

New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
CT, MA, ME, NH, VT, RI

NECOEM *Reporter* Annual Report 2011

The New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine published two issues of the NECOEM Reporter in 2011, a combined and expanded Spring/Summer issue in May, and a Fall issue in October. Thank you to all authors and those who contributed articles, news, and information pieces for publication. The NECOEM Reporter continues to provide news, information, education and a forum for the benefit of NECOEM members and occupational medicine community in New England, consistent with NECOEM's mission to inform and educate its members.

The Spring/Summer expanded issue (Volume 2, #31) featured an interesting case report on a patient exposed to mold, with discussion by two residents from the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH) occupational medicine residency, Dr. Yolanta Petrofsky and Stasia Muhlner. The other lead article was by Dr. Robert Mullaly, PhD, on the always concerning topic of workplace violence. Current NECOEM president Dr. Phil Adamo contributed an insightful column on promoting and advancing the occupational medicine profession and a brief "state of the organization." There were two state components with authors, Dr. Ron Blum of Maine and Dr. Steven McCloy of Rhode Island, writing opinion pieces on the controversial subject of medical marijuana, and how this may affect many aspects of our practice in occupational health. This issue was also used to announce a newly formed section of NECOEM, the Residents, Recent Graduates and Students (RRGS) section, as proposed by HSPH Chief Resident Dr. Yolanta Petrofsky in March 2011. This issue concluded with a call to action by Dr. David Christiani, director of the Harvard-NIOSH Education and Research Center (ERC), urging readers to reach out to our elected officials in an effort to avoid loss of funding to the ERC's.

The Fall issue (Vol 2, #32) began with an in-depth review by past NECOEM Reporter editor Dr. Robert Naparstek, reporting on the barriers to the use of Workers' Compensation at community health centers. The other lead article was by Dr. Carrie Redlich, Professor of medicine and Program Director at the Yale Occupational and Environmental Medicine Program, writing on isocyanates and work related asthma. This issue also featured profiles on two of the occupational medicine fellows from the Yale occupational medicine program, Dr. Leigh Wilson, and Dr. Benjamin Blagooee, in addition to a spotlight on the first ever complimentary pathway resident, Dr. Paul Medrek, at the Harvard School of Public Health. Finally the issue concluded with a summary report of a NECOEM lecture on radiation medicine and safety at Millstone Power Station, in Waterford, CT. The article was written by Dr. Matthew Lundquist, who was also featured as the new co-editor for the Reporter. He has been a welcome addition to the editing staff and we look forward to great things from him.

As always, the co-editors wish to thank Dianne Plantamura, NECOEM's Executive Director, for her patience and persistence in making publication of the NECOEM Reporter possible. Thank you also to NECOEM President Dr. Phil Adamo, the NECOEM Board, and all contributors this past year, as well as those who will contribute this year. Please consider contributing your articles, case studies, interesting news, or other topics of interest in occupational health to us for publication. We can be contacted through the NECOEM website.

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