

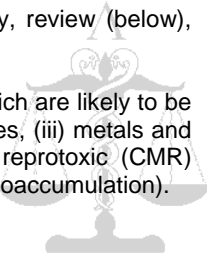
EC C(2006) 6839

FP7 theme 4 Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and New Production Technologies - Nmp

FP7 is the EC research fund awarding grants in 2007 and beyond. The main focus is on the development of commercially successful products and the services that would permit this. There is funding for health and environment protection.

Project areas: techniques for practicable exposure measurement at work, toxicology, review (below), database of health information and, coordination (i.e. common standards).

The review work will be the first to be completed and is to focus on those materials which are likely to be used in the greatest volume i.e. (i) fullerene and derivatives, (ii) nanotubes and derivatives, (iii) metals and (iv) oxides. Properties of greatest concern would be carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic (CMR) properties, as well as problematic properties for the environment (like persistence or bioaccumulation). Reports of these reviews will begin to emerge in a year from now.



14th November 2006 DEFRA news release

Atypical scrapie found in sheep flock considered to be TSE-free

The DEFRA flock in question has been maintained in a state of isolation for several years and has produced no cases of classic scrapie. Atypical scrapie was first identified in 2004 and is now thought to be as common as classic scrapie but is not accurately detected. The pathogenesis of scrapie is unknown but had previously been thought to require transmission from an affected host. Atypical scrapie could have been introduced by a breach of bio security and this is being investigated. Spontaneous disease would call into question the validity of TSE control measures.

DoH news release 15th Jan 2007.

Advice to pregnant women during lambing season

The news concerns the risk of abortion caused by infection with chlamydiosis (enzootic abortion of ewes - EAE), toxoplasmosis and listeriosis, which are common causes of abortion in ewes. To avoid the possible risk of infection, pregnant women are advised that they should: not help to lamb or milk ewes; - avoid contact with aborted or new-born lambs or with the afterbirth; - avoid handling clothing, boots etc which have come into contact with ewes or lambs.

Pregnant women should seek medical advice if they experience fever or influenza-like symptoms, or if concerned that they could have acquired infection from a farm environment.

If a ewe aborts, farmers are advised to consult their veterinary surgeon and arrange for samples to be examined at their local Regional Laboratory of the Veterinary Laboratories Agency to determine the cause.

JS Felton et al. *Carcinogenesis* (2006) vol.27#12 p.2367–2370

REVIEW: A meat and potato war: implications for cancer etiology

In a general review of amines in food and their carcinogenicity, the authors conclude that carcinogens created during the cooking of meat are more potent and more common than any carcinogenic effect of dietary acrylamide.

M Fischer et al. *Accident Analysis and Prevention* (2007) Vol.39 p94–105

Hyperactive children as young adults: Driving abilities, safe driving behavior, and adverse driving outcomes

Preliminary evidence that children with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) are up to 5 times more likely to grow up (aged 21) to be involved with motoring offences and accidents. Performance on a simulator further revealed slower and more variable reaction times, greater errors of impulsiveness (false alarms, poor rule following), more steering variability, and more scrapes and crashes of the simulated vehicle against road boundaries in those with childhood ADHD.