



The Encompassing Face of Environmental Epidemiology



ISEE 2011 Barcelona



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2011 Annual Conference of the International Society for Environmental Epidemiology in Barcelona, Spain

Dates –13th Sept – 16th Sept 2011

International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE)

ISEE is an international organization with almost 1000 members from more than 60 countries and regional chapters and local groups in Latin America and the Caribbean, the Mediterranean, Central and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus, South Asia, and East Asia. The International Society for Environmental Epidemiology (ISEE) provides a forum for the discussion of problems unique to the study of human health and the environment. With membership open to environmental epidemiologists and other scientists worldwide, ISEE provides a variety of forums for discussions, critical reviews, collaborations and education on issues of environmental exposures and their human health effects. These include annual meetings, newsletters, workshops and liaisons with academic, governmental, inter-governmental, non-profit and business institutions. Topics addressed by ISEE members include environmental exposures (e.g. air pollution, hazardous waste, metals, pesticides, radiation), health effects (e.g. cancer, cardiovascular disease, neurologic effects, reproductive effects), methodology (e.g. biomarkers, ecologic investigations, experimental design, exposure/dose assessment, meta-analysis, risk assessment, statistics), environment-gene interactions, and ethics and law.

Centre de Recerca en Epidemiologia Ambiental (CREAL)

The conference will be organized by faculty from the Centre of Research in Environmental Epidemiology (CREAL)(<http://www.creal.info/>), funded by the Departments of Environment and Health of the Generalitat, the Government of Catalonia and affiliated with the Municipal Institute of Medical Investigations (IMIM) (<http://www.imim.cat/>) and the University Pompeu Fabra (<http://www.upf.es/>) in Barcelona, Spain. CREAL is led by Professor Josep Maria Antó, and co-directors Professors Jordi Sunyer and Manolis Kogevinas. It has a further 10 senior investigators and a total of around 70 staff. CREAL research is organized in three different programmes: childhood health, cancer and respiratory diseases with strong focus on exposure to water, air pollution, radiation and other environmental and occupational exposures. CREAL scientists are leaders and steering committee members of numerous international collaborative research programs. CREAL gives also scientific advice to national and international public health authorities and collaborates in research applied to public health concerns. The proposed conference will coincide with the 5th anniversary of CREAL.

The conference Chair and co chair of the local organizing committee will be Professors Mark J Nieuwenhuijsen and Manolis Kogevinas.

Composition of the honorary Committee

The honorary committee of the meeting includes (proposed):

Chair: Boi Ruiz i Garcia, Minister of Health, Generalitat

1 Leire Pajín, Minister of health, Madrid

2 Jose Navas, ISC III, Madrid

3 Lluís Recoder i Miralles, Minister of Town and Country Planning and Sustainability, Generalitat

4 Andreu Mas-Colell, Minister of Economy and Knowledge, Generalitat

5 Jaume Raventos, DG Parc de Salut Mar

6 Jose Juan Moreso, Rector Universitat Pompeu Fabra

7 Manuela Soares, Director, DG Research-Environment

8 Octavi Quitana Trias, Director Euratom

9 Maria Neira, DG Public Health and Environment, WHO

10 Jacqueline McGlade, ED European Environment Agency

Composition of Local Organizing Committee and Scientific Program Committee

Local Organizing Committee. The local organizing committee will include the conference chairs and others from the region:

- Mark J Nieuwenhuijsen – CREAL, Barcelona
- Manolis Kogevinas – CREAL, Barcelona
- Jordi Sunyer – CREAL, Barcelona
- Josep Maria Antó – CREAL, Barcelona
- Jan-Paul Zock – CREAL, Barcelona
- Cristina Villanueva – CREAL, Barcelona
- Martine Vrijheid - CREAL, Barcelona
- Elisabeth Cardis - CREAL, Barcelona
- Bart Ostro, CREAL, Barcelona
- Dr Tony Placencia - Director General of Public health, Government of Catalonia
- Joan Grimalt – CSIC, Barcelona
- Teresa Moreno – CSIC, Barcelona
- Xavier Querol – CSIC, Barcelona
- Mar Viana – CSIC, Barcelona
- Ferrán Ballester – CSISP, Valencia

Scientific Program Committee. The scientific program committee members includes leaders of environmental epidemiology and members of the ISEE from the region, plus environmental epidemiologists from all regions of the world

