



Collaborative on Health and the Environment

eNewsletter - December 2011

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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The other day I was talking with a young friend who is "un-schooling," meaning she is learning through a variety of life experiences, rather than from a traditional school curriculum. The "un-school" philosophy encourages children to initiate projects, while facilitated by adults, to maximize their education.

This got me thinking what it might mean to write an "un-appeal" letter--ideally not an unappealing letter, but one that would speak from the perspective of those who experience our work and use it as a touchstone to educate others. Since learning takes place across the lifespan, it occurred to me that instead of listing all our accomplishments to underscore how worthy CHE is of your investment, I could simply share a few unsolicited notes we recently received from those who are apparently benefitting from our services--so much so they wanted us to know how CHE is enriching their professional, and even personal, lives:

"Our Institute [the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences] is in the throes of a new strategic plan, and today one of the subjects that arose was 'so, what diseases and conditions have environmental components to them?'--I immediately mentioned your database [[Toxicant and Disease Database](#)], which to my knowledge is the only one that exists with 'level-of-evidence' criteria."

- William T. Schrader, PhD

"I've been a member of CHE for a few years now. I'm also a faculty member at Boston College, and teach an upper division course 'Environmental Disruptors of Development' that uses the primary literature in endocrine disruption as our main material. As part of the requirements for the course, students edit and significantly expand a Wikipedia page on a term related to the endocrine disruptor field. My students have posted the complete versions of their pages on Wikipedia...I would REALLY appreciate getting input on these pages from members of the CHE community! There are many experts affiliated with CHE that could give my students

some useful advice--with the added benefit of improving the information on endocrine disruptors and related areas that my class is putting into the public domain."

- Laura Hake, PhD

"I am so very aligned with your thinking and have been trying to incorporate that perspective [[see the CHE October newsletter introduction by Elise Miller, MEd, CHE Director](#)] into the work that I have been doing for the last several years....This evolving science integration lends so much support to the general concepts of mind body medicine and ecologic medicine...I think that CHE could help to expand the universe of who thinks 'environment' is a part of their cause as well as offer support for our colleagues that will value our support from the environmental science world. We need to integrate across these worlds in which we work daily as well."

- Mark Miller MD, MPH

"I just wanted to take a minute to thank you for the research digest that you send me. Increasingly I find myself looking through it, studying it, and even looking forward to it. Simply it contains the studies that I need to know about. Mostly they are studies that are not coming in through Medscape and my other physician resources. Thank you so much for your efforts."

- Kristen Allott, ND, L.Ac

"I continue to find CHE postings insightful and informative. They allow me to understand implications and impacts that as a non-scientist I would otherwise not be aware of. Your management of the lists [[CHE working group listservs](#)] is exceptional and I see very clearly that the quality of material circulated is exceptional and based in facts. Thank you! There's a lot of junk "science" out there. As much as some of the truth is hard, it is comforting to know that I have a trustworthy source of information."

- Sharon Peralta

"The fact sheet [[Baby Care Products](#)] is GREAT! There is so much information out there that it is hard to figure out what to read and even harder to determine from what one reads what is actually important. The fact sheet is simple and concise without a lot of the hype that I've seen on various websites."

- Maren Whitson

"Thank you! It's so wonderful that you're organizing these calls [[archived CHE Partnership calls](#)] with such important figures in the environmental community!"

- Giovanna Joyce Imbesi

"My health has improved dramatically over this past year and I do have to give CHE a big part of the credit for this. I have spent much time trying to pass along what I have learned [from CHE] in my own words to my friends, family and even my government representatives when relevant issues came up."

- Toni Lineberry

"I love your extensive, easy to use database. When I need to do research or refer others to your site, your site is abundant in information. Knowledge is power."

- Christina Cicack

If you feel CHE's work has given you the knowledge you have needed to enhance your own work or life in some way, please consider sending us a note. If this "un-appeal" letter has resonated with you, please also consider making a tax-deductable gift to CHE today [[Donate to CHE](#)].

