

Occupational and Public Health

Specialty Section

OPHSS Newsletter

Winter 2023-2024

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Message from the President

Dear OPHSS Colleagues,



Happy Holiday Season, OPHSS members! I hope that you and your families and friends are able to get some time outside (weather permitting), take some vacations, and get some much-needed time away from the lab or desk.

Our membership is engaged in research and activities that continue to be of pinnacle importance to the health and well-being of workers and decision-making bodies. Our field has only been increasing in importance as well as rising to and addressing challenges (and I know this from personal work experience!). In addition to changes on the professional front, I realize all of us have had different personal experiences, and I hope that each of you are doing well and feeling positive as we move through 2024 (where does the time even go??).

OPHSS strives to provide opportunities for membership engagement. In this newsletter there are opportunities to:

1. Increase your knowledge of emerging topics: see recent publications by members on pg 9-11 as well as research and experience by our members (see pg 6-7)
2. Learn of opportunities to engage with fellow OPHSS members: see the call for volunteers for OPHSS committee members (pg 8) and the call for mentors & mentees for the OPHSS "Coffee with an Expert" program (pg 8); and
3. Recognize OPHSS members for their work: see OPHSS Paper of the Year (pg 4) and the Call for Accomplishments (pg 13).

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Anne Elizabeth Loccisano
Exponent



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US EPA



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Indiana University Bloomington



Student Representative

Zhennig Yang
Rutgers University



...continued on pg 2

Message from the President *(continued)*

4. Please consider donating to our new Endowment Fund (see pg 3)!! Your donations are SO important for future generations of toxicologists! We want to give a shout out to Jess Graham and Joel Bercu for initiating this effort for the Endowment Fund!

5. Thank you to those who have applied for one of the OPHSS awards! We LOVE reading your submissions each Awards Season!

Keep an eye out for information on our annual OPHSS luncheon at the SOT Annual Meeting. We will enjoy lunch together and listen to some awesome presentations from our award winners.

If you are chairing or co-chairing or presenting in a session at the upcoming SOT meeting, I would love to know about it and welcome the opportunity to share it with our membership. Also, if you learn of other events which may be of interest to our OPHSS membership, do feel free to reach out to anyone on the [OPHSS EC](#). We will be facilitating the OPHSS mentoring program again in 2024 (pg 8). If you are interested in connecting with a professional in the field, exchanging learnings, or seeking career advice, please sign up.

OPHSS is sponsoring some great sessions at the 2024 Annual Meeting (see pg 5)! We are very excited, so if you are attending the 2024 Annual Meeting, please check them out!

I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you at one of our virtual OPHSS events (details to come!) and SOT's 63rd Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Wishing you a wonderful 2024!

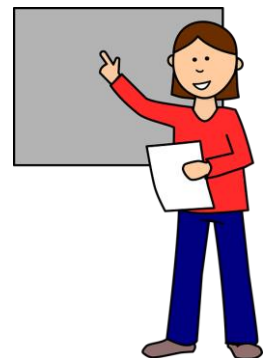
Cheers!

Anne E. Loccisano, PhD, DABT
OPHSS President

Call for OPHSS Speaker Directory Nominations

OPHSS are looking for up to 5 experts to include in [SOT's Speaker Directory](#). This is a great opportunity for more visibility and to share your expertise with others.

If you would like to nominate yourself or a colleague, please send your resume/CV to Janice Lee (Lee.JaniceS@epa.gov) by Feb 29th, 2024 for consideration.



OPHSS Endowment Fund

Help secure the future of OPHSS
and our field's trainees! Donate!

Dear OPHSS Membership,

We are excited to announce the launch of the Occupational and Public Health Endowment Fund. This is the first Endowment to have ever been created for OPHSS, and we need your help to make this a successful, permanent fund. We need to raise \$50k within 3 years in order for the Endowment to remain in perpetuity. The Occupational and Public Health Endowment Fund will encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the field of toxicology with a focus on occupational and/or public health. The fund will be used to provide OPHSS awards to trainees. Awards funded by our Endowment include the following: Student Best Abstract Award, Student Travel Award, and the Graduate Student / Postdoctoral Best Manuscript Award.

