



Professor D. Coggon
University of Southampton
Southampton General Hospital
MRC Lifecourse Epidemiology Unit
Southampton
SO16 6YD
The United Kingdom

Subject : Comments on draft report Acetaldehyde
Your reference : Email dated July 19, 2014
Our reference : U-1550/JR/cn/246-Y19
Enclosure(s) : 1
Date : November 13, 2014

Dear professor Coggon,

Thank you for accepting the invitation to comment on the draft report 'Acetaldehyde', which was published for public review in Spring 2014 by the Subcommittee on Classification of Carcinogenic Substances of the Dutch Expert Committee on Occupational Safety (DECOS) of the Health Council of the Netherlands. The Committee has taken your comments into consideration. On behalf of the President of the Health Council, I herewith send you the reply.

What is meant by 'retained for 45 to 75% in human subjects' (Section 4.1)? It concerns the uptake of acetaldehyde by the respiratory tract directly after a short inhalation period in human volunteers. The sentence in the advisory report is revised to make this more clear.

Were levels after single inhalation exposure higher than in unexposed control animals (section 4.1)? The answer is yes. This is made clear in the text of the report.

Is there some data on metabolism in humans (Section 4.2); would such data have been collected to support registration of the drug disulfiram? Indeed, there are some studies performed on the metabolism of acetaldehyde in humans, but almost all concern primary exposure to other substances, such as ethanol (alcohol) or disulfiram, in which acetaldehyde is considered the main metabolite causing (adverse) health effects. Almost no human studies are available in which the metabolism of acetaldehyde is investigated after exposure to acetaldehyde alone. However, there is no reason to believe that metabolism of acetaldehyde in humans differs from that in rodents, which is supported by human data on for instance ethanol and disulfiram.

Half-time values in which tissues (Section 4.2)? The half-times concern the level of acetaldehyde in the blood of the animals. This information is added to the text.

Gezondheidsraad

Health Council of the Netherlands

Subject : Comments on draft report Acetaldehyde
Our reference : U-1550/JR/cn/246-Y19
Page : 2
Date : November 13, 2014

The Committee appreciated your comments. Enclosed you find a copy of the final report, which was published in November 2014.

Yours sincerely,



J.M. Rijnkels, PhD
Scientific secretary

Gezondheidsraad

Health Council of the Netherlands



T.J. Lentz and Q. Ma
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Department of Health and Human Services
Education and Information Division
1090 Tusculum Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998
USA

Subject : Comments on draft report Acetaldehyde
Your reference : Letter dated July 16, 2014
Our reference : U-1559/JR/cn/246-X19
Enclosure(s) : 1
Date : November 13, 2014

Dear dr. Lentz and dr. Ma,

Thank you for accepting the invitation to comment on the draft report 'Acetaldehyde', which was published for public review in Spring 2014 by the Subcommittee on Classification of Carcinogenic Substances of the Dutch Expert Committee on Occupational Safety (DECOS) of the Health Council of the Netherlands. The Committee has taken your comments into consideration. On behalf of the President of the Health Council, I herewith send you the reply.

The committee agrees with you that epidemiological studies, including the studies on genetic polymorphism and cancer development due to alcohol consumption, are taken generally as association-studies and not evidence-studies. To prevent confusion, the sentences in the final advisory report are revised.

The Committee appreciates the comments by NIOSH. Enclosed you find a copy of the final report, which was published in November 2014.

Yours sincerely,

J.M. Rijnkels, PhD
Scientific secretary

