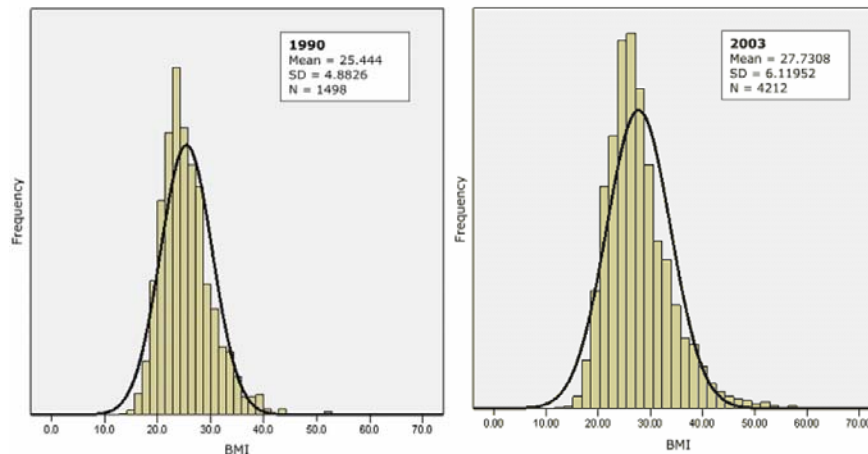


AD Penman et al. *J Prev Chron Disease* (2006) Vol.3#3

The Changing Shape of the Body Mass Index Distribution Curve in the Population: Implications for Public Health Policy to Reduce the Prevalence of Adult Obesity

Efforts to reduce the weight of all parts of the BMI spectrum may be misplaced. The evidence now is that the higher BMI people are the ones most likely to gain most. Efforts should be focussed on the overweight (BMI>25), attempts to improve the lifestyle of the heavy or average may be wasted. The following two graphs show that the frequency distribution for people of healthy weight did not change much, but for the overweight people there was a clear drift to higher weights.



HSE Research Report RR390 (2006)

Further investigation of possible musculoskeletal and cognitive deficit due to welding in divers identified in the ELTHI diving study

Welding remained a significant predictor of cognitive but not musculoskeletal complaint after adjusting for diving experience, diving accidents, chemical exposure and lifestyle factors. In summary, these studies suggest that welders who dive have an increased the risk of cognitive complaint which is not observed in absence of diving. The cause of this remains unclear.

E Ferguson et al. *HSE Research Report* (2006) RR469

'Lay Conceptualizations of occupational disease'

Conclusions Experts are more likely to perceive work characteristics as causes of stress. This may lead experts – who advise lay people – to over-emphasise work characteristics as a cause of stress.

Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks SCENHIR/005/06

The Safety of Human-derived Products with regard to Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease

Blood transfusions could cause between 13 and 1875 new cases of vCJD per year. The rate of transmission would not be sufficient to maintain the disease in the UK population but would extend the period of case emergence.

R Lucas et al. *WHO Publications* (2006)

Solar Ultraviolet Radiation

The report provides an extensive bibliography of risk estimates made for sun exposure-related diseases and health benefits.

Morbidity was modelled based on exposure indices and risk factors. Most significant, in frequency order, were cutaneous malignant melanoma, cortical cataract, sunburn, squamous cell carcinoma of the skin, reactive herpes labialis, basal cell carcinoma of the skin, pterygium (abnormal skin growth over the eye), solar keratoses (warty growth) and squamous cell carcinoma of the cornea.