Finally, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for all of you who have taught us through your presentations on partnership calls, your insightful responses regarding emerging science, and your expertise and creativity that have shaped our priorities. I very much look forward to continuing to learn and work together in the New Year.

Wishing you health and peace in 2012,

Elise

Elise Miller, MEd
Director, Collaborative on Health and the Environment (CHE)

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This essay is available on [CHE's blog](#) for comment and further discussion.

CHE Partnership Calls

CHE Partnership call:

Breast Cancer and the Environment: A Life Course Approach, a New Report from the Institute of Medicine

Friday December 16, 2011 at 10 am Pacific / 1 pm Eastern

[RSVP for this call](#)

Although women have little or no control over some of the risk factors for breast cancer, such as those related to aging and genetics, they may be able to reduce their chances for developing the disease by avoiding certain environmental risks. [Breast Cancer and the Environment: A Life Course Approach](#), a new report from the Institute of Medicine, assesses the breast cancer risk posed by various environmental factors, identifies actions that offer potential to reduce women's risk for the disease, and recommends targets for future research. The report, sponsored by Susan G. Komen for the Cure, was released with a press briefing and presented at a plenary session at the 2011 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS). Join CHE on December 16, 2011 at 10:00 am Pacific / 1 pm Eastern for a discussion of the report and its implications.

Featured speakers will include:

[Suzanne Fenton, PhD](#), Reproductive Endocrinologist, Cellular and Molecular Pathology Branch, National Toxicology Program, NIEHS

[Peggy Reynolds, PhD, MPH](#), Senior Research Scientist, Cancer Prevention Institute of California

[Richard Clapp, DSc, MPH](#), Professor of Environmental Health, Boston University School of Public Health

Science update provided by:

[Ted Schettler, MD, MPH](#), Science Director, Science and Environmental Health Network (SEHN) and CHE

The call will be moderated by Steve Heilig, San Francisco Medical Society and CHE. The call will last one hour and will be recorded for archival purposes.

Special Events and Announcements

Final CHE-LDDI and ASA co-sponsored state-based workshop on environmental influences on neurodevelopment, January 12th: CHE-LDDI and the Autism Society of America (ASA) recently co-sponsored 2 state-based workshops in North Carolina and Texas. The final workshop in this series will take place on January 12, 2011 at UCLA.

During this workshop, national experts from diverse sectors will highlight the latest

research on associations between environmental exposures and early neurodevelopment as well as the implications for prevention-based public health policy. This meeting is intended to catalyze cross-discipline discussions among leaders in environmental, experimental and epidemiologic fields as well as those involved in public policy and environmental health advocacy.

Workshops are open to the public. Faculty, students, policy makers, and others concerned with environmental influences on neurodevelopment and public health are particularly encouraged to attend.

[Read more and register to attend](#)

Resources from recent CHE calls:

If you missed any of the following CHE calls, you may listen to MP3 recordings and find supporting materials at the following links:

- November 17, 2011 - [Food Additives: Do They Subtract from Our Health?](#)
- October 27, 2011 - [New Frontiers in Cancer Research: How Chemicals Can Interfere with Cancer Therapies and Implications for Health Policy](#)
- September 27, 2011 - [Air Pollution and Neurodevelopment: How Prenatal Exposures May Impact I.Q.](#)

You can subscribe via podcast to receive notifications of new call recordings added to the CHE archives. [View past calls and subscribe to the podcast.](#)

CHE Working and Regional Group Updates

Stay in touch with CHE via Facebook and the CHE blog:

Visit [CHE's blog](#) to read recent posts about BPA and Type 2 diabetes, the effect of environmental chemicals on insulin production, nanotechnology and new Columbia University Medical Center research regarding traits which can be inherited with no DNA.

Visit CHE's [Facebook page](#).

