

Hainaut Vigilance Sanitaire, the University of Mons and the Scientific Institute of Public Health organize, with the support of the Belgian Science Policy (Science for a Sustainable Development) a one day symposium

Indoor Air Pollution and Health Problems

May 25th, 2009

GENERAL INFORMATION

Date: May 25, 2009.

Venue: « Domaine Latour de Freins », Engelandstraat 555, 1180 Brussels.

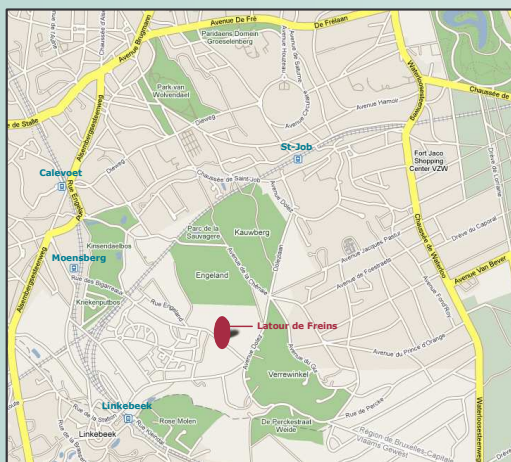
The « Domaine Latour de Freins » is accessible through Moensberg, Linkebeek, Sint-Job and Calevoet railway stations.

See the [NMBS – SNCB](#) web site

The bus 43 connects all these stations to the symposium venue.

See the [MIVB-STIB](#) – web site

The « domaine Latour de Freins » is also easily accessible by car.



The parking of the Scientific Institute of Public Health will be available.

See your journey on [Google maps](#)

REGISTRATION

Registration is free but **mandatory**. The registration form should be sent before May 18, 2009.

Indoor air quality and the potential impact of indoor air contamination on human health have received considerable public attention in recent years. This is especially true in countries with cold weather, where people spend most of their time indoors.

Indoor pollution sources that release gases or particles into the air are the primary cause of indoor air quality problems in homes. Inadequate ventilation can also increase indoor pollutant levels sometimes reaching higher concentrations than what we find outside.

There are many sources of indoor air pollution in any home but the main groups are chemical pollutants (often from cooking, cleaning, smoking, construction materials and also from outside as pesticides and radon for instance) and biological pollutants (as allergens produced by dust mites, pets and moulds, including the volatile organic compounds and toxins released by these moulds).

Health effects from indoor air pollutants may be experienced soon after exposure. Immediate effects may show up after a single exposure or repeated exposures. Other health effects may also show up years after exposure has occurred and it is therefore cautious to try to improve the indoor air quality in homes even if symptoms are not noticeable.

While pollutants commonly found in indoor air are responsible for many harmful effects, there is considerable uncertainty about which concentrations or periods of exposure are necessary to produce specific health problems. People also react in a different way to exposure to indoor air pollutants. Further research is needed to better understand which health effects occur after exposure to the average pollutant concentrations found in homes.

During this symposium we will review the historical context of indoor air quality and discuss recent data about the indoor air quality of homes and public spaces. The health impact of microbial pollutants and the role of counsellors will be highlighted as the likelihood of new regulation. Finally new possibilities offered by new detection techniques of allergens in indoor air will be addressed.

This “Indoor Air Pollution and Health Problems” symposium is organized by Dr Anne Van Cauwenberge (Hainaut Vigilance Sanitaire), Dr Michel Voué (Université de Mons), Dr Olivier Denis (Scientific Institute of Public Health) and Dr Kris Huygen (Scientific Institute of Public Health)

- 9H** Registration with coffee
- 9H30 - 9H45*** Introduction: "la science pour un développement durable en santé environnementale"
Emmanuèle Bourgeois – Politique Scientifique Fédérale
- 9H45 - 10H15*** Evolution des préoccupations en matière de pollution intérieure
Jacques Kummer – Ecole de Santé Publique - ULB
- 10H15 - 11H00*** Pollutions microbiologiques dans les habitations: un problème de santé publique
Camille Chasseur – Institut Scientifique de la Santé Publique
Sandrine Bladt – Cellule Régionale d'Intervention pour les Pollutions Intérieures - IBGE
- 11H00 - 11H15** Coffee Break
- 11H15 - 12H00*** Le rôle des conseillers médicaux en environnement intérieur dans la prise en charge des pathologies liées à la pollution intérieure
Martine Ott – Laboratoire d'Allergologie, Strasbourg, France
- 12H00 - 12H30** EU Indoor Air Quality
Gill Erskine - Health & Environment Alliance

* These communications will be translated into Dutch

- 12H30 - 13H30** Buffet Lunch

- 13H30 - 14H30** Microbial agents in the home environment: their impact on asthma and allergy development
Gert Doekes - Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht, The Netherlands
- 14H30 - 15H00** ANIMO: development and application of non-invasive biomarkers (Belspo, Science for a Sustainable Development)
Karolien Bloemen - Environmental Risk and Health - VITO NV
- 15H00 - 15H15** Coffee Break
- 15H15 - 15H45** The indoor environment in nurseries: auto-assessment evaluation and technical analyses
Marie-Christine Dewolf, Marc Roger et François Charlet
Hainaut Vigilance Sanitaire
- 15H45 - 16H15** Development and perspectives of infrared immunosensors as new tools for indoor air quality monitoring (MIC-ATR, Belspo, Science for a Sustainable Development)
Anne Van Cauwenberge - Hainaut Vigilance Sanitaire
Michel Voué - Université de Mons
Olivier Denis - Scientific Institute of Public Health
- 16H30** End of the symposium

Company/Organization

Name

First name

Address

Zip

City

Phone

E-mail

Programme

Registration

Please return the registration form (mail, phone, fax or Email) before May 18th, 2009.

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