SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

ACTIVITIES 2015 – 2018

Paolo CARRER – Dpt Biomedical and Clinical Sciences, University of Milan, Italy
paolo.carrer@unimi.it

Peder WOLKOFF – National Center for Working Environment, Copenhagen, Denmark
pwo@nrcwe.dk

Business Meeting
ICOH CONFERENCE 2018 - Dublin
May 1 (Tue) 17.30-18.30 – Liffey Meeting Room 3A
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

- Members
- Activities 2015 - 2018
- Consensus Document
- Activities 2018 - 2021
- Appointment SC Chairperson and Secretary 2018-2021

Business Meeting
ICOH CONFERENCE  2018 — Dublin
May 1 (Tue) 17.30-18.30 – Liffey Meeting Room 3A
ICOH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE - INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH 2015 - 2018

**Chairman:** Paolo CARRER – University of Milan, Italy

**Secretary:** Peder WOLKOFF – National Center for Working Environment, Copenhagen, Denmark

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>INSTITUTION</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>NATION</th>
<th>EMAIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>ABRITTI Giuseppe</td>
<td>Hokkaido University - School of Medicine</td>
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<td>University of Milan - Occupational and Environmental Health</td>
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<td>CARRER Paolo (Chair)</td>
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<td>Occ H, Public H &amp; ENT Consultant</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:rkishi@med.hokudai.ac.jp">rkishi@med.hokudai.ac.jp</a></td>
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ICOH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

ASSESSMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF INDOOR AIR QUALITY PROBLEMS IN INDOOR ENVIRONMENTS

- ACTIVITIES 2015 - 2018

Business Meeting
ICOH CONFERENCE 2018 – Dublin
May 1 (Tue) 17.30-18.30 – Liffey Meeting Room 3A
From ICOH WEBSITE link to

**Indoor Air Quality and Health**

Website now available [www.dbic.unimi.it/ecm/home/rapport-internazionali/icoh](http://www.dbic.unimi.it/ecm/home/rapport-internazionali/icoh)

Scientific Committees Reports Triennium 2012-2015 now available here.

Officers for Triennium 2015-2018
ICOH SC IAQ Scientific Committee: Indoor Air Quality and Health

International Commission on Occupational Health

Chair: Prof. Paolo Carrer, Occupational Health, University of Milan (Italy) - paolo.carrer@unimi.it

Secretary: Peder Wolkoff, National Research Centre for the Working Environment, Copenhagen (Denmark) - pwo@nrcwe.dk

The occupational health services are increasingly requested in non-industrial building sectors (offices, banks, schools, etc.). Workers employed in such environments account for the major part of the labour force in many countries. Effects on health, well-being, and productivity have been increasingly reported during the last decades. The indoor air quality (IAQ) in non-industrial buildings is an issue of growing concern and, synergies with psychosocial stress may potentially be important. IAQ in office buildings is an issue of increasing interest also because it deals with workers providing services of the highest relevance for the companies/communities. The office type could play a role in the prevalence of symptoms and sickness absence. The concern regarding productivity is not only related to absenteeism and associated diseases due to the work environment (IAQ), but it may also result from less comfortable working conditions.

WEB SITE at: http://www.dibic.unimi.it/ecm/home/rapporti-internazionali/icoh
SC IAQ and HEALTH WEBSITE

DOCUMENTS

International Commission on Occupational Health
Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission

Symposium IA ICOH Ghent 2016

Mandin VOC in office

Carrer Health effects

Azuma building related symptoms

Wolkoff Eye risks

Bartzis IAQ

Abstract - Assessment and management of risk factors and adverse effects in the modern office environment
This topic has been discussed by experts during a special session at the Indoor Air Conference and in meeting/special session organized by the Scientific Committee on Indoor Air Quality and Health of the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH).
Assessment and management of risk factors and adverse effects in the modern office environment

