A Partner Perspective



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The Ostrich and the OBGYN: A Look at Reproductive Health and the Environment

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2015

GOAL: Highlight how environmental medicine is being advanced in primary care practice and the role that ATSDR plays with its partners in health care!



Disclosures

I have no conflicts of interest to declare.



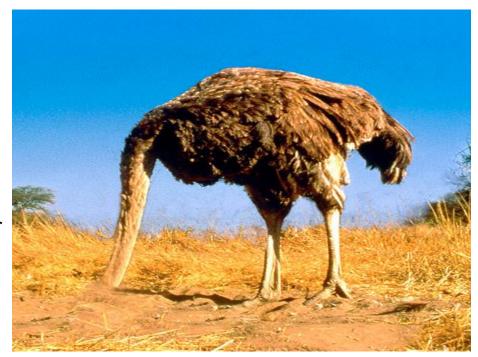
Lead in Lipstick



Why Do We Not Address Environmental Issues?

Medical Providers do not discuss environmental impacts on health because:

- A. The research is lacking
- B. We are not comfortable with the topic
- C. There are no data to support the topic historically
- D. We have more important topics to discuss
- E. We follow the ostrich approach: we hide our heads unless we can give a full and complete answer, or solve the problem
- F. We really are unaware that there is a problem
 - We do, we just have not realized it (blood sugar, hypertension)





Reproductive Health and the Environment

What is "The Environment"?





"ENVIRONMENT" Includes:

- Industrial chemicals
- Agricultural chemicals
- Physical agents (heat, radiation)
- By-products of combustion and industrial processes

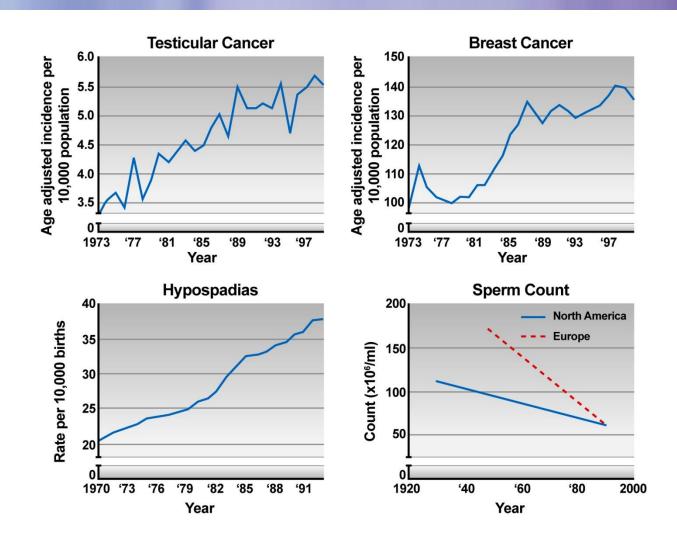
(dioxin)

- Foods and nutrients
- Prescription drugs
- Lifestyle choices and substance abuse
- Social and economic factors



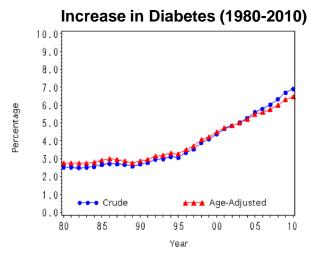


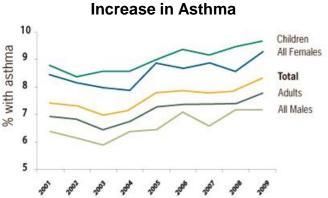
Should We Be Concerned?



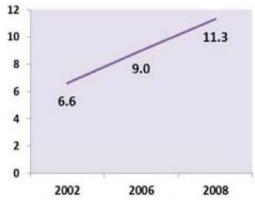


Should We Be Concerned?

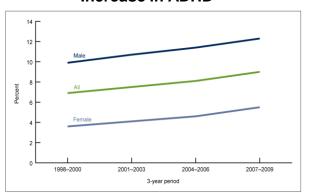




Increase in Autism Prevalence



Increase in ADHD







We have forgotten the history

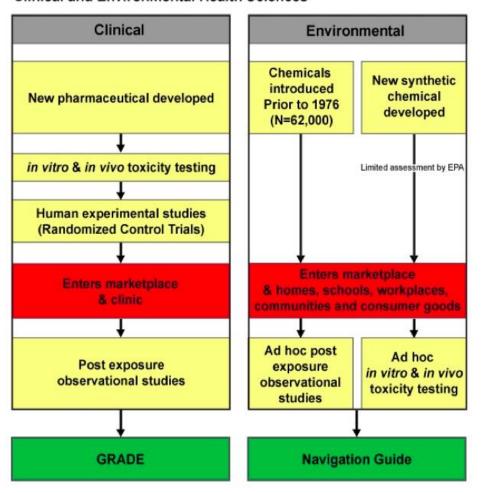
- Diethylstilbestrol in the 1950's
- Methyl mercury in the 1960's

