

Book Reviews

Quantitative Risk Assessment for Environmental and Occupational Health, by W.H. Hallenbeck and K.M. Cunningham, Lewis Publishers, P.O. Drawer 519, Chelsea, MI 48118, 1986, ISBN 0-87371-055-X, 200 pages \$39.95 (prepaid).

As noted in the introduction, risk assessment (or cost/benefit ratio) has become a new interdisciplinary methodology essential to inform regulatory decisions including worker exposures, plant emissions and effluents, waste disposal and consumer products. This volume spells out in details what risk assessment is and is not, and how to apply it to typical situations. The authors explain exposure characterization, qualitative evaluation of human and animal studies, risk analysis, and acceptable concentrations (each in a separate chapter) before demonstrating step-by-step how to use the method. One chapter is an example of environmental and occupational exposure to a hypothetical industrial toxicant, assumed to also be a potential carcinogen, and a second chapter deals with the environmental exposure to a natural toxicant, Radon-222 and its daughters. The stepwise approach makes this volume a most valuable teaching aid, even for self-instruction. A basic knowledge of mathematics and statistics is assumed although the appendix includes the lower 1% and upper 99% limits for a binominal variable as well as the equations used in risk assessment. References and index are carefully and professionally included. This is a real gem for anyone who must encounter and perform risk analyses.

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Indoor Air and Human Health, R.B. Gammage and S.V. Kaye (Eds.), Lewis Publishers, Inc., P.O. Drawer 519, Chelsea, MI 48118, 1985, ISBN 0-87371-006-1, 430 pages \$39.00 (prepaid).

Indoor air quality (IAQ) has been seriously recognized as an important human health factor only within the last decade. This volume records proceedings of the 7th Life Sciences Symposium, October 29-31, 1984, with sponsorship of the Oak Ridge National laboratory, the U.S. D.O.E., the U.S. E.P.A., the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Electric Power Research Institute. Low-level long-time exposures are difficult to evaluate, especially in humans, but this volume stresses the approaches necessary to appreciate and solve the problems.

Included in the volume are major sections on radon (96 pages) recently declared a problem in 1 of 8 American homes as a suspected cause of lung