

Cancer and Environment Network of SWPA

Monthly Digest

AUGUST

Hello Cancer and Environment Collaborative Network,

We are very much looking forward to our **next quarterly convening: August 28 from 10am-12pm**. Until we Zoom together, please enjoy our August 2020 digest.

We welcome and encourage you to share any new research, news stories, resources, and/or opportunities relevant to cancer and the environment by emailing Talor (talor@womenforahealthyenvironment.org) and we will include them in the next digest.

Thank you and Happy August!

Talor, Molly and Polly

August 2020 Digest

Upcoming Work Group Meetings

If you haven't already, please join a workgroup by adding your name to [this list](#). Having your name on this list will ensure that you receive the call-in information each month.

- **Education and Outreach**
 - August 6, 10:00 am
- **Community Engagement**
 - August 11, 3:00 pm
- **Policy**
 - August 20, 10:00 am
- **Science and Support Advisory**
 - August 25, 2:00 pm
- **Quarterly Convening**
 - August 28, 10:00 am

Recent Research Publications/Research Commentaries

- Jephcote C, Brown D, Verbeek T, Mah A. [A systematic review and meta-analysis of haematological malignancies in residents living near petrochemical facilities](#). *Environ Health*. 2020;19(1):53. Published 2020 May 19.
 - [from the abstract] This systematic review examined 16 studies addressing the incidence of incidence of haematological malignancies across 187,585 residents

living close to a petrochemical operation. Residents from fence-line communities, less than 5 km from a petrochemical facility (refinery or manufacturer of commercial chemicals), had a 30% higher risk of developing leukaemia than residents from communities with no petrochemical activity. Meanwhile, the association between exposure and rarer forms of haematological malignancy remains uncertain, with further research required.

- Poulsen AH, Hvidtfeldt UA, Sørensen M, et al. [Intracranial tumors of the central nervous system and air pollution - a nationwide case-control study from Denmark](#). *Environ Health*. 2020;19(1):81. Published 2020 Jul 8. doi:10.1186/s12940-020-00631-9
 - [from the abstract] This study investigated a range of air pollutants in relation to types of CNS tumors. Results suggest that air pollution is associated with malignant intracranial CNS tumors and malignant non-glioma of the brain. Malignant tumors of the intracranial CNS was associated with BC (OR: 1.034, 95%CI: 1.005-1.065 per IQR. For NO_x the OR per IQR was 1.026 (95%CI: 0.998-1.056). For malignant non-glioma tumors of the brain we found associations with PM_{2.5} (OR: 1.267, 95%CI: 1.053-1.524 per IQR), BC (OR: 1.049, 95%CI: 0.996-1.106) and NO_x (OR: 1.051, 95% CI: 0.996-1.110).
- Kerner JF, Kavanaugh-Lynch MHE, Baezconde-Garbanati L, Politis C, Prager A, Brownson RC. [Doing What We Know, Knowing What to Do: Californians Linking Action with Science for Prevention of Breast Cancer \(CLASP-BC\)](#). *Int J Environ Res Public Health*. 2020;17(14):E5050. Published 2020 Jul 14. doi:10.3390/ijerph17145050
 - [from the abstract] This paper describes the first phase of Californians Linking Action with Science for Prevention of Breast Cancer (CLASP-BC). The foci of Phase 1 are building coalitions and coalition capacity building through community engagement in community-based participatory research (CBPR) and dissemination and implementation (D&I) research training.
- Demeneix, B. [How fossil fuel-derived pesticides and plastics harm health, biodiversity, and the climate](#). *Lancet Diabetes Endocrinol*. 2020;8(6):462-464.
 - “Three global challenges menace survival as we know it: climate change, loss of biodiversity, and chemical pollution (including endocrine-disrupting chemicals [EDCs]). These threats are more strongly interlinked than previously thought by their common origins in fossil fuels such as coal, oil, or gas, including that derived from fracking....”