P. Carrer, P. Wolkoff, J. Bartzis

Volatile organic compounds in office buildings: identification of major sources and intervention study to reduce indoor concentrations
C. Mandin

Health effects of Indoor Air Quality in European modern office buildings
P. Carrer

Physicochemical risk factors for building-related symptoms: thermal conditions and combined exposures to indoor air pollutants
K. Azuma

Why eye symptoms in aircraft and offices?
P. Wolkoff

Indoor air quality audit management in modern office buildings
J. Bartzis

Discussion and Conclusions
Role of occupational health services in the assessment and management of indoor air quality problems in offices

Paolo Carrer  
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Peder Wolkoff  
National Research Centre for the Working Environment,  
Copenhagen, Denmark  
e-mail: pwo@nrcew.dk

Abstract
The indoor air quality (IAQ) and its impact on health, comfort, and work-performance is an issue of increasing concern in office workers that account for the major part of the labour force in non-industrial buildings in many countries. Experts of the Scientific Committee on Indoor Air Quality and Health of the ICOH have discussed the assessment and management of IAQ problems and proposed a stepwise approach to be conducted by a multidisciplinary team. It is recommended to integrate the building assessment, inspection by walk-through of the company workplace, questionnaire survey, and environmental measurements, in that order. Questionnaire should cover questions about perceived IAQ, symptoms and psychosocial working aspects. The outcome can be used for mapping the perceived IAQ and to prioritize the order in which the problems should be dealt with. Individual health surveillance in relation to IAQ is proposed only when periodical health surveillance is already performed for other risks (e.g. Video Display Units) or when specific clinical examination of workers...
Assessment of Indoor Air Quality Problems in Office-Like Environments: Role of Occupational Health Services

Paolo Carrer 1 and Peder Wolkoff 2,*

1 Department of Biomedical and Clinical Sciences “L. Sacco”, University of Milan, 20157 Milan, Italy; paolo.carrer@unimi.it
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Received: 19 March 2018; Accepted: 9 April 2018; Published: 12 April 2018

Abstract: There is an increasing concern about indoor air quality (IAQ) and its impact on health, comfort, and work-performance in office-like environments and their workers, which account for most of the labor force. The Scientific Committee on Indoor Air Quality and Health of the ICOH (Int. Comm. Occup. Health) has discussed the assessment and management of IAQ problems and proposed a stepwise approach to be conducted by a multidisciplinary team. It is recommended to integrate the building assessment, inspection by walk-through of the office workplace, questionnaire survey, and environmental measurements, in that order. The survey should cover perceived IAQ, symptoms, and psychosocial working aspects. The outcome can be used for mapping the IAQ and to prioritize the order in which problems should be dealt with. Individual health surveillance in relation to IAQ is proposed only when periodical health surveillance is already performed for other risks (e.g., video display units) or when specific clinical examination of workers is required due to the occurrence of diseases that may be linked to IAQ (e.g., Legionnaire’s disease), recurrent inflammation, infections of eyes, respiratory airway effects, and sensorial disturbances. Environmental and personal risk factors should also be compiled and assessed. Workplace health promotion should include programs for smoking cessation and stress and IAQ management.

Keywords: comfort; indoor air quality; management; offices; sickness; symptoms
Role of occupational health services in the assessment and management of indoor air quality problems in offices

1. Collaboration in risk assessment – risk management
   . Integrate Building assessment (walk-through and check-list), Questionnaire survey, and if necessary Environmental measurements
   . Evaluation of the combined results and definition of the risk management activities

2. Health surveillance
   • Medical examination for specific indoor problem
   • Periodical medical surveillance only if already performed for other risks (e.g. work with video display units).