Cumulative Impacts Working Group hosted by CHE and SEHN

~ coordinated by Elise Miller and Carolyn Raffensperger, for more information visit the [Cumulative Impacts website](#)

~ Working group call scheduled: Community Benefits Agreements: Tools for Improving Public Health

Thursday December 15, 2011 at 11:00 am Pacific / 2 pm Eastern

Dial in: 1-270-400-2000, Access code: 198686#

Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs) are one of the most powerful tools that community groups have to shape real estate and economic development projects. CBAs have been used in large, highly subsidized urban real estate and economic development projects including Los Angeles International (LAX) Airport, the Staples Center, and Yankee Stadium, and the use of CBAs will likely expand to smaller-scale development projects in the future. Dr. Tom Musil at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN, will present an overview of CBA advocacy groups, enforcement, and land use regulatory issues as well as a survey on the nature and composition of community stakeholders negotiating CBAs with real estate developers in the U.S.

The call will last one hour and will be recorded for archival purposes.

CHE Diabetes-Obesity Spectrum

~ coordinated by Sarah Howard, for more information contact

info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **New research published in academic and scientific journals:**

Andersen ZJ, Raaschou-Nielsen O, Ketznel M, et al. 2011. Diabetes Incidence and Long-Term Exposure to Air Pollution: A cohort study. Diabetes Care
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22074722>.

Cupul-Uicab LA, Skjaerven R, Haug K, et al. 2011. In Utero Exposure to Maternal Tobacco Smoke and Subsequent Obesity, Hypertension, and Gestational Diabetes Among Women in The MoBa Cohort. Environ.Health Perspect.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22128036>

Davila-Esqueda ME, Morales JM, Jimenez-Capdeville ME, et al. 2011. Low-level subchronic arsenic exposure from prenatal developmental stages to adult life results in an impaired glucose homeostasis. Exp.Clin.Endocrinol.Diabetes 119(10):613-617.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22068553>

Lee HS, Lee JC, Lee IK, et al. 2011. Associations among Organochlorine Pesticides, Methanobacteriales, and Obesity in Korean Women. PLoS.One. 6(11):e27773.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22114690>

Newbold RR. 2011. Developmental exposure to endocrine-disrupting chemicals programs for reproductive tract alterations and obesity later in life. Am.J.Clin.Nutr.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22089436>

Polyzos SA, Kountouras J, Deretzi G, et al. 2011. The Emerging Role of Endocrine Disruptors in Pathogenesis of Insulin Resistance: A Concept Implicating Nonalcoholic Fatty Liver Disease. Curr.Mol.Med.
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22082482>

Wang T, Li M, Chen B, et al. 2011. Urinary Bisphenol A (BPA) Concentration Associates with Obesity and Insulin Resistance. J.Clin.Endocrinol.Metab
<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22090277>

CHE Fertility

~ coordinated by Karin Russ, karin@healthandenvironment.org

~ **Study: Evidence for epigenetic abnormalities of the androgen receptor gene in foreskin from children with hypospadias.** The androgen receptor (AR) gene in target tissues from patients with hypospadias is more methylated than in control children, resulting in a decreased expression of the AR. The mechanism underlying the modulation of the AR gene expression seems to be mediated by DNMT3A. This epigenetic alteration of the AR gene might be involved in the pathogenesis of hypospadias.

[Read more on the study](#)

~ **Study: Stress in early pregnancy can lead to shorter pregnancies, more pre-term births and fewer baby boys.** Stress in the second and third months of pregnancy can shorten pregnancies, increase the risk of pre-term births and may affect the ratio of boys to girls being born, leading to a decline in male babies. These are the conclusions of a study that investigated the effect on pregnant women of the stress caused by the 2005 Tarapaca earthquake in Chile. Human Reproduction.

[Read more on the study](#)

~ **News: Panel links C8 to high blood pressure in pregnancy.** The three person C8 Science Panel has found a "probable link" between C8 and pregnancy induced hypertension, but no such link between exposure to the chemical and other reproductive effects. The term "probable link" isn't a standard one for scientists who study toxic chemical exposure. It's defined in the DuPont legal settlement as whether "based upon the weight of the available scientific evidence, it is more likely than not that there is a

link between exposure to C8 and a particular human disease" among Mid-Ohio Valley residents taking part in the suit.