We feel that this is important to the Occupational and Public Health Community to attract and provide opportunities for the next generation of occupational and public health toxicologists. For additional information on the fund, [click here](#).

To make a donation:

- [Click here](#) and log into your SOT account and select the "Occupational and Public Health Endowment Fund" from the list of funds
- [Click here](#) to go to the SOT website and learn more about ways to donate or click on "Endowment Fund" in the top menu, and select "Donate Now"



Note that since SOT is a non-profit, this would be considered a charitable donation and also may be eligible for matching gifts from your company, and it is tax deductible.

We hope that you will contribute!

Best Regards,

Joel Bercu (OPHSS President 2016/17)

Jessica Graham (OPHSS President 2022/23)

SOT also accepts donations of
stock to Endowment Funds!

Funds and Contributors are listed [here](#).



We extend a huge thanks
to Joel & Jessica for setting
up the OPHSS Endowment
Fund!

Please consider donating to
support future awards for
OPHSS members!



Jessica Graham
OPHSS President
2022/23

Joel Bercu
OPHSS President
2016/17

Paper of the Year Fall Journal Club Webinar

Presented by: Alejandra Trejo-Martin, MS, Senior Research Associate, Gilead Sciences

An Evaluation of the Occupational Health Hazards of Peptide Couplers

Graham, J.C., Trejo-Martin, A., Chilton, M.L., Kostal, J., Bercu, J., Beutner, G.L., Bruen, U.S., Dolan, D.G., Gomez, S., Hillegass, J. and Nicolette, J., 2022. *Chemical research in toxicology*, 35(6), pp.1011-1022.



Peptide couplers (also known as amide bond-forming reagents or coupling reagents) are broadly used in organic chemical syntheses, especially in the pharmaceutical industry. Yet, occupational health hazards associated with this chemical class are largely unexplored, which is disconcerting given the intrinsic reactivity of these compounds. Several case studies involving occupational exposures reported adverse respiratory and dermal health effects, providing initial evidence of chemical sensitization. To address the paucity of toxicological data, a pharmaceutical cross industry task force was formed to evaluate and assess the potential of these compounds to cause eye and dermal irritation as well as corrosivity and dermal sensitization. The goal of our work was to inform health and safety professionals as well as pharmaceutical and organic chemists of the occupational health hazards associated with this chemical class. To that end, 25 of the most commonly used peptide couplers and five hydrolysis products were selected for *in vivo*, *in vitro*, and *in silico* testing. Our findings confirmed that dermal sensitization is a concern for this chemical class with 21/25 peptide couplers testing positive for dermal sensitization and 15 of these being strong/extreme sensitizers.

We also found that dermal corrosion and irritation (8/25) as well as eye irritation (9/25) were health hazards associated with peptide couplers, and their hydrolysis products (4/5) were dermal irritants or corrosive and (4/5) were eye irritants. Resulting outcomes were synthesized to inform decision making in peptide coupler selection and enable data-driven hazard communication to workers. The latter includes harmonized hazard classifications, appropriate handling recommendations, and accurate safety data sheets, which support the industrial hygiene hierarchy of control strategies and risk assessment. Our study demonstrates the merits of an integrated, *in vivo*, *in silico* analysis, applied here to the skin sensitization endpoint using the Computer-Aided Discovery and Redesign (CADRE) and Derek Nexus programs. We show that experimental data can improve predictive models by filling existing data gaps while, concurrently, providing computational insights into key initiating events and elucidating the chemical structural features contributing to adverse health effects. This interactive, interdisciplinary approach is consistent with Green Chemistry principles that seek to improve the selection and design of less hazardous reagents in industrial processes and applications.

When: September 6th, 2023

A recording of the webinar and slides are on the [OPHSS website](#)
(along with other past OPHSS-hosted webinars which may be of interest)

Many thanks to our Councilors (**Chandrika J. Moudgal & Antonella Marrocco**) for hosting and organizing this OPHSS Journal Club Webinar.