3. Health promotion
   smoking cessation, stress management, IAQ management
COOPERATION WITH NON-ICOH ORGANIZATIONS

European Commission, Institute For Health And Consumer Protection, Joint Research Centre:

- Participation in the European Collaborative Action working group “Harmonization framework for health based evaluation of indoor emissions from construction products in the European Union using the EU-LCI concept”
  - ECA Report 29 "Harmonization framework for health based evaluation of indoor emissions from construction products in the European Union using the EU-LCI concept"

- Participation in EU DG ENERGY Collaborative Action “High energy efficient buildings, indoor air quality and health”.
  - Report JRC Science for Policy Report “Promoting healthy and energy efficient buildings in Europe"

- Participation in the European Collaborative Action working group “Health-based ventilation guidelines”.
Abstract

Promoting healthy and energy-efficient buildings in the European Union

EU Member States have been developing policies and measures to generally reduce the actual energy use of their buildings. Member States are called to properly implement and enforce the Energy Performance of Buildings Directive recast (2010/31/EU) without compromising the comfort, health and productivity of their occupants.

The objective of this report is three-fold: (a) to present the outcome of the review carried out concerning the implementation status by the EU MS of provisions relating to ventilation, indoor air quality and energy performance criteria and requirements; (b) assess whether the current implementation status can ensure avoiding possible negative effects on the comfort, health and productivity conditions of the buildings’ occupants in EU; (c) formulating policy and technical related recommendations to enable the effective implementation of healthy and energy efficient buildings in the EU.

This work was performed in the context of Task 13.3 of the Administrative Arrangement TSSEED between DG ENER and JRC no. ENER/C3/2014-554/Sl2.693948 (2015-2017) with the aim to directly inform the review process of the EU energy efficiency legislation in 2016.
Harmonisation framework for health based evaluation of indoor emissions from construction products in the European Union using the EU-LCI concept

Abstract


This report describes a harmonised procedure for establishing a list of compounds and their associated LCI (Lowest Concentration of Interest) values for the evaluation of emissions from construction products (EU-LCI) taking into account existing procedures used in some Member States (i.e. ANSES in France and AgBB in Germany). It provides an appropriate health-protective, science-based and transparent yet pragmatic approach with a flexible framework that enables review of the EU-LCI procedure to take into account new knowledge (e.g. data resulting from the REACH implementation process) for future revision of the EU-LCI master list in terms of both the compounds listed and their EU-LCI values.
Framework for health-based ventilation guidelines in Europe

Abstract


The present report describes the findings and recommendations of the project “Health-based ventilation guidelines for Europe (HealthVent)” funded by the European Commission’s Directorate General for Health and Consumers in the framework of the Second Programme of Community Action in the Field of Health (2008-2013). The HealthVent project surveyed and examined the data published in archival journals and the existing air quality guidelines and developed a framework for creating health-based ventilation guidelines applicable to public and residential buildings in Europe. The consequences of implementing these guidelines were assessed bearing in mind future trends in the built environment, and considering energy efficiency and environmental sustainability criteria. Recommendations for future policies and research were identified and suggested.
**Abstract**

This report is the executive summary of the final report of the SINPHONIE (Schools Indoor Pollution and Health: Observatory Network in Europe) project. SINPHONIE was funded by the European Parliament and carried out under a contract with the European Commission’s Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) (SANCO/2009/C4/04, contract SI2.570742).

The SINPHONIE project established a scientific/technical network to act at the EU level with the long-term perspective of improving air quality in schools and kindergartens, thereby reducing the risk and burden of respiratory diseases among children and teachers potentially due to outdoor and indoor air pollution. At the same time, the project supports future policy actions by formulating guidelines, recommendations and risk management options for better air quality and associated health effects in schools.
COOPERATION WITH IAQ SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCES

▪ Healthy Buildings 2015 – Eindhoven, The Netherlands
▪ Indoor Air 2016 – Leuven, Belgium
WEDNESDAY 13:30 - 15:00  SENAATSZAAL

SESSION 8  F/E

Orals

Bartzis, Ioannis  University of Western Macedonia
Carrer, Paolo  University of Milan

Effects of exposure to carbon dioxide and human bioeffluents on human subjective responses.

