: hepatitis B virus, hepatitis C virus, and some human papillomaviruses that cause common sexually transmitted diseases. Other new listings include


lead and lead compounds, X-rays, compounds found in grilled meats, and a host of substances used in textile dyes, paints, and inks.

The "Report on Carcinogens, Eleventh Edition," referred to as the "RoC," lists cancer-causing agents in two categories—"known to be human carcinogens" and "reasonably anticipated to be human carcinogens." The report now contains 58 "known" and 188 "reasonably anticipated" listings. Federal law requires the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to publish the report every 2 years.

Six substances have been added to the "known" category:

- Hepatitis B virus (HBV) **and** Hepatitis C virus (HCV)
- Human papillomaviruses (HPVs)
- X-radiation **and** gamma-radiation
- Neutrons

"The Report on Carcinogens, Eleventh Edition" is prepared by the National Toxicology Program, an interagency group coordinated by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The full report is available at the NTP web site: <http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov>.



ABSA ITEMS FOR SALE

<input type="checkbox"/>	ABSA Pin	\$ 5.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Watch	\$30.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Women's

Total Enclosed: \$ _____ Charge to my: Visa MasterCard American Express

#: _____ Exp Date: _____ Signature: _____

Ship to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mail to: ABSA, 1202 Allanson Road, Mundelein, Illinois 60060-3808 or fax credit card order to: 847-566-4580.
Please allow two to three weeks for delivery.