**63RD ANNUAL MEETING
& ToxExpo • March 10–14, 2024
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

OPHSS Luncheon Announcement

Please join us for the annual OPHSS Luncheon at the Salt Palace Convention Center.

Wednesday, March 13th from 12:00 Noon to 1:00 PM (Mountain Time) in room 255A of the Salt Palace Convention Center

Watch your email for updates!

OPHSS Sponsored Sessions for the 2024 SOT Annual Meeting

Thank you very much to all who submitted proposals for OPHSS Sponsored Sessions at SOT 2024. We received many excellent proposals.

Continuing Education Courses

AM02: Advances in Metal Toxicology: From Aging and Disease Causation to Detection and Regulatory Measures.

Chairperson(s): Drs. Koren Mann (McGill University) and Johnny Wise (University of Louisville)
Sunday, March 10th from 8:15 AM to 12:00 Noon MDT

PM11: Next-Generation Data Transparency and Open Science Policies: What Toxicologists Need to Know

Chairperson(s): Drs. Paul Whaley (Lancaster University) and Michelle Angrish (US EPA)
Sunday, March 10th from 1:15 PM to 5:00 PM MDT

Symposium Session

It Takes Two! Paternal Exposures and Their Impacts on Offspring Health

Chairperson(s): Drs. Colette Miller (US EPA) and Luke Montrose (Colorado State University)
Wednesday, March 13th from 8:00 AM to 10:45 AM MDT

Informational Session

Five Decades of Evaluating the Safety of Aspartame Consumption: Has Anything Changed?

Chairperson(s): Drs. Susan Borghoff and Sabine Francke (US FDA)
Tuesday, March 12th from 8:00 AM to 10:45 AM MDT

Workshops

Allergies Are More Than Skin Deep: Establishing Regulatory Test Methods for Respiratory Sensitization

Chairperson(s): Drs. Emily Reinke (Inotiv) and Kristie Sullivan (Institute for In Vitro Sciences, Inc.)
Monday, March 11th from 1:45 PM to 4:30 PM MDT

It's Not Easy Being Green: Applying Alternatives Assessment to Create Safer Consumer Products

Chairperson(s): Drs. Homer Swei (Environmental Working Group) and Muna Nahar (US EPA)
Tuesday, March 12th from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM MDT

Education-Career Development Session

Toxicology in the Military: Unique Career Opportunities and Applications

Chairperson(s): Drs. Krisa Camargo and Elaine Merrill (Defense Centers for Public Health)
Tuesday, March 12th from 4:45 PM to 6:05 PM MDT

OPHSS Member Spotlight: Dr. Leena A. Nylander-French, MS, PhD, CIH

This month, Dr. Shikha Sharma interviewed Dr. Nylander-French to learn more about her research at UNC-Chapel Hill and her career path.

Tell us a little about your background and how you ended up in your current position/program.

I received my Master's degree in environmental hygiene from the University of Kuopio in Finland. The first two years in the program consisted of learning basic science like chemistry, physics, and physiology that any medical student learns. Then, from there, we started going into engineering, environmental sciences, and industrial toxicology. I became very interested in human health, how we can prevent adverse health effects arising from toxic exposures, whether from physical exposure, like radiation, noise, or chemical or biological hazard. At the time, I was very interested in radiation and nuclear power. I had an interesting experience partly from the Chernobyl explosion because radiation was detected in Finland, but we did not know where it was coming from. However, my Master's thesis research project at the National Institute of Occupational Health did not involve radiation or nuclear energy but testing chemicals used in the manufacture of paper. I developed testing methodologies to measure "dustiness" of these compound. The education in Finland was very broad, from environmental to occupational, and we learned how to predict the spread of the toxins in the environment. These experiences, and my love to travel, see different places, people, and cultures, drove me to understand global public health issues.



