

***E**nvironment, life-style & fertility*

edited by Jens Peter Bonde,¹ Michael Joffe²

¹ Department of Occupational Medicine, University Hospital of Aarhus,
Nørrebrogade 44, DK 8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

² Imperial College School of Medicine, St Mary's Campus, Norfolk Place, London
W2 1PG, United Kingdom

Single copies of this issue (volume 25, supplement 1) can be obtained from the following address: *Scandinavian Journal of Work, Environment & Health*, Topeliuksenkatu 41 a A, FIN-002500 Helsinki, Finland [telephone: +358-9-474 7729; telefax: +358-9-878 3326]. The price for supplement 1 of volume 25 is FIM 175.00 (plus postage and handling charges).

Preface

Scand J Work Environ Health 1999;25 suppl 1:3

The present supplement contains invited papers presented at the International Symposium on Environment, Life-style & Fertility, which was held in Aarhus, Denmark, on 7—10 December 1997 in conjunction with the final assembly of the European Concerted Action on Occupational Hazards to Male Reproductive Capability — the Asclepios Project. All the papers were peer-reviewed prior to acceptance in this supplement.

Twenty years ago only a few environmental risk factors to fertility were known. As indicated by the action of chemicals such as 1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP), thalidomide, and diethylstilbestrol (DES), the reproductive system can be highly vulnerable to environmental disruptors. In spite of new options for medical treatment, the preventive approach continues to be of high priority.

Two European concerted actions have been launched with the objective of mapping the European occurrence of infertility and identifying occupational hazards to male reproductive function. Dozens of national studies in the United States, Europe, and throughout the world within reproductive epidemiology and toxicology have provided additional knowledge in this field. The papers and brief communications in this supplement provide an updated overview of the methodologies to be recommended and those not to be recommended; they also present data concerning some selected environmental and life-style risk factors.

In addition, a series of brief communications provides preliminary results of the Asclepios project and a summary of the closing round-table discussion on the directions future research should take.

The editors are indebted to the authors, the reviewers, and the scientific committee for their contributions. The supplement was supported by a grant from the Asclepios project, the Aarhus University Research Foundation, and the Danish Medical Research Council.

The editors

Jens Peter Bonde, MD
Department of Occupational Medicine
University Hospital of Aarhus
Aarhus, Denmark

Michael Joffe, MD
Imperial College School of Medicine
St Mary's Campus
London, United Kingdom

Scientific committee

Jens Peter Bonde (chair), Michael Joffe, Aleksander Giwercman, Henrik Kolstad, Jørn Olsen, Nel Roeleveld, Alfred Spira, Irene Figà-Talamanca