

CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH IN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

A workshop with Dr. Linda Birnbaum

Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, USA

Monday, February 7th 2011, 8:30am-15:00pm, Kibbutz Tzuba

8:30-9:00 Registration and coffee

9:00 Cutting-edge research in environment and health

- Dr. Linda Birnbaum - Complex chronic diseases, etiologies and exposures, health effects of chemical mixtures, new integrative research methodologies.

Discussion

Selected challenges in Israel – Presentations and discussion

10:00 Exposure to low-dose hazardous chemicals in water and the food chain

- Prof. Benny Chefetz, Hebrew University - Pharmaceutical compounds in soil and food
- Dr. Efrat Rorman, Ministry of Health - Low-dose hazardous chemical compounds in recycled wastewater
 - Discussant: Dr. Linda Birnbaum – Studying health effects of low-dose exposures to chemicals in water and the food chain
 - Discussant: Dr. Tamar Berman, Ministry of Health – Policy and research questions given the paucity of scientific knowledge

Discussion

11:10 Indoor air pollution – environmental hazards and health outcomes

- Dr. Eric Amster, Haifa University - Indoor air quality and potential health effects in Israel
 - Discussant: Dr. Linda Birnbaum
 - Discussant: Ms. Pola Orenstein, Ministry of Environmental Protection - Monitoring and regulation of indoor air in Israel

Discussion

BREAK

Understanding the etiology of complex diseases through environmental research

12:15 Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma

- Dr. Shlomit Paz, Haifa University - Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma and residence near roads with heavy traffic
- Prof. Ora Paltiel, Hebrew University - Non-Hodgkin Lymphoma in Israel: pesticide exposures
 - Discussant: Prof. Siegal Sadetzki, Director, Cancer and Radiation Epidemiology Unit, Gertner Institute
 - Discussant: Dr. Linda Birnbaum

13:00 Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)

- Dr. Raz Gross, Gertner Institute - Autism in Israel
 - Discussant: Prof. Yoram Finkelstein, Shaare Zedek Medical Center - Neurological disorders and environmental toxicants: insights and observations
 - Discussant: Dr. Linda Birnbaum
- ❖ Respondent: Prof. Itamar Grotto, Ministry of Health - Disease trends, environmental exposures and the science-policy challenges

Discussion

14:00 Cutting edge science and the implications for policy

- Dr. Linda Birnbaum, novel approaches to using research for assessment of population risk; Who is environmental legislation designed to protect: susceptible populations or the average person? How does the NIEHS contribute to evidence-based policy?

Discussion