After completing my MS degree and traveling around the US for six months, I settled down in Stockholm, Sweden, to work as an industrial hygienist at the National Institute for Working Life. I had a fantastic opportunity to conduct research, write grants, and to complete my PhD in environmental and occupational health at the Royal Institute of Technology. I received a grant to look at occupational exposures and health effects in the surface coating industry. At the time, many wood products in furniture industry were surface-coated using solvent-based paints and lacquers. Because they are volatile, there were many health concerns and, at the time, new surface coating techniques and less volatile coatings were coming into the market to replace the solvent-based coatings. We were able to form a really cool crew with industrial hygienists, toxicologists, and medical experts in dermatology and ENT (ear, nose, throat). We travelled around Sweden to different workplaces to carry out exposure and health assessments to determine whether these new products were safer, especially since they were very strong sensitizers. We were measuring both chemical and physical exposures as well as skin sensitization and tissue damage in workers' airways. We were able to get an interesting UV meter to measure workers' exposure to UV radiation at different wavelengths. We learned a lot about the surface-coating process and new risk factors workers were subject to when an industry switches their production method to one that has not been thoroughly vetted. We discovered the workers were potentially exposed to high doses of strong sensitizing compounds due to incomplete curing of the surface, which was then sanded off for resurfacing. Many workers were also exposed to quite a bit of carcinogenic UV-C radiation. The interesting observation we made was that we could not find anybody who was, in fact, sensitized to these compounds. But, anecdotally, we learned about several workers who had developed sensitization soon after they began working with these materials and had to leave their jobs. So, why could some workers stay in the industry while others became quickly sensitized? Why was this happening? I wish I could have investigated that more, but I moved to the US.

OPHSS Member Spotlight: Dr. Nylander-French (*continued*)

Can you tell us a little about what has been one of the most exciting or rewarding projects you have worked on thus far in your career?

There are aspects in every single one of my research projects that are exciting and rewarding simply because, in a sense, my projects have been broad in nature. The excitement comes because there's always so much to learn; I'm always learning. I guess that has been the reason for all my travels, too. I just want to experience and learn and see what life is all about, or what the world is all about. I have been fortunate to have projects funded by NIOSH. I received my K01 award for isocyanate research, which was based on the work I did in Sweden, because multifunctional acrylates are sensitizers as are isocyanates, which are used in car paints.

The K01 project launched my career in the US. These early investigator awards are very important. In that project, we tried to develop a technique to use monoclonal antibodies to quantify skin exposure. A very novel idea but very difficult to carry out. We learned a lot, but we did not succeed to develop that method. The isocyanates are very complex compounds, and their chemistry is even more complex. However, we were able to develop exposure and biomarker measurement techniques for isocyanate oligomers, which are sort of like multifunctional groups. The isocyanate monomers had been considered the culprit for skin sensitization and airway hypersensitivity reactions. However, monomer content is only <1% in the car paints so it's more likely that the oligomers are causing the sensitization, but which ones of these oligomers is difficult to determine because there are multiple. So, all that kind of engineering process technology combined with toxicology, and then developing the methodologies to quantitate exposure and really pinpoint the causative agent and the pathways—how much do you inhale, how much do you get on your skin, and how much do you excrete, what's your dose? Combining all that knowledge and put that into modeling is very interesting.

What is the most surprising aspect of the work you do?

There have been so many different things I have been able to be part of that I did not expect. At first, I thought I would be doing environmental and industrial hygiene research but, along the way, just learning about humans, human behavior, toxicology, policy, public health, what it is like in the US, in Europe, and in Scandinavia, it's evolved. It still amazes me how little we talk about worker health considering that every single one of us is a worker. Most of us sit in front of the computers now, but we would not have houses if we didn't have the builders, the plumbers, etc. All those individuals are working to build a better world for us, but we talk so little about their well-being and health. We are all workers. We all must protect workers so they can enjoy their lives as well. Like Total Worker Health® concept, my motto is—you go to work, and you come back home healthier than you went in. If we understood occupational exposures, we would know how to protect the workers and we would know how to protect the general population by preventing the spread of harmful compounds to the environment early on before they become difficult to contain.

How do you define success?