...And Endocrine Disruptors of the twenty-first century



Navigating the Science

Figure 1. Streams of Evidence for Chemical Toxicity Assessment in Clinical and Environmental Health Sciences



Pharmaceuticals must show efficacy and safety *prior to exposing humans*

Manufactured chemicals need to show evidence of harm *prior to removing human exposure*

Woodruff TJ, Sutton P and the Navigation Guide Work Group. An Evidence-Based Medicine Methodology To Bridge The Gap Between Clinical And Environmental Health Sciences Health Affairs, 30, no.5 (2011):931-937



ACOG/ASRM Committee Opinion

All exposures are not created equal



Work Matters

When you work with or around toxic chemicals, what you know really matters.



Are you pregnant? Or are you planning to become pregnant?

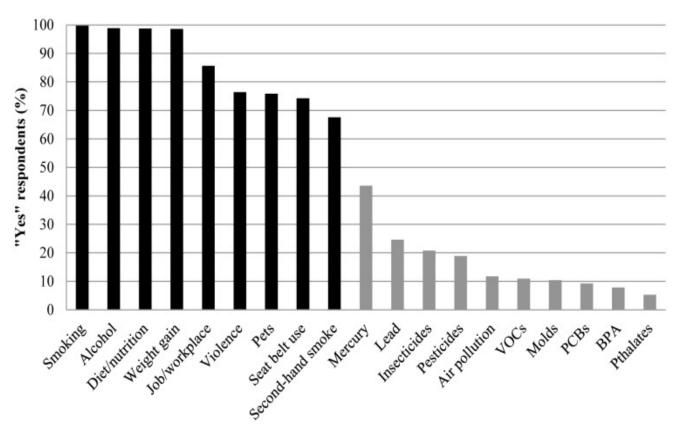
Are you exposed to chemicals at work?

If so, the information in this booklet can help you.

Women of reproductive age with occupational exposure to toxic chemicals are highly vulnerable to adverse reproductive health outcomes



Reproductive Health Professionals



Environmental Exposures

American Journal of Obstetrics & Gynecology. Volume 207, Issue 3, Pages 164–173, September 2012







COMMITTEE OPINION

The American College of Obstetricians and Cynecologists Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women Number 575, October 2013

American Society for Reproductive Medicine Practice Committee

This Committee Opinion was developed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Committee on Health Care for Underserved Women and the American Society for Reproductive Medicine Practice Committee with the assistance of the University California, San Francisco (UCSF) Program on Reproductive Health and the Environment. The Program on Reproductive Health and Environment endorses this document. This document reflects emerging clinical and scientific advances as of the date issued an subject to change. This information should not be construed as dictating an exclusive course of treatment or procedure to be

Exposure to Toxic Environmental Agents

ABSTRACT: Reducing exposure to toxic environmental agents is a critical area of intervention for obstetricians, gynecologists, and other reproductive health care professionals. Patient exposure to toxic environmental cher other stressors is ubiquitous, and preconception and prenatal exposure to toxic environmental agents can ha and lasting effect on reproductive health across the life course. Prenatal exposure to certain chemicals has by to increase the risk of cancer in childhood; adult male exposure to pesticides is linked to altered semen qui prostate cancer, and postnatal exposure to some pesticides can interfere with all developmental stages of function in adult females, including puberty, menstruation and ovulation, fertility and fecundity, and men environmental factors harmful to reproductive health disproportionately affect vulnerable and undersery which leaves some populations, including underserved women, more vulnerable to adverse reproductive other populations. The evidence that links exposure to toxic environmental agents and adverse reprod developmental health outcomes is sufficiently robust, and the American College of Obstetricians and American Society for Reproductive Medicine join leading scientists and other clinical practitioners in



Scientific Impact Paper No. 37

Chemical Exposures During Pregnancy: Dealing with Potential, but Unproven, Risks to Child Health

> ACOG THE AMERICAN CONGRESS **OF OBSTETRICIANS** AND GYNECOLOGISTS



Recommendation 1: Advocate for policies to prevent exposure to toxic environmental chemicals

Recommendation 2:

Work to ensure a healthy food system for all



Work to ensure a healthy food system for all



Champion environmental justice

Recommendation 3:

