

Re : Scoping of benzene pooled epidemiological analysis : CONCAWE activity

From:

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To:

jan.urbanus@concawe.be

Cc:

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Date:

Tue, 05 Jul 2005 14:19:51 +0100

Attachments:

Phase 2 Concawe Benzene - Scoping1.doc (46.59 kB)

Jan,

Thank you for leading the effort for CONCAWE on the IOM/IRAS Data Consistency Review. We appreciate the opportunity for input during the gate review and look forward to the collective thoughts, leadership and consolidated recommendations from CONCAWE's Health Management Group.

IOM/IRAS met the stated objectives, and we note that all three case control studies (IOL, IP and HealthWatch) were "carried out carefully and to a high standard of professionalism." We agree that the API study is not compatible with the others, and that any further work should only focus on the three studies that are similar in scope and methodology.

Based on the report, we support undertaking a pooled analysis subject to the following comments:

Scope:

Exposure estimation: using the learnings that were developed as each study progressed, a harmonisation of the exposure estimates across the three studies

Case Diagnosis: common classification of existing information, which assures consistent leukemia subtype definitions utilizing appropriate hematology expertise.

Statistical Methods: analyze the data using updated statistical methods.

Funding:

This should be funded through routine trade association budgets. No direct billing of member companies should result from this program.

Structure:

Consideration should be given to the study team structure, including continuing the use of an external Scientific Advisory Board. The study structure should involve the principle investigators of the three study populations, as well as other external investigator(s) with appropriate expertise.

Timing/Resources:

While we are supportive of going forward with a pooled analysis, we want to see this project complement the current Shanghai Health Studies without affecting its delivery. We also consider that careful thought needs to be

given to the program structure, pacing and resources in the front-end design, including the inclusion of gate reviews and study options.

We look forward to working with you and are available if you would like to discuss further.

Regards

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----- Forwarded by Chris Money/Benelux/ExxonMobil on 05/07/05 15:05 -----

"Urbanus Jan"

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24/05/05 15:20 cc:

Subject: Scoping of benzene pooled epidemiological analysis

Dear Colleagues,

As requested at our recent Health Management Group meeting, I have drafted a first attempt at scoping out a pooled analysis project of the 3 nested case-control studies of benzene-exposed workers (attached). I would like to encourage you to comment on this via the 'reply all' function, so that we can develop this idea further into a more realistic scope.

Please note I have agreed with Louis Bloemen that he would contribute to the Benzene DCR project as a consultant (after leaving Concawe member company Dow) up to the finalisation of the Phase 1 IOM/IRAS report, and hence he is not part of this next stage. I have included the remaining STF-30 members (Ken and Shan), supplemented with some HMG members – I trust you don't mind, but please advise if you feel we need others to contribute as well.

Jan Urbanus
Technical Coordinator, Health Issues

CONCAWE (the oil companies' European organisation for environment, health & safety)

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(See attached file: Phase 2 Concawe Benzene - Scoping1.doc)