Success comes in very small steps. If I can convince one worker to protect him/herself, they/themselves, I think that's a success. If I can convince a plant manager to protect their workers and say, financially, it's much cheaper to protect your workers than have them leave and you needing to educate another worker for that position, that's much more expensive. These are successes in the industrial hygiene/occupational realm. The other success, I think, are my students who go and do great things. I'm always amazed how much smarter they are than I ever could be. The evolution of the humankind. I think that's the success – leaving the legacy with my students.

What about your career are you most thankful for?

It's the workers. I am thankful that I've had chance to work with so many different worker populations around the world, even in Africa. They bring me down to the earth and keep my feet on the ground.

Get Involved in OPHSS – Serve on a Committee!

The following OPHSS Committees are Seeking Volunteers:

- **Program Committee:** Review proposals for symposiums and workshops seeking endorsement from OPHSS for the SOT Annual Meeting. Interested in being on the OPHSS Program Committee? **Contact Anne Loccisano (aloccisano@hotmail.com)**.
- **Awards Committee:** Review submissions for the Best Student Abstract Award, Best Postdoc Manuscript Award, and Student Travel Award. For questions related to either submissions or judging, **please contact Michelle Hernandez (michelle.hernandez1@merck.com)**.
- **Paper of the Year (POY) Committee:** Review papers nominated for Paper of the Year Award. Interested in being on the OPHSS POY Committee? **Contact Chandrika Moudgal (moudgal.chandrika@gene.com) or Antonella Marrocco (ANM240@pitt.edu)**.

We greatly appreciate those who volunteer their time to serve on OPHSS Committees!

Upcoming 2024 OPHSS Virtual Business Meeting

Mark your calendars! ([Download .ICS file](#))

OPHSS Virtual Business Meeting

When: Friday, February 23, 2024, at 11:00 AM EST

Link: <https://aim-hq.zoom.us/j/84716598669?pwd=U3VzVXhvaGIITWh0TitxTkd1SVdtQT09>

Mentee/Mentor Opportunity

The OPHSS Executive Committee is pleased to announce a mentoring event that will be held in conjunction with this year's Annual Meeting. "Coffee with an Expert" will match interested students with an expert in the field of toxicology, and the two parties will be encouraged to meet at some point during the Annual Meeting for a mentoring session. The exact length of the session (and the topics discussed) is up to the student/expert, but we believe most will be less than an hour.

If you are a later career toxicologist or a student interested in participating in the program, please email Mike Peterson (mpeterson@gradientcorp.com) with your interest. If you are part of an academic department, please feel free to share with any students that might be at the meeting.

Looking forward to SOT 2024 in March!

For additional information on upcoming OPHSS events, please explore our [website!](#)

Hot Off the Press: Peer-Reviewed Publications, Reviews, Books, Book Chapters

Abu El Kheir-Mataria, W., Saleh, B.M., El-Fawal, H. and Chun, S., 2023. **COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy among parents in Low-and Middle-Income Countries: A meta-analysis.** *Frontiers in Public Health*, 11, p.1078009.

Ackley, D., Birkebak, J., Blumel, J., Bourcier, T., de Zafra, C., Goodwin, A., Halpern, W., Herzyk, D., Kronenberg, S., Mauthe, R. and Shenton, J., 2023. **FDA and industry collaboration: Identifying opportunities to further reduce reliance on nonhuman primates for nonclinical safety evaluations.** *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology*, 138, p.105327.

Barman, S., Buzoglu Kurnaz, L., Yang, X., Nagarkatti, M., Nagarkatti, P., Decho, A.W. and Tang, C., 2023. **Facially Amphiphilic Bile Acid-Functionalized Antimicrobials: Combating Pathogenic Bacteria, Fungi, and Their Biofilms.** *ACS Infectious Diseases*.

Bernal A.; Loccisano AE, Kerger BD (2023; accepted for publication). **Acetals and Aldehydes, In: Patty's Toxicology**, Seventh Edition (eds. Paustenbach DJ; Farland WH; Greim H; Klaunig JE; Levy L). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Cohen, S.M., Bevan, C., Gollapudi, B. and Klaunig, J.E., 2023. **Evaluation of the carcinogenicity of carbon tetrachloride.** *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Part B*, pp.1-29.