Make environmental health part of health care



Champion environmental justice





International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/ijgo

International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics opinion on SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

reproductive health impacts of exposure to toxic

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- ARTICLE INFO

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ABSTRACT

Exposure to toxic environmental chemicals during pregnancy and breastfeeding is ubiquitous bealthy human reproduction. There are tens of thousands of chemicals in global commence. neamy numen reproduction. There are tests of thousands for continues or special continues. Exposition of the continues of the posures to toxic chemicals during pregnancy can trigger adverse health consequences. Exportinental chemicals and related health outcomes are inequitably distributed within any THERMICALS AND TEMPORAL MINISTERS OF THE THEORY AND THE THEORY OF THE THE THEORY OF THE THE THEORY OF THE THE THEORY OF THE THEORY OF THE THEORY OF THE THEORY OF THE THEO universally, the consequences of exposure are disproportionately bome by people with intion, other social factors, economic factors, and occupation impact risk of exposure and y DOR, Other SOCIAL TAXOES, ECONOMIC EXCEPTS, and OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OF EXPOSURE AND INCOME. THE OFFICE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OF EXPOSURE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OF EXPOSURE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OF EXPOSURE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OFFICE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OFFICE AND OCCUPATION IMPACT THE OCCUPATION IMPACT T between prenatal exposure to environmental chemicals and adverse health outcome include impacts on fertility and pregnancy, neurodevelopment, and cancer. The global control of the contro include impacts on retriny and pregnativy, neurodevelopment, and cancer, the good den related to toxic environmental chemicals is in excess of millions of deaths and y ORI PERIOR IN TOXIC ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMICALS IS IN EXCESS OF INITIAL OF ARTHUR AND TO THE BASIS OF ACCUMULATING FORUSE EVIDENCE OF EXPOSITIVES AND Adverse Williams of Proceedings of the Adverse of the A On the basis of accumulating robust evidence of exposures and adverse health (reprinted chemicals, the International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics (FE) mental chemicas, the memanonal repeats on or cynecology and conservas (4) ductive braith professional societies in calling for timely action to prevent) discrive meanth professional societies in casing for timely action to prevent reproductive and other health professionals advocate for policies to prevent g reproductive and other health professionals advocate for posteries to prevent themicals, work to ensure a healthy fixed system for all, make environment. mampion environmental justice. © 2015 Published by Elsevier freland Ltd. on behalf of International Feder

champion environmental justice.



ENDORSED BY THE FOLLOWING HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES



















European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology

SUPPORTED BY THE FOLLOWING HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES



Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine Publications Committee

ACOG THE AMERICAN CONGRESS **OF OBSTETRICIANS** AND GYNECOLOGISTS

Ob-Gyns & Prevention



Food Matters: What to Eat?

Your health depends on the food you eat.

The health of communities and the environment we depend on for life are also impacted by how food is grown and how it gets to your dinner plate.

This brochure provides tips for making food choices to protect your health and the health of your family and community.

The brochure also provides many more resources to learn more about how the food we eat impacts our health. For more information, visit: http://www.prhe.ucsf.edu/prhe/foodmatters .html

There are many ways to make a difference. Here are some suggestions to get started.

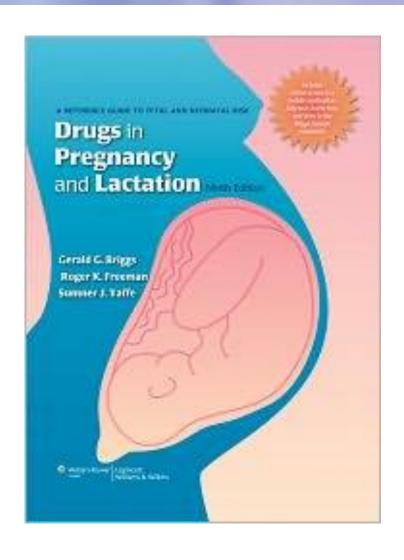
Ob-gyns don't need to be experts in environmental health to provide useful information to patients.

However, they should:

- Be familiar with their geographic area
- Take an exposure history early
- Provide information about how the food system affects health
- Communicate the science and areas of uncertainties about environmental exposures



Our Vision



- Open the "environmental equivalent" of *Drugs in Pregnancy and Lactation*
- Have an easy on-line resource, click on bisphenol a and see what to recommend
- Clinicians to KNOW to ask about exposures



Reproductive Health and the Environment

- PEHSU: Pediatric and Reproductive Health
- ATSDR: partnering with leaders in OBGYN, occupational medicine
- The Endocrine Society
- ACOG
- FIGO: international work group





Questions?

Please enter questions in the chat box.

Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

4770 Buford Highway NE, Atlanta, GA 30341

Telephone: 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)/TTY: 1-888-232-6348

Visit: www.cdc.gov | Contact CDC at: 1-800-CDC-INFO or www.atsdr.gov

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The fifth and final installment of this webinar series will be **December 17**, **2015** at **1:30 pm**

Working with Tribal Communities

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