403  ZHANG, X.J., WARGOCKI, P.  F.2

Olfactometric determination of the odour detection threshold and the identification threshold of Naphthalene.

569  LISOW, W., KÖHLER, M.K.  F.

Relationship between health symptoms and indoor air qualities of different age groups.

626  BHATTACHARJEE, S., WACHTER, H.P.  F.2

An intervention study on indoor air pollution sources in modern office buildings: Results from the OFFICAIR Project.

623  CARRER, P.  F.1

On the reduction of health effects from combined exposure to indoor air pollutants in modern offices: The OFFICAIR Project.

414  BARTZIS, J.B.  E.1

Effect of partitioning furniture size on airborne infection risk in multi-bed ward.

452  SUZUKI, M.S.  E.2
ID26 Assessment and management of risk factors and adverse effects in the modern office environment - P. Carrer, P. Wolkoff, J. Bartzis

There is an increasingly request to assess the risk and monitor the health status of workers in modern office buildings. This symposia is promoted by the Scientific Committee on Indoor Air Quality and Health of the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) and the topic will be discussed by researchers of projects performed in modern offices. Modern office buildings are built with the use of new components, materials, equipment, and together with the use of consumer products and the outdoor air reflect the indoor air quality (IAQ); furthermore, the emitted pollutants from office equipment (ozone, primary VOCs, and particles) and secondary VOCs derived from reactive indoor air chemistry are of concern. The exposure load is a variety of chemical, physical, biological, ergonomic, and psychosocial hazards with a potentially high and diversified impact of work-related health problems. An integrated team approach and management is recommended for periodical risk assessment and specific indoor problem solving, through an integration of building assessment, questionnaire survey, and environmental measurements.
Indoor Air Quality and Acute Health Effects in offices: What have we learned?
NIVA Education
NRCWE, Copenhagen, Denmark 21 – 22.3.2018
Advanced education in occupational health

Strong Nordic cooperation within the field of occupational health and safety promotes a healthy Nordic work environment.

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### Indoor Air Quality and Acute Health Effects in offices: What have we learned?

NRCWE, Copenhagen, Denmark
21 – 22.3.2018

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#### Preliminary Program

**Wednesday, March 21st 2018: Health Symptoms in Offices**

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<tr>
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<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>12.45-13.00</td>
<td>NIVA welcome</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00-13.30</td>
<td>Health symptoms in office workers: An international perspective</td>
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<td>13.30-14.00</td>
<td>Psychological factors impacting symptom reporting in offices and treatment</td>
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<td>14.00-14.30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>14.30-14.50</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.30-15.00</td>
<td>Can neurogenic inflammation and sensitization explain indoor air health problems?</td>
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<td>15.00-15.30</td>
<td>Work disability associated with indoor air problems</td>
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<td>15.30-15.40</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.40-16.00</td>
<td>Odor impact on health and work performance from indoor air exposure</td>
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<td>16.10-16.40</td>
<td>Are asthmatics more susceptible than non-asthmatics?</td>
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<td>16.40-17.00</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>17.00-18.00</td>
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**Thursday, March 22nd 2018:**