Cory-Slechta, D.A. and Sobolewski, M., 2023. **Neurotoxic effects of air pollution: An urgent public health concern.** *Nature Reviews Neuroscience*, 24(3), pp.129-130.

Cory-Slechta, D.A., Merrill, A. and Sobolewski, M., 2023. **Air pollution–related neurotoxicity across the life span.** *Annual review of pharmacology and toxicology*, 63, pp.143-163.

Dolan, D.G., Bercu, J.P., Graham, J.C. and Barle, E.L., 2023. **Occupational Toxicology in the Pharmaceutical Industry. In Patty's Toxicology (eds E. Bingham, B. Cohrssen and C.H. Powell).** (Book Chapter)

Dalton P.H., Maute C., Hicks J.B., Watson H.N., Loccisano A.E., and Kerger BD. 2023. **Environmental chamber studies of eye and respiratory irritation from use of a peracetic acid-based hospital surface disinfectant.** *Antimicrob Steward Healthc Epidemiol.* Apr 11;3(1):e71. doi: 10.1017/ash.2023.138. PMID: 37113200; PMCID: PMC10127244.

Gad, S.C., 2023. **Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptors (PPARs).**

Graham, J., Araya S., Blum K., Gould J., and Pfister T., 2023. **A Parenteral Permissible Daily Exposure for Inactivated Therapeutic Proteins: An Approach Based on Literature Review.** *BioProcess International*. October 2023.

Graham, J.C. and Haley, M., 2023. **Ruthenium, Rhodium, Palladium, and Osmium. In Patty's Toxicology (eds E. Bingham, B. Cohrssen and C.H. Powell).** (Book Chapter)

Harris, S.B. and DeSesso, J.M., 2023. **The Status of Developmental and Reproductive Toxicology: The Conundrum of Acquiring Pragmatic Training.** *Current Opinion in Toxicology*, p.100393.

Hot Off the Press: Peer-Reviewed Publications, Reviews, Books, Book Chapters

Holloman, B.L., Cannon, A., Wilson, K., Nagarkatti, P. and Nagarkatti, M., 2023. **Aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation ameliorates acute respiratory distress syndrome through regulation of Th17 and Th22 cells in the lungs.** MBio, 14(2), pp.e03137-22.

Kerger, B.D. and Loccisano, A.E., 2023; accepted for publication. **Chromium, In: Patty's Toxicology** Seventh Edition (eds. Paustenbach DJ; Farland WH; Greim H; Klaunig JE; Levy L). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.

Kerger, B.D., Loccisano, A.E., and Dalton P., 2023. **Case Study: Occupational use, exposures, and environmental chamber studies of human eye and respiratory irritation responses for a peracetic acid-based hospital surface disinfectant.** In: Human and Ecological Risk Assessment: Theory and Practice, Third Edition (ed. Paustenback, DJ). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley

Kerger, B.D., Odo, N.U., and Loccisano, A.E., 2023. **Age-Period-Cohort Analysis of Mesothelioma: Flat Incidence Trends for Males Entering US Workforce After 1972.** Ann Clin Pathol 10(1)

Loccisano, A.E., Bernal, A. and Kerger, B.D., 2023. **Polyhalogenated Biphenyls, In: Patty's Toxicology**, Seventh Edition (eds. Paustenbach DJ; Farland WH; Greim H; Klaunig JE; Levy L). Hoboken, NJ: Wiley. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/0471125474.tox066.pub3>

Loccisano, A. E., Freeman, E., Doi, A., Frericks, M., Fegert, I., Fabian, E., and Riffle, B. 2023. **A new approach methodology using kinetically-derived maximum dose levels in risk assessment—A case study with afidopyropen.** Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, 105429.

Luglio, D.G., Huynh, T., Saporito, A. and Gordon, T., 2023. **Investigation of a river-tunnel effect on PM2. 5 concentrations in New York City subway stations.** Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment, 115, p.103579.