[Read the article](#)

~ **Resource: EMF and RF Effects on Fertility and Reproduction.** The CHE-EMF working group has posted a reference list with studies that report on electromagnetic field (EMF) and radiofrequency radiation (RF) effects on fertility and reproduction. About 35 studies are listed. One document has the references only. The second document has the references with the abstract included. We hope you find this useful. This cross-over of the published scientific studies can perhaps stimulate more collaboration among other CHE groups, and we hope to offer more 'click-to' reference lists in the future.

[View the resource](#)

~ **Symposium: Prematurity Prevention. Sponsor: March of Dimes. January 19 to 20, 2012, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, D.C.** The March of Dimes is holding a Prematurity Prevention Symposium, providing attendees with an opportunity to meet key opinion leaders, showcase successful prevention programs, and engage in problem solving. The event also will launch the Prematurity Prevention Network, a coalition of individuals and organizations dedicated to promoting prematurity prevention.

[Read more about the symposium](#)

~ **Funding Opportunity: Developmental Mechanisms of Human Structural Birth Defects (P01).** The Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD) and Office of Dietary Supplements (ODS), National Institutes of Health (NIH) encourages innovative, multidisciplinary, interactive, and synergistic program project (P01) grant applications from institutes/organizations that propose to integrate basic, translational, and clinical approaches to understanding the developmental biology and genetic basis of congenital structural human malformations. At least one project must propose basic research in an animal model system and at least one project must be clinical or translational in nature. The component projects must share a common central theme, focus, or objective on a specific developmental structural malformation or class of anomalies that is genotypically, mechanistically, biologically, or phenotypically analogous or homologous in both animal models and humans. FOA expiration date: January 8, 2015.

[Read more about this funding opportunity](#)

CHE Healthy Aging and the Environment Initiative

~ coordinated by Maria Valenti, mvalenti@igc.org

~ **Promoting Intergenerational and Environmental Health Across the Lifespan, June 7-8, 2012:** New co-sponsors put us at over 30 to date, including: National Coalition on Aging; Gerontological Association of America; National Center for Creative Aging; Smart Growth America; American Geriatric Society; American Society on Aging; Kairos Dance Theater; Partnership for Youth Empowerment Global (PYE); Physicians for Social Responsibility New York City; Project for Public Places; US EPA Region 2.

[Visit the conference webpage](#)

~ **Healthy Aging Initiative at the [Gerontological Society of America's annual scientific meeting](#), Boston--Nov 18-22**

Environment and Aging Breakfast: AARP hosted an invitation-only Aging and the Environment breakfast with The John Merck Fund and the Healthy Aging Initiative during the Gerontological Society of America's annual scientific meeting in Boston November 18th. The group discussed a range of perspectives on healthy aging and the environment and how to mobilize efforts to identify key intervention points and crosscutting solutions that can help prevent disease and promote health and healthier environments. Follow up activities were prioritized. See the Healthy Aging Initiative's special issue of the GSA's [Public Policy and Aging Report](#).

Presentation at GSA annual scientific meeting November Nov 19th: Maria Valenti presented on Healthy Aging and the Environment Across the Lifespan at a symposium

organized by EPA Aging Initiative's Kathy Sykes entitled "Environment and Aging: The Challenges Ahead".

AARP Booth Outreach: Maria Valenti volunteered along with AARP staff to outreach to GSA attendees at the AARP exhibit booth, where she distributed Healthy Aging and the Environment Pocket Guides and other materials and discussed environmental health issues with a wide range of researchers, academics, scientists and others.

~ **AARP State Chapters and Environmental Health:** As part of an effort to reach out to AARP State chapter leaders, Dr. Ted Schettler and Chloe Schwabe from the National Council on Churches Eco-Justice program met with policy leadership at the AARP state office in Sacramento, CA to discuss environmental health issues both in CA and nationwide, and how to outreach on these topics to AARP members. Topics included national and state chemical policy reform, and green chemistry.

~ **Massachusetts--Outreach to Elders:** Maria Valenti and Dr. Sally Thompson, a geriatric psychiatrist helping to support the Healthy Aging project, met with the Assistant Secretary of Program Planning and Management at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs as well as leaders of the office's communications team to discuss creative ways to outreach to seniors in MA on healthy aging and the environment issues. Ideas included a range of multimedia approaches to explore further.

