

**Minutes: November 7, 2005**  
**Children's Environmental Health and Protection Advisory Council**  
**Maryland Department of Environment, 1800 Washington Blvd., Baltimore, MD**

**Members Present:** Maureen Edwards, Douglas Bradham, Benjamin Gitterman, Phil Heard, Cecilia Davoli, Peyton Eggleston, David Jett, Judy Lakind, Vicki Taliaferro Lorne Garrettson.

**Staff:** Mary Johnson, Betty Dabney, Audrey Reagan.

**Meeting called to order by Dr. Edwards.**

**Review & Approval of Minutes September 12, 2005:**

The minutes were reviewed with no changes to be made.

**Presentation**

*"The Threat from Chemical Weapons of Terror"* by David Jett, PhD, National Institute of Health. Dr. David Jett gave a powerpoint presentation on neurotoxins as weapons of terror. In his presentation he gave a background and history of chemical and biological weapons since WWII, research of countermeasures, military and civilian challenges, and global threat. Second he talked about the primary agents that target the central nervous system. He included a case study that focused on 'organophosphorus' a nerve agent that was in a Tokyo subway attack. Lastly, Dr. Jett elaborated on nerve agent exposures and symptoms. He concluded with current therapies of nerve agents, including Mark-1 auto- injectors and Diazepam to botulism.

Council Discussions: Comments (C)/Questions (Q):

- 1) Q: It was asked how 'botulism' would children be exposed in a terrorist event? Dr. Jett stated that it could affect children, especially through water contamination.
- 2) Q: If a child is exposed to a nerve agent, can they get sick from the treatment, like Mark1? Dr. Jett stated: Generally, but depending on the dosage it imposed. Especially when the child is smaller, with higher respiratory rates and limited endurance.
- 3) C: Long term neurological sequelae, can lead to seizures and other health effects of children, and even adults.
- 4) C: Schools near chemical plants should be apprised of the dangers to children. The schools need antitoxins guidelines. Ms. Vicki Taliaferro stated that there were guidelines, already place and she would bring them to the next meeting.
- 5) C: Schools need to work with community response teams in case of a chemical attack.
- 6) More data is needed on nerve agents as they affect children.

Copy of this presentation is on file.

**Old Business:**

**Previous Meeting Update: Randy Mosier, MDE –**

Mr. Mosier sent updated information on hospital admission and related health affects from pollution research, as well as ozone effects upon crops.

**Regulation Review:**

Proposed Amendments to Emergency Regulations and Proposed Amendment to Waste Management were reviewed with no Council comments to report.

**State Ethics Commission –** Dr. Edwards discussed a response from the State Ethics Commission on our request for exemption from the requirement for final disclosure report. The group agreed to sign the financial statement, when requested.

**Annual Report 2005:**

**Mission of CEHPAC –** Dr. Phil Heard reviewed the mission statement with the Council. And he reminded the Council of its content.

### **Goals and Objectives 2006 –**

- 1) To Complete the Indicators Report
- 2) Co- Host Children's Environmental Health Conference 2006
- 3) Continue more community outreach efforts.
- 4) Continue collaborations with the Lead and Asthma Coalitions.
- 5) Develop target goals in addressing local environmental agents in schools.

### **Updates:**

**SHIP Conference** – Dr. Edwards gave an overview of her presentation at the SHIP Conference. She highlighted on the environmental component of the conference. It was suggested that next year that the conference do a ½ day on asthma and ½ day on children environmental issues. Vicki Taliaferro stated that she would help with CEH component of this conference. It was suggested to have Susan Cummings as a plenary speaker.

**CEH Annual Conference** – Dr. Edwards and Dr. Benjamin Gitterman reported to the Council that there were 82 participants in attendance. Also that the conference was a success, based on the feedback received. Dr. Gitterman stated that the conference would take place in Pennsylvania next year.

### **Announcements**

*EPA 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Indoor Air Quality Tools for Schools Symposium* - January 12-14, 2006, The Grand Hyatt Hotel in Washington, DC. It was stated that this project would best serve school facility staff.

*The Summit for 2010, sponsored by the Coalition to End Lead Poisoning*, December 5-9, 2005, Mt. Washington Conference Center in Baltimore, Maryland.

**Guest Comments - None.**

**Meeting Adjourned.**