Lynch, H.N., Gloekler, L.E., Allen, L.H., Maskrey, J.R., Bevan, C. and Maier, A., 2023. **Analysis of dermal exposure assessment in the US Environmental Protection Agency Toxic Substances Control Act risk evaluations of chemical manufacturing.** Toxicology and Industrial Health, 39(1), pp.49-65.

Magura, S., Lee-Easton, M.J., Abu-Obaid, R., Reed, P., Allgaier, B., Amaratunga, P., Lorenz-Lemberg, B., Levitas, M. and Achtyes, E.D., 2023. **Comparing presumptive with direct-to-definitive drug testing in oral fluid vs. urine for a US national sample of individuals misusing drugs.** Drug and alcohol dependence, p.110894.

Masuda-Herrera, M., Rosen, H.T., Burild, A., Broschard, T., Griffin, T., Bell, T., Graham, J., Hillegass, J., Leavitt, P., Huta, B. and Parris, T., 2023. **Harmonisation of read-across methodology for drug substance extractables and leachables (E&Ls).** Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology, p.105494.

Monoson, A., Schott, E., Ard, K., Kilburg-Basnyat, B., Tighe, R. M., Pannu, S., and Gowdy, K. M. 2023. **Air pollution and respiratory infections: the past, present, and future.** Toxicological Sciences, 192(1), 3-14.

Hot Off the Press: Peer-Reviewed Publications, Reviews, Books, Book Chapters

Moudgal, C., Anger, L.T., Muster, W., Nguyen, R., Melnikov, F., Siramshetty, V.B. and Graham, J., 2023. **The application of acute oral toxicity computational models in dangerous goods classification.** Toxicology and Industrial Health, p.07482337231209091.

Page, J., Whaley, P., Bellingham, M., Birnbaum, L.S., Cavoski, A., Dilke, D.F., Garside, R., Harrad, S., Kelly, F., Kortenkamp, A. and Martin, O., 2023. **A new consensus on reconciling fire safety with environmental & health impacts of chemical flame retardants.** Environment international, 173, p.107782.

Parris, P., Whelan, G., Burild, A., Whritenour, J., Bruen, U., Bercu, J., Callis, C., Chilton, M.L., Graham, J., Johann, E. and Johnson, C., 2023. **Sensitization Assessment of Extractables and Leachables in Pharmaceuticals: ELSIE Database Analysis.** PDA Journal of Pharmaceutical Science and Technology.

Reiss, R., Loccisano, A.E., Deines, A., Kim, M., Nallani, G., Chandrasekaran, A., and Whatling, P. 2023. **A physiologically-based pharmacokinetic/pharmacodynamic (PBPK/PD) model for the insecticide dimethoate.** Xenobiotica, online ahead of print.

Shearston, J.A., Eazor, J., Lee, L., Vilcassim, M.R., Reed, T.A., Ort, D., Weitzman, M. and Gordon, T., 2023. **Effects of electronic cigarettes and hookah (waterpipe) use on home air quality.** Tobacco control, 32(1), pp.36-41.

Southerland, E. and Birnbaum, L.S., 2023. **What Limits Will the World Health Organization Recommend for PFOA and PFOS in Drinking Water?.** Environmental Science & Technology, 57(18), pp.7103-7105.

Stanaway, I.B., Wallace, J.C., Hong, S., Wilder, C.S., Green, F.H., Tsai, J., Knight, M., Workman, T., Vigoren, E.M., Smith, M.N. and Griffith, W.C., 2023. **Alteration of oral microbiome composition in children living with pesticide-exposed farm workers.** International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health, 248, p.114090.

Sullivan Jr, D.W. and Gad, S.C., 2023. **Eleventh Triennial Toxicology Salary Survey.** International Journal of Toxicology, p.10915818231162914.

