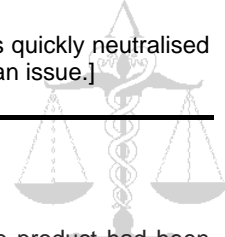


US EPA Feb 2006 EPA 600/R-05/004aF

**Air Quality Criteria for Ozone and Related Photochemical Oxidants**

National ambient air quality standards are reviewed periodically. This review concludes that there is good evidence that ozone exacerbates asthma when exposures exceed 0.25 ppm for more than 3 hours. The effect is reversible. Other health effects were less clear-cut.

[Editor's note: indoor exposure is usually much less than outdoor exposure, ozone is quickly neutralised by contact with indoor surfaces. Air quality in hospitals and nursing homes could be an issue.]



FSA Press Release 16<sup>th</sup> March 2006.

**Farley's Recalls Soya Formula**

Routine testing had shown that a batch of soya formula contained cows' milk. The product had been labelled as suitable for a milk and lactose free diet.

Neutral Citation Number: [2006] EWHC 166 (QB) Case No: HQ 04X03327

**Between C and D**

A case of child sexual abuse in a school setting. The defendant D1 was the headmaster

Field J found D1 had caused harm to C:

*The pulling down of his trousers and underpants and staring at his genitals was a gross invasion of his personal integrity. C's psychiatric injury – his state of mental abnormality – is due to a number of causes but I have no doubt that what D1 did during this incident was one of those causes and that it was a more than trivial cause. Accordingly, I find that the... incident caused C to suffer psychiatric injury.*

*...the actionable abuse has made a material contribution to C's mental condition.*

In so finding, the need to invoke the *Wilkinson v Downtown* principle [intent to cause harm of a kind] was avoided.

KM Venables et al. *Occup Environ Med* (2006) Vol.63 p 159–167.

**Occupational health needs of universities: a review with an emphasis on the United Kingdom**

In 2003-4 there were 2,247,440 students and 338,104 staff in the UK. Mortality among University teachers was half the national average. Occupational disease diagnoses were dominated by mental ill health and musculoskeletal disorders. Research/teaching specific disease such as infection in medical settings or chemical based disease e.g. asthma were not the main problems. The paper suggests that conventional prevention methods are less likely to be applied in university settings than in other workplaces, but, that the workers compensated for this through greater levels of competence. Many of the risks in the course of research cannot be quantified in advance.

JM teWaterNaude et al. *Occup Environ Med* (2006) Vol.63:187–192.

**Tuberculosis and silica exposure in South African gold miners**

Radiographic evidence showed that 35% of current mine workers had detectable levels of pulmonary tuberculosis. Modelling provided some evidence that risk of TB was related to exposure to crystalline silica even in the absence of silicosis. Average intensity of exposure was in the 0.05mg/m<sup>3</sup> range.

MH Ward et al. *Epidemiology* (2006) Vol.17 p 375 – 382.

**Risk of Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and Nitrate and Nitrite From Drinking Water and Diet**

This was a case control study. There was no association between drinking water nitrate levels below 3 mg/L and non-Hodgkin Lymphoma. Average nitrate level in this study was 1.4 mg/L.

SJ Chang et al. *J Occ Env Med* (2006) Vol.48 p 394 – 399

**Electrocardiographic Abnormality for Workers Exposed to Carbon Disulfide at a Viscose Rayon Plant**

Electrocardiographic abnormalities can be indicative of heart disease. Objective exposure assessment and physician diagnosed abnormalities were found to be strongly associated, possibly with a cumulative dose response relationship. Exposures were approximately double the workplace exposure limit (10 ppm).

[Editor's note: the study provides good evidence of a biological effect of CS<sub>2</sub> on the heart. If reproducible, it seems likely that the workplace exposure limit would be revised]