Chair: Juha Pekkanen, THL, Kupio, Finland

Vice chair: Brenda Eskenazi, University of California, Berkeley

- Gabriella Aggazotti, University of Modena, Italy
- Dean Baker, University of California, Irvine (UCI), US
- Roberto Bertolini – World Health Organization Regional Office for Europe, Geneva, Switzerland
- Ioan Bocsan, Regional Institute of Health, Cluj, Romania
- Aaron Cohen, HEI
- Mary Ward, NCI, Washington
- Bert Brunekreef, IRAS, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- Sylvaine Cordier, University of Rennes, INSERM, Rennes, France
- Jeroen Douwes, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand
- Eric Lebret, RIVM, The Netherlands
- Tony Fletcher, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, UK
- Francesco Forastiere, Rome E Health Authority, Rome, Italy
- Frank Gilliland – University of Southern California USC Keck School of Medicine, US
- Francine Kaufman, INSERM, France
- Francine Laden, Harvard University, US
- Barbara Hoffman, University of Duisberg-Essen, Essen, Germany
- Philippe Grandjean, Harvard University, US
- David Savitz, Mount Sinai, New York, US
- How-Ran Guo, Medical College, National Cheng Kung University Taiwan, Taiwan
- Joachim Heinrich, Helmholtz Institute, Munich, Germany
- Jane Heyworth, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
- Irva Hertz-Picciotto – University of California, Davis, US
- Michael Jerrett, University of California Berkeley, US
- Klea Katsouyanni, University of Athens, Athens, Greece
- Nino Kunzli – University of Basel, Switzerland
- Sally Liu - University of Basel, Switzerland; University of Washington Seattle, US
- Stephanie London, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, US
- Matthew Longnecker, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, USA
- Imane Jroundi, Casablanca, Morocco
- Tony McMichael, National Centre for Epidemiology and Population, Canberra, Australia
- Marie O'Neill, University of Michigan School of Public Health Michigan, USA
- Marina Pollan, ISCIII, Madrid
- Jorn Olsen, Danish Epidemiology Science Centre, Denmark
- Annette Peeters, Helmholtz Institute, Munich, Germany
- Goran Pershagen, Karolinska Institute, Sweden
- Neil Pearce, Massey University, Wellington, New Zealand
- Silvia de Sanjosé, ICO, Barcelona
- Tony Agudo, ICO, Barcelona
- Beate Ritz, University of California (UCLA), Los Angeles, US
- Isabelle Romieu – National Institute of Public Health, Mexico
- John Samet, University of Southern California, US
- Fernando Garcia-Benavides, UPF, Barcelona
- Joel Schwartz, Harvard School of Public Health, Boston, US
- Remy Slama, INSERM, Grenoble
- Duncan Thomas, Keck School of Medicine University of Southern California, US

- Mireille Toledano, Imperial College London, UK
- Federica Perrera, Columbia University, New York, US
- Dan Wartenberg, UMDNJ, New Jersey, US
- Paolo Vineis, Imperial College London, UK
- Afif Ben salah, Institut Pasteur- Tunis, Tunisia

Location and Conference Site

In a privileged position on the north-eastern coast of the Iberian peninsula and the shores of the Mediterranean, Barcelona is the second largest city in Spain in both size and population. It is an important trading port and link between Spain, Europe and the rest of the world. It is also the capital of Catalonia, 1 of the 17 Autonomous Communities that make up Spain.

The capital of Catalonia is unequivocally a Mediterranean city, not only because of its geographic location but also and above all because of its history, tradition and cultural influences. The documented history of the city dates back to the founding of a Roman colony on its soil in the second century B.C. Modern Barcelona experienced spectacular growth and economic revival at the onset of industrialization during the second half of the 19th century. The 1888 World's Fair became a symbol of the capacity for hard work and the international outlook projected by the city. Culture and the arts flourished in Barcelona and in all of Catalonia; the splendour achieved by Catalonian modernism is one of the most patent displays.

The venue is the the Palau de Congressos de Barcelona in Plaza d´Espanya. The location is well connected by walking, bus or metro with the lively areas around the Ramblas and the famous Modernista neighborhoods influenced by Gaudi and other architects of the late 1800-ies.

Theme and Specific Conference Topics

Barcelona is one of the major centres of research, technology, trade, and tourism in the Mediterranean area. It is the historic capital of the Catalonia region, which is a hot spot of the Spanish economy and location of the largest Mediterranean port. As a consequence of the high level of industrialization and the relatively short time period since the rebirth of democracy, environmental health problems are substantial in the region and the state, as they are in many Mediterranean countries. Air, water, and soil pollution are a legacy of the past and current economy. The city of Barcelona has one of the highest population densities in Europe, and traffic substantially adds to the environmental pressures on air quality and noise. Barcelona has a long tradition of urbanism that makes it an important reference point in urban design and town planning. Its modern urban development is based on the extension plan (Example) created by Ildefons Cerdà, an engineering and utopian socialist who took into account public health concerns. When the government of the time finally gave in to public pressure and allowed Barcelona's city walls to be torn down, he realized the need to plan the city's expansion so that the new extension would become an efficient and livable place, unlike the congested, epidemic-prone old town within the walls.

The tension between intense urban development, economic prosperity, global trade, and environmental degradation is coupled with visionary investments of the Catalonia region into research, resulting in numerous research activities in environmental epidemiology and environmental health sciences. The environmental problems of the area are a model of problems encountered in many Mediterranean

regions and the world. These features will thus serve as an inspiration to the conference themes.

The overall conference theme will be "The encompassing face of environmental epidemiology"

The themes include:

Sustainable transport and health: Impact of transport on health and approaches to reduce health impacts

Impact of climate change: from water scarcity to Saharan dust episodes

Early exposure - later life: in utero and early life exposures and effects in later life

New methods and technologies

The conference will also encourage symposia and abstracts on topics that have been of long standing interest to ISEE members and that are typically represented in the annual conferences. Studies of air pollution, pesticides, water quality, children's environmental health, and epidemiological methods are likely topics. Topics of particular relevance to participants from the Mediterranean region will be encouraged. The keynote lectures will address the conferences themes at early morning sessions. Furthermore, there will be sessions for cutting edge studies in environmental epidemiology throughout the conference. Oral presentations in this session will cut across the various areas of environmental epidemiology and are selected because e.g. they provide significant new insights, use innovative methodology, and are of great importance because of study size. Furthermore there will be sessions for review and educational presentations, which are targeted towards the younger participants but may also be of interest to senior participants.

Budget

Around 800 delegates are expected to attend the conference. The current budget for the meeting is 500,000 euros, with an estimated income of 400,000 euros from registrations and 100,000 euros through sponsorship.