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Send your publications and accomplishments to be included in future newsletters! britakilburg@gmail.com

Career Opportunities

(More info on the position & how to apply on [SOT Job Bank](#))

Assistant Professor, tenure track. Seattle, WA; on-site (Job ID: 71540493) The Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences (DEOHS) within the School of Public Health at the University of Washington (UW) invites applications for three tenure-track faculty positions at the rank of Assistant Professor, beginning in Autumn quarter 2024 (12-month full-time appointment). The successful applicant will have expertise in studies of environmental and/or occupational factors and their impacts on human health. A minimum of a PhD (or foreign equivalent) is required. An MD (or foreign equivalent) is also acceptable. Applicants should designate a focus for their application in any major established or evolving discipline within environmental and occupational health sciences. Positive factors for consideration include, but are not limited to, applicants who: describe how their research focus aligns or would align with the overall mission and vision of the Department, describe how their research strengths complement/support existing research focus areas and center activities within the Department, and describe how they can contribute to current or new Environmental Public Health and/or Occupational Health and Safety course instruction. For a full list of responsibilities and qualifications, please visit [SOT Job Bank](#).

Toxicologist, State of Michigan. Remote (Job ID: 71312217) This position evaluates environmental data collected sites of chemical contamination. The toxicologist works in cooperation with other federal, state, and local health and regulatory agencies. The person in this position interacts with the public, local officials, and legislators via meetings, telephone conversations, emails, and field visits, responding to community health concerns and providing information to protect public health. The person in this position is responsible for evaluating environmental, demographic, and health outcome data from chemically contaminated sites, determining whether a public health hazard exists, and documenting the findings in Health Consultations, Public Health Assessment, or other reports. This position is funded by general funds or federal grant funds. All applicants must apply through the State of Michigan NEOGOV site. This position is with the State of Michigan Health and Human Services Department-Bureau of Epidemiology and Population Health-Environmental Health Division. The position is in the Central Office in the Ingham County/Lansing location. For a full list of responsibilities and qualifications, please visit [SOT Job Bank](#).

Postdoctoral Investigator in Molecular Toxicology. Woods Hole, MA. On-site (Job ID: 71701568.) We are seeking a Postdoctoral Investigator (PDI) to conduct research in molecular toxicology. The research will focus on the comparative biology, ligand specificity, and molecular evolution of the aryl hydrocarbon receptor (AHR), a ligand-activated transcription factor that regulates the response of animals (including humans) to endogenous and exogenous chemicals. This position is part of a project funded by the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The overall objective of the project is to elucidate the evolutionary and molecular mechanisms through which the AHR evolved as an environmental sensor recognizing diverse ligands (<https://tinyurl.com/AncAHR>). The successful candidate will work with Drs. Mark Hahn, Sibel Karchner, and Jed Goldstone at WHOI and Dr. Joe Thornton at the University of Chicago. The PDI is expected to work well as part of a collaborative team. This is a temporary, full-time, exempt position, and is eligible for benefits. The appointment is for 18 months with the possibility of an extension based on performance and availability of funding. For additional information and contact information for Dr. Hahn, please see the lab website (<https://www2.who.edu/site/hahnlab/>). For a full list of responsibilities and qualifications, please visit [SOT Job Bank](#).

For more information and other opportunities, please visit the [SOT Job Bank](#)

Comments/Suggestions? Please contact the OPHSS Secretary/Treasurer, Brita Kilburg-Basnyat (britakilburg@gmail.com).

Get Involved in OPHSS – Serve on a Committee!

We greatly appreciate those who volunteer their time to serve on OPHSS Committees!

The 2024 Annual Meeting is coming up, and it takes a village!
Please see page 8 of this newsletter for information regarding specific committees.

We'd Love To Hear From You!

In our next issue, we will highlight OPHSS award winners, OPHSS member accomplishments, and upcoming events of interest to OPHSS.

- Is there an **accomplishment of an OPHSS member** you would like to have highlighted in the next OPHSS newsletter? Let us know about it!
- Do you know of an upcoming **conference/workshop/seminar** or **job opening** of interest to the OPHSS membership?

Please email the OPHSS Secretary/Treasurer Brita Kilburg-Basnyat, britakilburg@gmail.com.



We Look Forward to Seeing You in Salt Lake City, UT!



Thank you for your continued support and involvement in OPHSS!