

*H Boggild. Scand J Work Env Health (2006) Vol. 32(1) p 20 – 21*

**Ischaemia and low-back pain – is it time to include lumbar angina as a cardiovascular disease?**

Commentary on preliminary, suggestive evidence that back pain could be the result of atherosclerosis in the arteries in the lumbar region. If so, treatment for back pain would follow the regimes applied to Rose angina and it could help explain why current treatments for non-specific back pain are so ineffective.

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*D Ambroise et al. Scand J Work Env Health (2006) Vol. 32(1) p 22 - 31*

**Update of a meta analysis on lung cancer and welding**

60 studies were combined to produce a single estimate of lung cancer risk associated with welding; relative risk = 1.26 (95% CI = 1.2 to 1.32). There was confounding effect of smoking.

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*RG Ellis-Behnke et al. PNAS March (2006) Vol.103(13) p 5054 – 5059*

**Nano neuro knitting: Peptide nanofiber scaffold for brain repair and axon regeneration with functional return of vision**

Neuroscientists have demonstrated the repair of mouse brain tissue after an incision which removed the facility of sight. 6 weeks after injecting a paste of self assembling peptides into the incision some sight was restored, unlike in control animals. The self assembling peptides form a scaffold of nanofibres through which axonal regeneration seems to have occurred without scar formation.

There are many tissues which could be repaired by this technique; a demonstration of repair in the spinal cord would be of particular interest.

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*DA Moneret-Vautrin et al. Allergy (2006) Vol.61 p 507 – 513*

**Probiotics may be unsafe in infants allergic to cows milk**

A case report suggesting that the culture medium used in the manufacture of probiotics may contain traces of cows milk, to which some people have an allergic reaction.

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