

To: BenzConsort-TC@api.org <BenzConsort-TC@api.org>
From: George Woodall <Woodallg@api.org>
Cc: Lorraine Twerdok <twerdokl@api.org>
Bcc:
Received Date: 2001-09-12 14:44:19 GMT
Subject: FW: Fw: Invitation to Participate in a Benzene Health Research Project

Dr. van Belle was forwarded my message by Dr. Kopecky as a potential alternative for a Statistician. The message below is for your consideration and for discussion on the next conference call. I will not pursue contact with Dr. van Belle until advised to do so by this group.

Thank you,
George

-----Original Message-----

From: Gerald van Belle [mailto:vanbelle@u.washington.edu]
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2001 6:50 PM
To: Woodallg@api.org
Subject: Fwd: Fw: Invitation to Participate in a Benzene Health Research Project

Dr. Woodall,
I would be interested in exploring working with you on this study. You may check my WEB site, as listed below, for background and experience. Carol Henry knows of me, as well as some of the API staf. I serve on several national groups: the Leland Center, the NERC center in Albuquerque and I would need to make sure that there is no conflict of interest. In July I rotated off the Research Committee of the Health Effects Institute. I will be out of town until Friday September 14.
Gerald van Belle

Gerald van Belle
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A consortium of companies with an interest in the human health effects of benzene exposure has developed a program of three inter-related studies to answer some basic questions related to benzene-induced hematopoietic disease. The consortium is committed to ensuring that the proposed studies meet the highest standards of scientific quality, and are shielded from even the perception of undue influence by the study sponsors. To that end the Consortium has provided for the establishment of an independent Scientific Review Panel (SRP) to oversee the technical aspects of the studies. Your name came highly recommended as a potential member for the SRP as a statistician. The candidates for the SRP that have already accepted include Jerry Rice (IARC), Helmut Greim (University of Munich), Li Guilan (Chinese Academy of Preventative Medicine), Richard Larson (Univ. of Chicago), Robert Herrick (Harvard), John Cherrie (University of Aberdeen), and Nancy Mueller (Harvard). The attached document provides an overview of this ambitious study and an outline of the roles and expectations of SRP members.

One of the first tasks of this SRP will be to review the draft protocols for each of the studies. A meeting is currently planned for this purpose in Chicago on September 27. Although I realize that the lead time is very short, if at all possible, we would like to have you involved in the protocol review. If attendance is not possible,

written comments would be valuable. Whether or not you are able to review the protocols, your participation in the long-term study oversight process would add greatly to the effort.

The incorporation of an Ethical Review Panel (ERP) to assess the ethical issues in the development of the study protocols and continue to oversee those concerns as the project progresses is also one of the key elements in this project. The ERP will interact with the SRP in ensuring the highest standards of research integrity are applied for the duration of this research project.

You may anticipate a call in the very near future from either myself or Dr. Patrick Beatty regarding this request. I would appreciate it if you could respond with an indication of a convenient time for me to call. If you would like to initiate a call, you may reach me at the telephone number below or Dr. Beatty at (510) 242-7037.

Best regards,

George M. Woodall, Ph.D.
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