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BOOK REVIEWS

IARC MONOGRAPHS ON THE EVALUATION OF THE CARCINOGENIC RISK OF CHEMICALS TO HUMANS VOLUME 38. TOBACCO SMOKING. — International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon 1986 421 pp.

The use of tobacco falls into two major categories: first habits in which tobacco is used orally or nasally, without combustion and in conjunction with a variety of other additives and, second, habits in which tobacco is smoked in pipes, cigars and cigarettes. Tobacco was probably smoked first by the native population of America and in the mid-sixteenth century it was brought to Europe. This 38th volume in the series IARC Monographs deals with the impact of tobacco smoking on human health, especially its relation to the induction of cancer. The introductory part of this publication presents data on the worldwide use of smoking tobacco. The highest consumption of cigarettes per-caput was in Cyprus, followed by Greece. Czechoslovakia was on the 23rd place with 1812 per-caput consumptions (data from 1982). Further sections of this book focus on the chemistry and analysis of tobacco smoke (physicochemical nature, total particulate matter, chemical composition, sidestream smoke, air pollution) and on biological data relevant to the evaluation of carcinogenic risk to humans (mutagenicity, metabolic effects, toxicity, intake of tobacco smoke). The knowledge of the relationship between tobacco usage and human cancer depends primarily on epidemiological evidence. The last section presents data from epidemiological studies on the occurrence of cancer of the lungs, urinary tract, in other organs, further data on the interaction of smoking with other causative factors such as alcohol, asbestos and radiation. The conclusions of the IARC Working group on the Carcinogenic Risks of Tobacco Smoking: The occurrence of malignant tumours of respiratory tract and of the upper digestive tract is causally related to the smoking of different forms of tobacco.

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IARC MONOGRAPHS ON THE EVALUATION OF THE CARCINOGENIC RISK OF CHEMICALS TO HUMANS. SUPPLEMENT 5. CROSS INDEX OF SYNONYMS AND TRADE NAMES IN VOLUMES 1 TO 36. — International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon 1985. 259 pp. US \$ 20.00.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has been publishing since 1971 monographs on the carcinogenic risks of individual chemicals, groups of chemicals or complex mixtures to humans. This publication presents an index of chemicals that were evaluated in the first 36 volumes of the IARC Monographs. It includes the Chemical Abstract Service Registry Numbers and a cross index of synonyms and trade names of the evaluated chemicals. In addition, the Colour Index Numbers and Names are included. This publication will help the user of the IARC Monographs to determine whether a chemical known to him under a specific chemical name or trade name has been evaluated for its carcinogenic risks by the IARC.

A valuable supplement to IARC Monographs.

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