~ **Other Presentations:** Food Matters: Dr. Ted Schettler presented in November and December on environmental health and aging issues at two Food Matters Clinical Education conferences in Grand Rapids, Michigan and Portland, Oregon.

UC Berkeley School of Public Health: Dr. Schettler also presented on this topic at UC Berkeley School of Public Health.

EPA Aging Initiative: Held the webinar Green Heart: Air Pollution and the Heart on December 6th, resources and presentations are available on their website here: http://www.epa.gov/aging/press/green_heart.html

CHE Learning and Developmental Disabilities Initiative

~ coordinated by Elise Miller, for more information contact info@healthandenvironment.org

~ **State-based workshops announced:** CHE-LDDI and the Autism Society of America (ASA) recently co-sponsored two workshops, and will host a third on January 12th at UCLA. The workshop is titled: *Environmental Influences on Neurodevelopment: Translating the Emerging Science into Public Health Policy.*

During these workshops, national experts from diverse sectors will highlight the latest research on associations between environmental exposures and neurodevelopment as well as the implications for prevention-based public health policy. This meeting is intended to catalyze cross-discipline discussions among leaders in environmental, experimental and epidemiologic fields as well as those involved in public policy and environmental health advocacy.

Workshops are open to the public. Faculty, students, policy makers, and others concerned with environmental influences on neurodevelopment and public health are particularly encouraged to attend.

[Read more and register for the workshop](#)

CHE Regional Working Groups Updates

CHE Alaska

~ coordinated by Pam Miller, pkmiller@akaction.net

~ **Archived teleconferences:** CHE Alaska hosts regular statewide teleconference seminars and other public events featuring Alaskans and nationally-renowned scientists, health care professionals, and policy experts who are working on a range of environmental health concerns. To see the archive and listen to the MP3 recordings of calls held in 2011 visit the [CHE Alaska webpage](#).

Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL) - Europe

~ coordinated by Lisette van Vliet, lissette@env-health.org

~ **COP17: Health leaders call for urgent action on climate:** The COP17 UN Climate Negotiations in Durban brought together the international health community to highlight for decision-makers the urgency of making health central to climate change mitigation and adaptation policy.

The [Durban Declaration on Climate and Health](#) and the [Health Sector Call to Action](#)-- which were adopted at the close of the first Climate and Health Summit on December 4-- call on negotiators to push for the most ambitious commitments possible.

In the Durban Declaration, Summit participants call on COP 17 negotiators to, inter alia: recognize the health benefits of climate mitigation and take bold and substantive action to reduce global GHG emissions in order to protect and promote public health; ensure greater health sector representation on national delegations and in key bodies of the UNFCCC; adopt a strong second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol; and negotiate, by 2015, a fair, ambitious and binding agreement that is consistent with the prescription for a Healthy Planet endorsed by over 130 health organizations in Copenhagen in 2009.

The Summit was co-organized by the Climate & Health Council, Health Care Without Harm (HCWH) and the Nelson R. Mandela School of Medicine at the University of KwaZulu Natal, in partnership with the Health & Environment Alliance (HEAL), the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Medical Association, and the International Council of Nurses, among others, and brought over 250 health leaders from 30 countries. Active health representation at the UNFCCC COP 17 talks included HEAL, HCWH, the International Federation of Medical Students (IFMSA), World Medical Association, World Federation of Public Health Associations, Climate and Health Council and the WHO featured over a dozen side events, reports and briefings on health and climate.

New science on climate change and health was also presented in Durban, including a new WHO assessment on the health co-benefits of climate change mitigation in the transport sector ([WHO Health in the Green Economy series](#)). The report identifies win-win strategies that can help reduce climate change in one of the world's most polluting sectors, and generate large health benefits at the same time.