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<td>9.00-9.10</td>
<td>Key findings from Day 1</td>
<td>Paolo Carrer, Peder Wolkoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.10-9.50</td>
<td>Impact of indoor air chemistry/quality in schools?</td>
<td>Tunga Salthammer</td>
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<tr>
<td>9.50-10.20</td>
<td>Strategies to control the emission from construction products: an European view</td>
<td>Derrick Crump</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.20-10.30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30-10.50</td>
<td>Coffee</td>
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<td>10.50-11.10</td>
<td>Indoor air chemistry - comfort and acute health effects</td>
<td>Peder Wolkoff</td>
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<td>11.10-11.50</td>
<td>Impact of humidity on IAQ and indoor health</td>
<td>Peder Wolkoff</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.50-12.10</td>
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<td>12.10-12.30</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00-13.30</td>
<td>Formaldehyde: Cancer or no cancer indoors?</td>
<td>Gunnar D. Nielsen</td>
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<td>13.30-14.00</td>
<td>Combined ozone and dust exposure: controlled chamber studies</td>
<td>Torben Sigsgaard</td>
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<td>14.00-14.15</td>
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<td>14.15-14.30</td>
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<td>14.30-15.00</td>
<td>How does ventilation impact health and work performance in offices?</td>
<td>Pawel Wargocki</td>
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<td>15.00-15.30</td>
<td>Fragrances in indoor air and health effects</td>
<td>Peder Wolkoff</td>
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<td>15.30-15.45</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>15.45-16.00</td>
<td>Closure and goodbye</td>
<td>Cecilia Weckman, Peder Wolkoff</td>
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COOPERATION WITH OTHER ICOH SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

- Collaboration with SC on “Rural Health, Agriculture, Pesticides and Organic Dusts SC”
- International Congress on Rural Health, September 2015, Italy

Wednesday, September 9 2015
Auditorium
Keynote Lectures
Chairs: Claudio Colosio – Josè Manuel Lopez Abuin

10.00 – 10.30
Paolo Carrer:
Indoor air pollution in rural areas: a priority for public health
The NEW Lodi Declaration on Rural Health
Adopted by the International Congress on Rural Health (ICRH)
and the 4th International Conference
Ragusa Safety Health Welfare in Agriculture Agro-Food and Forestry Systems (Ragusa SHWA)

Signed in Lodi, September 11th 2015

Claudio Colosio, ICRH President
Giampaolo Schillaci, Ragusa SHWA President
Tanja Pekez Pavlisko, President, EURIPA; Vice Chair WONCA Working Party on Rural Practice,
Hans Joaquín Hamaich, President, IARM and Shuzo Shintani, Secretary General, IARM
Julida Takala, President, ICOH and Gert van der Laan, Chair, the ICOH Scientific Committee on Rural Health, ICOH

IAQ IN RURAL ENVIRONMENTS

Whereas children and women working in agriculture are especially vulnerable to occupational and environmental risks, in addition to consequences arising from the unavailability of basic health service and inadequate housing, in particular from household fuel combustion,

13. We urge the agricultural sector to realize its responsibility for healthy working and housing conditions by expanding suitable measures for workers and farms and by providing financial means for scientific and educational developments to support such measures;

8. We will dedicate a significant part of our scientific and professional efforts to create useful, accessible, simple and low-cost tools for occupational, indoor and environmental risk assessment, communication and management;
At ICOH 2018 Dublin

Oral Session

Indoor Air Quality and Health
May 1 (Tue) 13.40-15.10
Level 1, Liffey Meeting Room 2A

Special Session

Indoor Air Quality in Modern Office Buildings
May 3 (Thu) 15.30-17.00
Level 1, Liffey B

Poster Session

Indoor Air Quality and Health
Indoor Air Quality in Modern Office Buildings

Paolo CARRER: *Indoor air quality and health effects in European modern office buildings: main results from the OFFICAIR study*

Peder WOLKOFF: *Indoor air humidity and health – an overview*

Markku SAINIO: *Indoor Air Related Environmental Intolerance*

Paolo CARRER: *Role of occupational health services in the assessment and management of indoor air quality problems in offices*
SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

INDOOR AIR QUALITY AND HEALTH

Activities 2018 - 2021

- Collaborations with ICOH (Work and Vision, Work Organisation and Psychosocial Factors, Allergy and Immunotoxicology Respiratory disorders) and non ICOH committees
- Organisations/collaborations in IAQ events
- New Paper / Consensus document on IAQ
- New members

Appointment Chairperson and Secretary 2018/2021
- Chairperson Peder Wolkoff
- Secretary Paolo Carrer

Other candidates are welcome