

To All Attendees of the Children's Environmental Health Issues Training

With the recent passage of legislation in California (Senate Bill 25, Escutia), children's environmental health issues have gained recognition. While differences between children and adults in terms of potential response to toxicants has been recognized for some time, the passage of SB 25 has created a mandate to fully evaluate all available information on such differences and incorporate available data as much as possible into our risk assessment methods. As a result, we are initiating projects to look at the physiological differences between children and adults that might impact response to toxicants, as well as developing risk assessment models that incorporate children-specific parameters.

Over the next two days, we will bring to you a series of presentations by well-respected experts who have researched the development and maturation of organ systems and how different targets of toxicity are presented during development and maturation. This training is just the first in a series that we anticipate holding to move the process of risk assessment in California towards greater inclusion of available scientific information on impacts of toxicants in infants and children. Welcome and enjoy the exciting presentations!

Joan E. Denton, Ph.D.
Director