~ **French National Academy of Medicine on EDCs and Cancer:** The French National Academy of Medicine has released a report which recognises that endocrine disrupting chemicals are contributing to the rising incidence of some hormone dependent cancers. This publication, which HEAL believes represents an important step forward in environmental health understanding, will hopefully prompt a major reflection in many other European countries. To read more about the report, visit the [Chemicals Health Monitor](#).

~ **French national authority report prompts BPA ban in food contact materials:** The French National Assembly's voted to ban bisphenol A (BPA) in all food contact materials from 2014. The decision, which now goes to the French Senate, followed the publication of a report by the French National Agency for Food Safety, Environment and Labour (ANSES). The ANSES report stated that low dose exposure to BPA resulted in health effects in sensitive populations. Containers aimed at children under three will have to be BPA-free by the beginning of 2013 and all products should be labelled to warn sensitive populations of the potential dangers of exposure to the substance. Published in September, a summary of the ANSES report on the health effects of BPA

exists in English, and a full translation is expected in early 2012. Crucially, the Agency had studied a wide range of research papers instead of limiting its review to those produced under the so-called Good Laboratory Practice (GLP). The report highlights health effects that have been proven in animals and suspected in humans, even at low levels of exposure. These effects may also depend greatly on individuals being exposed during different phases of their development, which means that it may be possible to identify categories of people who are particularly vulnerable to bisphenol A.

[Read more from HEAL](#)

[Read Reseau Environnement Sante press release](#) (in French)

~ **European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) to reconsider its scientific advice on BPA in 2012:** EFSA is establishing a [multidisciplinary working group of experts](#) to further evaluate new scientific studies and data on bisphenol A as they become available. EFSA continues to closely monitor these developments which will help inform reconsideration of its scientific advice in 2012. EFSA will also liaise closely with US scientific experts on the studies that are currently in progress. CHE partners are encouraged to read Statement on the ANSES reports on bisphenol A and the Joint Meeting Report of EFSA and ANSES on Bisphenol A.

~ **Documentary highlights global citizens action against cancer:** A new documentary television from Switzerland "Les citoyens contre le cancer--Citizens against cancer" shows citizens around the world united in the fight against cancer, and environmental links.

Citizen scientist and cancer survivor and CHE Partner, [Sandra Steingraber, author of "Living Downstream"](#), appears as does Erin Brokovich made famous by a cinema film capturing her fight against industry water polluters. Genon Jensen and Lisette van Vliet from HEAL are interviewed as representatives of citizens' and scientists' as a result of [HEAL's work on Environmental Prevention of Cancer](#) during the [Paris Appeal Third International Congress](#).

In Switzerland, it is the alarming figures on cancer rates that are prompting ordinary people to push their governments to do move to protect them from this epidemic. An estimated four Swiss national in every 10 will develop cancer during their lifetime. The film follows Christine who developed breast cancer and underwent a double mastectomy at the age of 41 years. She says that four out of 12 girls in her class at school have the same condition. She wants to know whether the cancers might have been caused by the pesticide spraying or industrial emissions in the area where they all grew up.

The film highlights some new and exciting citizens' tactics. For example, Denis Camus, part of the [Phyto-victimes network](#), is interviewed at this farm in France. He won recognition that his cancer was caused by exposure to pesticides by bringing the scientific evidence that the case should be given "the benefit of the doubt".

Another exciting approach to raising awareness is revealed in the touching story of a mother whose four-year-old daughter had died of brain cancer, and subsequently founded Mira's movement (<http://www.mirasmovement.org/>). She and other young women have had their heads shaved in solidarity with children with cancer. Her fundraising goes towards efforts to push the US government into doing more research into the environmental causes of cancer.

Watch: ["Les citoyens contre le cancer"](#) (50-minute film in French but with several dialogues in English). It was screened in Switzerland on 6 October 2011 on prime time Swiss TV, and had a worldwide airing subsequently.

