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BOOK REVIEW

IARC MONOGRAPHS ON THE EVALUATION OF CARCINOGENIC RISKS TO HUMANS. GENETIC AND RELATED EFFECTS: An Updating of Selected IARC Monographs from Volume 1 to 42. Supplement 6. — International Agency for Research on Cancer, Lyon 1987. 729 pp. Sw. Fr. 80.—.

The International Agency for Research on Cancer has been publishing since 1969 Monographs on the carcinogenic risks of individual chemicals or mixtures of chemicals, which occur in some occupations or are a result of human habits. The aim of the present publication was to summarize data from tests for genetic and related effects concerning all agents (about 200) that had been evaluated in Volumes 1 to 42 of the IARC Monographs. For all compounds reviewed, a tabulated summary of the genetics effect is presented. In the table, the endpoints considered are grouped as followed: DNA damage, mitotic recombination, gene mutations, sister chromatid exchange, micronuclei, chromosomal aberrations, aneuploidy, dominant lethality and cell transformation. Test systems include prokaryotes, lower eukaryotes, plants, insects, animal and human cells *in vitro* and animals *in vivo*. In addition, for each compound the “activity profile plots” are given. These plots present the results from evaluated tests in bar graphs. Values plotted on the positive y-axis represent the lowest dose tested at which a positive result was observed and those on the negative y-axis represent the highest ineffective dose tested.

A very useful publication for all those interested in environmental mutagenesis.

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