In the News — Stories Relating to Environmental Cancer Risks and Solutions

Air Pollution

- Allegheny Front - [Environmental Groups Win New Coke Oven Regulation](#) (July 10, 2020)
- Bristol Post, UK - [Novel research on air pollution/children’s cancer launched by charitable foundation](#) (July 23, 2020)

Race and Cancer

- Time Magazine - [Why the Larger Climate Movement Is Finally Embracing the Fight Against Environmental Racism](#) (July 9, 2020)
- New York Times Magazine - [Pollution Is Killing Black Americans. This Community Fought Back](#) (July 28, 2020)

PFAS

- Chemical and Engineering News - [Protective gear could expose firefighters to PFAS](#) (July 1, 2020)
- Chemical and Engineering News - [Why Limiting PFAS in Drinking Water is a Challenge in the US](#) (July 13, 2020)
- Bloomberg Law - [Authorizations for funding, disclosure and other requirements related to PFAS; Trump likely to veto](#) (July 21, 2020)

Pesticides

- CBS Pittsburgh - [PA Supreme Court rules that court case can proceed: one of many lawsuits related to glyphosate \("Roundup"\) exposure](#) (July 21, 2020)

Petrochemical/Oil and Gas

- Environmental Health News - [Babies Born Near Natural Gas Flaring are 50% More Likely to Be Premature: Study](#) (July 16, 2020)
- BCTV.org - [Coalition Creates Blueprint to "Reimagine Appalachia."](#) (July 27, 2020)

*Also see Resources below

Resources

- **Webinar Recording: Disparities and Cancer, July 22, 2020**
Scientists Dr. Christine Ekenga, Anita Desikan, and Caroline Eberle presented their research focused on the disproportionate impact of airborne carcinogens, PFAS contamination, and personal care products specifically marketed to minorities, increasing their risk of developing cancer throughout their lifetime. Watch the recording [HERE](#).
- **American Association of Cancer Research Panel Recording: Carcinogens in the Home: Science and Pathways to Prevention.**
Members of our network were invited to organize this session at the recent annual meeting of the AACR following last year's stand-alone meeting on Environmental Carcinogenesis: Potential Pathways to Prevention. Presentations included the scientific process for classifying carcinogens, the contribution of pesticides and consumer products to cancer, communication about exposures, and systems change towards safer alternatives in the building sector. The session was featured in the July issue of the AACR's Cancer Policy Monitor: [Carcinogens in the Home Increase Cancer Risk, but it is Possible to Reduce Exposure](#). To view the recording of the full session, you must create an AACR account [here](#) and then visit the [session page](#) for easy access.
- **[Reimagine Appalachia Policy Blueprint](#)** - Reimagine Appalachia, a broad and inclusive coalition of individuals and organizations based in Appalachia, released their plan to build the future a 21st century economy that's good for workers, communities, and the environment.

- **These four e-posters and presentations on cancer and environment** were created by members of our network for presentation at the virtual Congress of the Oncology Nursing Society which took place in the spring. They are full of relevant information!
 - Wasco, J., Dodd, C., Robertson, L., Ou, J., and Babcock, A. (May 2020). Environmental Contributors to Cancer: [Chemical Exposures from Climate Change Fueled Disasters – What Nurses Need to Know](#). Poster Session presented at the Oncology Nursing Society Annual Congress. San Antonio, Texas.
 - Dodd, C., Wasco, J., Robertson, L., Babcock, A., and Ou, J. (May 2020). Environmental Contributors to Cancer: [Reducing Risks from Environmental to Everyday Chemicals, Radon and Extremely Low Electromagnetic Frequencies](#). Presented at the Oncology Nursing Society Annual Congress. San Antonio, Texas.
 - Ou, J., Wasco, J., Dodd, C., Robertson, L., Babcock, A., and Kirchhoff, A. (May 2020). Environmental Contributors to Cancer: [Air Pollution and its Role in Cancer Mortality and Cancer related Respiratory Morbidity](#). Poster Session presented at the Oncology Nursing Society Annual Congress. San Antonio, Texas.
 - Robertson, L., Babcock, A., Dodd, C., Wasco, J. and Ou, J. (May 2020). Environmental Contributors to Cancer: [Personal Care Products](#). Poster Session presented at the Oncology Nursing Society Annual Congress. San Antonio, Texas.

See something that you would like to share with the network? Send updates to Talor for the September 2020 Digest by emailing talor@womenforahealthyenvironment.org