

ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT

An International Journal

From the Editor: Dr. J. P. Lodge, Jr.
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17 February 1982

Dr. R. D. Snee
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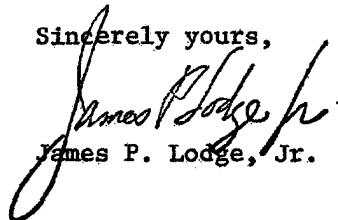
Dear Dr. Snee:

I have at long last heard from the second referee concerning your resubmitted paper, "Models for the Relationship..." Their comments are attached.

As you can see, the reaction remains negative, and one referee, in particular, spells this out in considerable detail. The other is a trifle more charitable, but no more encouraging in terms of the actual criticisms he makes.

Consequently, I feel I must again reject this manuscript.

Sincerely yours,


James P. Lodge, Jr.

JPL:jt
Encl.

TEH 0470521



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REFeree FORM

Revised

ATMOSPHERIC ENVIRONMENT

MS. No 1920-L

TITLE OF PAPER: "Models for the Relationship Between Blood Lead and Air Lead"

AUTHOR(S): R.D. Snee

You are invited to referee the enclosed paper. If you are able to do this please return the enclosed card. If you cannot report within ten days, please return the paper without delay.

REFeree'S REPORT

It will be of great assistance to the Editors if the Referee will answer the following questions:

1. Should the paper be accepted for publication? *NO.*
If the paper is scientifically unsound or does not contain any material which is of sufficient interest and originality to merit publication, then the paper will normally be rejected. If the referee is of the opinion that the paper falls within either of these categories would he please state his reasons for this opinion.

See attached letter to Editor.

If the answer to Question 1 is "Yes", then would the referee please indicate:

2. Are there any errors?
3. Are there any omissions?
4. Are any sections obscure and what additions or alterations would remove the obscurity?
5. Could any sections be omitted or shortened?
6. Is the abstract adequate?
7. Is the title appropriate?
8. Are all the illustrations/tables necessary, clear and suitably captioned?
9. Have you any other comments?

TEH 0470522

REFEREE'S REPORT

(This sheet to be used for replies to questions 1-10 if there is insufficient space on the Referee Form.)

My problem is with the entire conceptual base and presentation of the analysis. The data are meager and to publish an analysis of these data is to confer respectability to the procedures used. The first part of the paper compares the log-log model analysis to other models; it is concluded that the exposure model is superior. The author does not comment on the confidence limits of the models, but one need only look at Figures 1A through 1E to realize that the models represent a line through a buckshot pattern. By comparing one poor model to another the author focuses on differences between the models rather than each model's ability to predict the data. Let Snee show confidence limits of the lines in his Figures 1A to 1E.

The value of models is to predict. In the conclusion Snee indicates the exposure model yields a good description of the best available data sets. My difficulty is that I believe the description referred to is poor and its variance is not presented explicitly, and that the best available data are not good enough for the purpose of predicting what the models purport to do. The sophistication of the analysis has exceeded the potential utilization of the data base. Figures 4 and 5 should have confidence limits on the prediction to show the reader just how poor the model predictability is.

TEH 0470523

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REFEREE FORM

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REFEREE'S REPORT

It will be of great assistance to the Editors if the Referee will answer the following questions:

- Should the paper be accepted for publication? *Not in its present form.*
If the paper is scientifically unsound or does not contain any material which is of sufficient interest and originality to merit publication, then the paper will normally be rejected. If the referee is of the opinion that the paper falls within either of these categories would he please state his reasons for this opinion.

The paper should be revised.

If the answer to Question 1 is "Yes", then would the referee please indicate:

- Are there any errors? *—*
- Are there any omissions? *—*
- Are any sections obscure and what additions or alterations would remove the obscurity? *See enclosed form*
- Could any sections be omitted or shortened? *—*
- Is the abstract adequate? *Yes.*
- Is the title appropriate? *Yes.*
- Are all the illustrations/tables necessary, clear and suitably captioned? *Yes.*
- Have you any other comments? *See enclosed form*
- Are there any aspects on which you consider another opinion should be sought? *See enclosed form*

TEH 0470524

REFEREE'S REPORT

(This sheet to be used for replies to questions 1-10 if there is insufficient space on the Referee Form.)

- a. The main message of this paper is that lead exposure from sources such as food, water etc. has to be considered in air lead - blood lead models. (I absolutely agree). The author bring no data to support his assumption that "a reasonable procedure... is to represent lead exposure from other sources by a single coefficient B which can vary from group to group." Unless the author ascertains that there is no significant difference in lead exposure from all sources other than air between individual to individual of the same group, the above assumption would be unacceptable.
- b. It is unclear to me how coefficient K was estimated.
- c. The criticism about the log-log model limitations is clearly justified.

TEH 0470525