

2008 Wyoming Children's Environmental Health Workshop

**September 29-30, 2008
Casper, Wyoming**



Sponsored by:
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8
Rocky Mountain Region Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit
Wyoming Department of Public Health
Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality

For Workshop and Registration Information, visit:
<http://www.epa.gov/region8/humanhealth/children/CasperWorkshop.html>



Background

Children may be more vulnerable to environmental exposures than adults, and there is clear evidence that they may face health and development risks from environmental contaminants because:

- children's neurological, immunological, respiratory, digestive, and other physical systems are still developing and may be more easily harmed by exposure to any number of factors in the environment;
- children eat more, drink more, and breathe more than adults in proportion to their body weight—their food, water, and air therefore must be especially safe;
- children play and learn by crawling and placing hands and objects in their mouths, increasing their chances of exposure to environmental contaminants;
- children have unique exposure pathways, such as through the placenta and breast milk; and,
- children have limited ability to communicate and urge action about their environment and their health; others must act on their behalf.

Linking the environment to disease and disease processes is poorly studied and poorly understood. Furthermore, formal training in children's environmental health (CEH) is limited, if even available. Health care providers at all educational levels should have an understanding of these important issues and be able to practically apply basic CEH principles and consider the environment as a component of diseases seen in children.

It is important to develop strong partnerships and networks across government agencies, health and environmental organizations, health care providers, educators, and the general public to take steps to protect children's health from the variety of contaminants and pollutants that may affect them in the air they breathe, the water they drink, and the food they eat. We must work together to ensure that their homes, schools, and playgrounds provide the necessary environmental conditions for normal growth and development. We need to focus on preventing unnecessary exposures as a first-line defense against harmful environmental pollutants while we continue to improve environmental protections and health outcomes.

Workshop Goals

1. Increase the ability of health, environmental, and education professionals to identify, prevent, and reduce environmental health threats to children.
2. Share information, "best practices", resources, and emerging science regarding protection of children from environmental hazards.

3. Encourage coordination and information sharing across government agencies, health organizations, health care providers, educators, and the general public in addressing children's environmental health issues.

4. Provide public health professionals with an opportunity to identify/implement effective children's health strategies in advance of Children's Health Month in October.

Who Should Attend?

- State and Local Agency Representatives
- Health Professionals
- Environmental Professionals
- Health Care Providers
- Day Care Providers
- School Administrators
- Teachers
- Facility Managers
- School nurses
- Child/Youth organizations
- Parents, and
- The General Public

Location

The 2008 Wyoming Children's Environmental Health Workshop is being held at the Casper Hilton Garden Inn, located at 1150 N. Poplar Road, Casper, Wyoming, USA 82601, Telephone: (307) 266-1300. Traveling north or south bound on I-25 take exit 188B (Poplar St). Head north on Poplar St. The Hilton Garden Inn is located on the left hand side about 0.5 miles. <http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=CPRCAGI>

AGENDA

Monday, September 29th (day 1)

11:30 pm – 12:30 pm Registration

12:30 pm – 1:00 pm Welcome/Opening Remarks

Dr. Brent D. Sherard, Director, Wyoming Department of Health and State Health Officer (confirmed)

Todd Parfitt, Deputy Director, Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (confirmed)

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm

Keynote Address: Protecting Children from Environmental Contaminants (include topics such as CEH 101, Environmental Health Disparities, and legislative updates on children's products)

Amy Kyle, PhD, MPH, Environmental Health Sciences Division, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley (confirmed)

2:00 pm – 2:15 pm Break

2:15 - 3:30

Current and Future Children's Environmental Health Resources and Opportunities

- 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units (PEHSUs)
Mark Anderson, MD, Director, Rocky Mountain Region PEHSU (confirmed)
- 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm The National Children's Study (NCS)
Sean Firth, Sean D. Firth, Ph.D., M.P.H., Project Director, NCS Utah Vanguard Center, Department of Pediatrics, Primary Children's Medical Center, University of Utah Health Sciences Center (confirmed)
- 3:15 pm – 3:30 pm Panel Qs & As and Discussion

3:30 - 3:45

Break (coffee/snack service)

3:45 - 5:00

Emerging Issues in Children's Environmental Health

- 3:45 pm – 4:15 pm School Chemical Cleanouts
Matthew M. Langenfeld, MS, QEP, REM, CEA, School Chemical Cleanout Coordinator, Pollution Prevention, and Toxics Unit, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (invited)
- 4:15 pm – 4:45 pm Emerging Contaminants of Concern (Endocrine disruptors, PBDEs, PFOAs, Pesticides, etc)
Kristen Keteles, Toxicologist, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8 (confirmed)
- 4:45 pm – 5:00 pm Panel Qs & As and Discussion

5:00 pm

Adjourn meeting for day

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Networking Reception (light snack/beverages)

Tuesday, September 30th (day 2)

7:30 am – 8:00 am Continental Breakfast

8:00 am – 9:45 am Increasing the Ability of Health Care Providers to Identify, Prevent, and Reduce Environmental Health Threats to Children

- 8:00 am – 8:45 am Public Health Nursing and EnviRN
Brenda M Afzal, RN, MS, Environmental Health and Education Center, University of Maryland School of Nursing (confirmed)
- 8:45 am – 9:30 am Integrating Environmental Health into Pediatric Health Care Practice (Asthma and Lead Poisoning Case Studies)
Mark Anderson, MD, Director, Rocky Mountain Region Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit (confirmed)
- 9:30 am – 9:45 am Panel Qs & As and Discussion

9:45 am – 10:00 am Break (coffee/snack service)

10:00 am – 11:15 am Providing a Healthy Home Environment for Your Children

Michael Vogel, Ed.D., Professor, Montana State University – Extension Service, Housing and Environmental Health Program (confirmed)

- 9:30 am – 9:45 am Qs & As and Discussion

11:15 am – 12:15 pm Moderated Discussion: Creating and Maintaining a WY Children's Environmental Health Network

Moderator: Timothy P. Ryan, MS, PhD, Environmental Public Health Section Chief Wyoming Department of Health (confirmed)

12:15 pm – 12:30 pm Closure/Adjourn Workshop

Our Keynote Speaker

Amy Kyle, PhD, MPH, Environmental Health Sciences Division, School of Public Health, University of California, Berkeley.



Amy D. Kyle has research and teaching appointments at the School of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley. She is a co-investigator at the Center for Excellence in Environmental Public Health Tracking, leader of the research translation core for the Superfund Basic Research Program, and co-investigator with colleagues at the US Environmental Protection Agency on America's Children and the Environment. Her research focuses on translation of scientific results for policy and stakeholder audiences, methods to link science and policy, and children's environmental health. Early in her career, she spent 13 years in public service in environmental protection, natural resources management, and public health and retains a keen interest in improving public health practice. She received her MPH and her PhD in environmental health sciences and policy from the University of California at Berkeley and her BA from Harvard College. Her current professional activities include: Elected Councilor, Environment Section, American Public Health Association 2005–2007; National Academy of Sciences, Committee on Emerging Issues and Data on Environmental Contaminants 2004–2006; and, Co-chair, California Breast Cancer Research Program Council 2006–2007.