

N O T I Z I A R I O

Renewing the call for a ban on Asbestos

All forms of asbestos cause asbestosis, a progressive, debilitating fibrotic disease of the lungs. All forms of asbestos cause human cancer. All forms of asbestos cause malignant mesothelioma, lung, laryngeal, and ovarian cancers. All forms of asbestos may cause gastrointestinal and other cancers (1).

Asbestos was declared a proven human carcinogen by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) of the World Health Organization, and the National Toxicology Program (NTP) more than 20 years ago (2-4). The global scientific community is in overwhelming agreement that there is no safe level of exposure to asbestos (5). Moreover, there is no evidence of a threshold level below which there is no risk of mesothelioma (6).

About 125 million people around the world are exposed to asbestos in their work environments (7), and many millions more workers have been exposed to asbestos in years past. About 20-40 percent of adult men report having worked in occupations that may have entailed asbestos exposures (8). In the most highly affected age groups, mesothelioma may account for over 1% of all deaths (9, 10). In addition to mesothelioma, 5-7 percent of all lung cancers are potentially attributable to occupational exposures to asbestos (11).

Non-occupational, environmental exposure to asbestos from the use of asbestos in construction materials is also a serious and often neglected problem throughout the world. In developed countries large quantities of asbestos remain as a legacy of past construction practices in many thousands of schools, homes, and commercial buildings. And in developing countries, where asbestos is used today in large quantities in construction, asbestos-contaminated dust is now accumulating in thousands of communities, with virtually all people burdened with asbestos fibers in their lungs and bodies.

The asbestos cancer pandemic may take as many as 10 million lives before asbestos is banned worldwide and all exposure is brought to an end (12). In this conservative es-

timate, it is assumed that asbestos exposures are going to cease and that the epidemic will run itself out. But in fact, the world's current production of asbestos continues at an alarming rate, and therefore these figures may be underestimates of the true reality of this pandemic.

Despite the fact that in most European countries the use of asbestos is banned, an international ban on the mining and use of asbestos is urgently needed. The risks of exposure to asbestos cannot be controlled by technology or by regulation of work practices. Scientists and responsible authorities in countries allowing the use of asbestos should have no illusion that "controlled use" of chrysotile asbestos is an effective alternative to a ban on all use of asbestos. Even the best workplace controls cannot prevent occupational and environmental exposures to products in use or to waste. Safer substitute products are available and in use in countries all over the world where asbestos is banned.

To protect the health of all people in the world – industrial workers, construction workers, women and children, now and in future generations – the Collegium Ramazzini calls again today on all countries of the world, as we have repeatedly in the past, to join in the international endeavor to ban all forms of asbestos. An international ban on asbestos is urgently needed.

The Collegium Ramazzini is an international academic society that examines and evaluates critical public health issues in occupational and environmental health. The Collegium derives its name from Bernardino Ramazzini, the father of occupational medicine, a professor of medicine of the Universities of Modena and Padua in the early 1700s. One hundred eighty renowned clinicians and scientists from around the world comprise the Collegium, which is independent of commercial interests. The entire text of the above summarized message could be read in the Collegium website www.collegiumramazzini.org

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73° CONGRESSO NAZIONALE SIMLII
Società Italiana di Medicina del Lavoro ed Igiene Industriale

III annuncio

Roma 01-04 dicembre 2010

“La Medicina del Lavoro quale elemento migliorativo per la tutela e sicurezza del Lavoratore e delle attività dell’Impresa”

ACCREDITAMENTO ECM:

Richiesti crediti ECM (Educazione Continua in Medicina del Ministero della Salute) per Medici, Chimici, Biologi, Tecnici della Prevenzione nell’ Ambiente e nei Luoghi di Lavoro e per gli Infermieri. Si sta valutando la possibilità di accreditare il 73° Congresso Nazionale anche per gli Assistenti Sanitari, in ragione del numero di iscrizioni che perverranno.

PROGRAMMA SCIENTIFICO (provvisorio)
MERCOLEDÌ 1 DICEMBRE – SABATO 4 DICEMBRE 2010

(SESSIONI PLENARIE)

<p>Mercoledì CERIMONIA INAUGURALE Lectio Magistralis SESSIONE INTERNAZIONALE</p>	<p>Giovedì RUOLO DEL MEDICO COMPETENTE NELLA PREVENZIONE DEGLI INFORTUNI SUL LAVORO Coordinatori: G. Abbritti , L. Alessio, G. Bonifaci VALUTAZIONE E PREVENZIONE DELLO STRESS DA LAVORO Coordinatori: A. Bergamaschi, S. Iavicoli, F. D’Orsi</p>
<p>Venerdì TECNICHE DELLA COMUNICAZIONE E MODELLI DI ORGANIZZAZIONE E GESTIONE AI SENSI DELL’ART 30 DEL D.LGS 81/08 E S.M.I Coordinatore: F. Tomei LA DIAGNOSI E LA DENUNCIA DELLE MALATTIE DA LAVORO Coordinatori: G. Muzi, E. Pira, A. Goggiamani</p>	<p>Sabato INQUINAMENTO URBANO: LAVORATORI ESPOSTI E POPOLAZIONE GENERALE Coordinatore: F. Tomei IL NUOVO RUOLO DEL MEDICO COMPETENTE, FRA STRUMENTI DI TUTELA E OPPORTUNITÀ DI CRESCITA Coordinatori: L. Isolani, E. Ramistella Verifica Apprendimento ECM Chiusura Congresso</p>

Sono previste inoltre: sessioni parallele, corsi pregressuali e congressuali che potranno essere consultati sui siti sotto indicati (SIMLII e UNIROMA) oltre a comunicazioni e poster che gli iscritti potranno inviare entro il 15/06/2010 (riassunto).

QUOTE D’ISCRIZIONE (iva compresa) RIDOTTE ENTRO IL 15/06/2010

<p align="center">Per iscriversi compilare la scheda di iscrizione scaricabile on line sui siti www.simlii.net e http://w3.uniroma1.it/medicinadellavoro/ ed inviarla seguendo le istruzioni</p>	Socio SIMLII o AIDII o AIRM	€ 470,00
	Non socio SIMLII o AIDII o AIRM	€ 580,00
	Dottorando / Specializzando	€ 240,00
	Accompagnatore	€ 250,00
	Infermiere Tecnico della prevenzione	€ 330,00
	Cena sociale	€ 50,00
Corso pre-congressuale	€ 50,00	

PER INFO:

<p align="center">SEGRETERIA SCIENTIFICA Scuola di Specializzazione in Medicina del Lavoro Prof. Francesco Tomei Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza” Viale Regina Elena, 336 Roma 00161 Tel/Fax + 39 0649912030 (lun-mar-merc-giov-ven 12.00 -18.00) congressoroma@gmail.com</p>	<p align="center">SEGRETERIA ORGANIZZATIVA Advanced Technical Solutions (A.T.S.) s.r.l. Via dei Bresciani, 23 Roma 00186 Tel /Fax +39 0679810775 (lun- merc- ven dalle ore 16.30 alle ore 20) – ats-srl@alice.it Andromeda Eventi & Comunicazione Via Arbia, 52 - Roma 00199 Galleria Vanvitelli, 2 - Napoli 80129 andromeda.roma@andromedaeventi.eu www.andromedaeventi.eu</p>
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