EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

American Statistical Association Conference on Radiation and Health

Howard Johnson Plaza Resort, Deerfield Beach, Florida, June 23–26, 2002

The 15th ASA Conference on Radiation and Health, held June 23–26, 2002 in Deerfield Beach, FL, offered a unique forum for radiation researchers from a variety of disciplines to present and discuss recent findings and current issues related to the effects of radiation exposures on human health. The Conference also furnished investigators the opportunity to learn about new approaches to problems within their disciplines.

The focus of the 2002 conference was current issues in radiation and health with sessions on:

1. lung cancer related to residential radon exposures and cancer risk from plutonium exposure;
2. novel efforts at low doses such as the bystander effect, i.e. the response of neighboring cells not directly irradiated;
3. diagnostic medical radiation, which is the primary source of U.S. population exposure from man-made radiation;
4. sensitive subpopulations and novel approaches to characterize genetic predisposition to radiogenic cancers; and
5. exposure and cancer risks in medical radiation workers, plus a recent finding that work-required X-ray examinations account for the bulk of radiation exposure in a cohort of nuclear workers.

The Conference also included a timely and provocative banquet presentation on “Nuclear and Radiological Terrorism.”

The 15th biannual conference on Radiation and Health proved to be as stimulating and informative as in previous years. The participants enthusiastically look forward to the 16th conference to be held in 2004!

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