CHE Washington

~ coordinated by Steve Gilbert, sgilbert@innd.org and Aimee Boulanger, aboulanger@whidbey.com

~ **2011 Northwest Children's Environmental Health Forum - We Stepped It Up**

Together! Participants at the November 2011 Forum hosted by the Children's Environmental Health Working Group of the Collaborative on Health and Environment, Washington Chapter, resonated with keynote speaker, Dr. Howard Frumkin that "health trends aren't all easy to explain, but we share a conviction that children's environments-their habitats-can make a difference." Dr. Frumkin's speech further identified key and significant environmental issues driving home a need for further concern and collaborative action.

Dr. Frumkin and a diverse panel of ten experts in the children's health field engaged with 125 participants in an open robust dialog sharing concerns and commitments to enhancing the environment and protecting children's health. Small group discussions also provided excellent opportunities to share ideas, meet new partners, and identify collaborative activities to improve environmental health outcomes.

In his closing statement, Dr. Howard Frumkin delivered a thought-provoking request. He challenged all participants to a mental exercise, "Imagine that our life expectancy is 500 years instead of less than 100. Would you live your life differently? " His question focused participant discussions as they considered how to impact the very long-term vision of a sustainable, just, and healthy world for children. For additional information on the event or to get involved in building a new environmental health legacy, you can review the notes from the interactive Small Group Sessions at the [Forum website](#).

Announcements and News Highlights

Environmental Health News: email, Facebook, Twitter and a website archive

EHN and its sister site, The Daily Climate, offer a wealth of valuable information each day at no cost to subscribers. The daily email subscriptions and the 350,000-item news archive have recently been supplemented by a Facebook page and Twitter feed.

[Visit the website](#)

[Visit the EHN archives page](#)

Friend EHN on Facebook by searching for Environmental Health News

Submission deadline extended

The deadline for submission of articles to the Special Issue on Cumulative Health Risk Assessment for the *International Journal of Environment Research and Public Health* has been extended to January 15th, 2012. The previous deadline was Oct 31, 2011.

[Read more](#)

December 2011 issue of *Environmental Health Perspectives* available online

[Read more](#)

December 2011 issue of *Environmental Factor* available online

[Read more](#)

CHE maintains a [news feed](#) of environmental health related news announcements and events collected from a multitude of sources on CHE's website.

Reports, Resources and Other Updates

Breast Cancer and the Environment: A Life Course Approach, a New Report from the Institute of Medicine

This new report assesses the breast cancer risk posed by various environmental factors, identifies actions that offer potential to reduce women's risk for the disease, and recommends targets for future research. The report, sponsored by Susan G. Komen for the Cure, will be released with a press briefing and presented at a plenary session at the 2011 San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium (SABCS).

[Visit the report's webpage](#)

[Visit CHE's webpage for information on the December 16th Partnership call on the report](#)

EMF and RF Effects on Fertility and Reproduction

CHE-EMF has posted a reference list with studies that report on electromagnetic field (EMF) and radiofrequency radiation (RF) effects on fertility and reproduction. About 35 studies are listed.

[View the reference list](#)

***Our Stolen Future* 15 Years Later**

The book *Our Stolen Future* brought world-wide attention to scientific discoveries about endocrine disruption and the fact that common contaminants can interfere with the natural signals controlling development of the fetus. Dr. John Peterson Myers, founder, CEO and Chief Scientist of Environmental Health Sciences and co-author of *Our Stolen Future* speaks to the impact of the book 15 years later.

[Watch Dr. Myers' presentation](#)

[Visit the *Our Stolen Future* website](#)

Land of Risk Land of Opportunity, a new report from UC Davis Center for Regional Change

The UC Davis Center for Regional Change has released a path-breaking report, "Land of Risk/ Land of Opportunity" documenting the high levels of environmental and social risks confronting San Joaquin Valley residents.

[Read more on the report](#)

CHE lists hundred of reports, books, videos, databases and other resources in a searchable [Portal to Science](#) on CHE's website.

Thank you for taking the time to read the latest about CHE. As always, we welcome your questions and suggestions. Please direct comments to Elise Miller, Director of CHE, at elise@healthandenvironment.org.

Best wishes,

Elise Miller, MEd, Director

Steve Heilig, Director of Public Health and Education at San Francisco Medical Society and CHE

Erika Sanders, Administrative Coordinator

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