

# NEWSLETTER



## CME 2015: Cardiovascular Health and Disease: Occupational and Environmental Factors *and* Updates in Occupational and Environmental Medicine

### REGISTER NOW!

<http://www.ucsfcmecme.com/2015/MDM15N01/info.html>

The Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine is gearing up for its upcoming Continuing Medical Education (CME) course in March, 2015. This educational event will take place in San Francisco over two and a half days, beginning Thursday morning, **March 12** and ending midday on Saturday, **March 14**. There will also be a special poster abstract session and reception on the evening of Wednesday **March 11**, before the course lectures begin the next day. As in recent courses, the venue will be the Holiday Inn Fisherman's Wharf which, in addition to excellent meeting facilities, has proven to be attractively situated for out-of-town attendees.

The 2015 Occupational and Environmental Medicine CME course will include a thematic focus for the pre-evening poster session and its first day of lecture presentations: **Cardiovascular Health and Disease**. The second day and last half day will provide a multi-topic **Updates in Occupational and Environmental Health**.

The presentations included in **Cardiovascular Health and Disease** will include:

- "Occupation and Heart Disease: Epidemiological Evidence and Biological Plausibility"
- "Ambient Air Pollution and Cardiovascular Morbidity and Mortality"
- "Historical Concepts of Cardiovascular Disease in Military and Civilian Work"
- "Work Organization and Stress as a Risk Factor for Cardiovascular Disease - Time for Intervention?"
- "Work and Vocational Factors and Stroke: An Under-Appreciated Association?"
- "Physical Factors and Peripheral Vascular Disease: Vascular and Neural Damage, Spasm, and Varicosity"
- "Occupational and Environmental Factors in Cardiovascular Disease, Including Hypertension: Noise and Vibration"
- "Cardiovascular Disease and Sudden Cardiac Death in Law Enforcement and Firefighting: From Epidemiology to Risk Stratification and Fitness for Duty"
- "Underlying Cardiovascular Disease and Physical Injury Risk"

The closing panel will cover: "Agenda for Closing Clinical and Research Gaps, from Epidemiology to the Clinic"; "What Can We Learn from Toxins and the Heart?" and "From Bench to Bedside - A Cardiology Perspective".

The **Updates in Occupational and Environmental Health** will include expert presentations on a wide range of topics, including:

- Sleep Apnea and Occupation
- Traumatic Brain in Sports and Work
- Disability and the Aging Workforce
- Occupationally-related Anaphylaxis
- Migrant Agricultural Worker Health
- An Update on Pneumoconiosis
- Aerospace Exposure and Cognitive Factors
- E-cigarettes
- Occupational Dermatology
- High Altitude Mining
- Industrial Enzymes in the Workplace
- Occupational Aspects of Bipolar Disorder

This course is designed to provide occupational and environmental health professionals and persons from other health-related disciplines with a review and update of current data in occupational and environmental medicine. It is intended to meet the needs of primary care providers and others engaged in occupational health practice and research including physicians (family physicians, general practitioners, internists, emergency medicine specialists), nurse practitioners and other nursing professionals, as well as physician's assistants, industrial hygienists, and health researchers and policy makers.

We are approved for 19.25 hours of CME credit with standard certification (including medicine, nursing, and physician assistant CME) as well as additional special certification for maintenance of certification (MOC) units in Occupational and Environmental Medicine and also continuing education hours applicable to QME.

**For more information and course registration, link to:**

<http://www.ucsfcmecme.com/2015/MDM15N01/info.html>

#### THIS ISSUE

OEM Health Conference	1
New Expanded and Unified OEM Presence	2
SFGH OEM Report	2
MT Zion OEM Clinic Report	3
News from COEH	4
Residency & Fellowship	4

## Increased OEM Presence with New UCSF San Francisco Veterans Administration Medical Center (SFVAMC) Division

In early December, UCSF and the SFVAMC made the following joint announcement:

"We are very pleased to announce that Paul Blanc, MD, MSPH, has been appointed the Chief, Division of Occupational Medicine within the Department of Medicine (DOM), effective January 1, 2015. Dr. Blanc will head up the new three-site Occupational Medicine Division across Parnassus, SFGH, and the SFVAMC.

"Dr. Blanc is a clinician-researcher, an expert in occupational lung disease, and a national leader in evaluating health risks from occupational exposures. Dr. Blanc earned a medical degree at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and completed a master of public health degree in industrial hygiene at the Harvard School of Public Health. He is a former Robert Wood Johnson clinical scholar and a Fulbright senior research fellow. He is also the assistant medical director of the California Poison Control System, San Francisco Division. Dr. Blanc joined the UCSF faculty in July 1988."

"Dr. Blanc's research addresses asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease in relation to the workplace and environmental factors as well as occupational and environmental toxicology, with particular emphasis on the lung. He's also the author of the book "How Everyday Products Make People Sick" (UC Press). Dr. Blanc is strongly committed to mentoring trainees and junior faculty and since 2012 has been the program director of the Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency program at UCSF. He has twice won the UCSF Teaching Award and also holds secondary appointments within the Department of Clinical Pharmacy and the Department of Medical Anthropology, Social Medicine, and History of Medicine.

"We thank the search committee (chaired by John Balmes, MD, Professor of Medicine, DOM) for conducting this successful recruitment. We thank Paul for taking on this important responsibility.

Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD, Professor & Chair,  
Department of Medicine

C. Diana Nicoll, MD, PhD, MPA, Professor & Vice-Chair,  
UCSF Laboratory Medicine

Kenneth R. McQuaid, MD, Professor & Vice-Chair,  
Department of Medicine, Chief of Medical Service,

Neil R. Powe, MD, MPH, MBA, Cosntance B. Wofsy  
Distinguished Professor, Vice-Chair, Department of  
Medicine, Chief of Medical Services, SFGH"

## News for SFGH OEM



Dr. Timur S. Durrani was appointed as the Medical Director for Occupational Health Services at SFGH in June. Dr. Durrani is an Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine whose appointment is in Medicine and in Family Medicine. Dr. Durrani earned his MD from the Univ. of Arizona, where he also earned his MPH. He holds board certifications in Family Medicine, Preventive Medicine, and Medical Toxicology. Dr. Durrani is a graduate of the UCSF OEM Residency and the UCSF Medical Toxicology Fellowship. He is currently the associate medical director for the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Unit. His academic responsibilities include teaching medical and pharmacy students, as well as graduate medical trainees including Emergency Medicine, Pediatrics, OEM residents, and Medical Toxicology Fellows. As a consultant for the Medical Toxicology Service, he provides clinical care for poisoned patients at SFGH, as well as outpatient Medical Toxicology consultations through the UCSF OEM Faculty Practice. He serves as Medical Toxicology consultant for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and the EPA. He is a reviewer for the Journal of Medical Toxicology, and has co-developed four online training modules in Occupational and Environmental Health. Dr. Durrani has publications in basic science and public health disciplines.

Dr. Durrani's career combines medicine with public health, allowing him to focus on individual patients while considering their population and environment. He has experience in caring for populations both domestically and internationally, having volunteered in multiple countries and as a Preventive Medicine Officer with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan, Kuwait and Bahrain. His academic interests include occupational and environmental toxicology, reproductive toxicology, pediatric toxicology and clinical pharmacology.

## Report from the COEH

The Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (COEH) is a multidisciplinary program of the University of California at Berkeley, Davis, and San Francisco, also one of the 18 regional Education and Research Centers funded by NIOSH. The OEM program at UCSF is one of its core components. COEH's mission is to promote health and safety in workplaces and communities by educating health professionals, developing new knowledge by undertaking interdisciplinary research, and responding to the needs of workers and the general public. There are over 60 COEH faculty members, as well as researchers and other professional staff from three UC campuses. The Director of the COEH is John Balmes, MD; the deputy director is Patty Quinlan, MPH, CIH. The programs of the COEH include:

### UCSF

- Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- Occupational and Environmental Health Nursing

### UC Berkeley

- Ergonomics
- Industrial Hygiene
- Occupational and Environmental Epidemiology
- International Health
- Continuing Professional Education
- Labor Occupational Health Program

### UC Davis

- Public Health Sciences

### Events and Activities

In addition to the ongoing programs above, COEH hosts: The annual *Lela Morris COEH Symposium*; the *COEH Continuing Professional Summer Institute*; semi-annual COEH get-togethers; the *Suzanne Llewellyn Student Project Award*; and the *Donald Whorton Writing Award*. This year's COEH Symposium will be held on Friday, May 22, 2015 in Berkeley, CA on "National Perspectives on Ergonomics, Workplace Design and Health". For more information contact: Patty Quinlan, at [pquinlan@berkeley.edu](mailto:pquinlan@berkeley.edu).

COEH also publishes a quarterly newsletter, Bridges. To see the most recent issue and to subscribe:

<http://coeh.berkeley.edu/bridge>

Learn more about the program on our website:  
<http://coeh.berkeley.edu/ucsfoem/residency.html>



## Occupational Environmental Medicine (OEM) Mount Zion Clinic Update

The UCSF OEM Clinic continues to be rooted in a faculty practice which has operated for over 25 years. Our team of experts includes Board Certified physicians in occupational and environmental medicine and toxicology, occupational health nursing, and industrial hygiene. The clinic provides specialty consultation to individuals and groups of workers for possible exposure to biological, chemical, and physical agents at the workplace or home.

The OEM Clinic provides leadership internally to the UCSF Medical Center in the execution of programs available to its health care workers for immunization review when starting work, for large scale immunization for influenza, for tuberculosis surveillance programs, for medical clearance to wear a respirator, and for groups of workers with special assignments, such as Ebola. The OEM medical team provides the immediate access to health care workers when they have an exposure to blood borne pathogens and leads the follow up to those exposed. This UCSF medical center work has been extended to the biosafety issues in the UCSF research community making immunization available where needed, monitoring workers at risk, and responding to exposures when they occur.

The OEM Clinic has provided similar services for organizations directly involved with the UCSF Medical Center. It is now providing services to external groups. Workers at the California Academy of Sciences are getting medical clearance, spirometry, and fit testing for wearing respirators. The OEM clinic provides the Department of Transportation examinations to individuals and groups of workers. The clinic also evaluates workers following an exposure as a baseline assessment with recommendations for follow evaluation. Working with a group of workers, provides consistency in medical surveillance.

This year, the OEM clinic has started a new medical surveillance program for the San Francisco marine pilots who are the workers that climb on board all large ships entering the Bay, and then navigate and direct the ship into the Bay until it is safely alongside its berth. The clinic specifically designed a medical surveillance program which includes an agility test, toxicology screening, and comprehensive medical examinations focused on the physical demands of their work.

The clinic is conveniently located within the UCSF Mount Zion campus just north of Geary and west of Divisadero at 2330 Post Street, Suite 460. The clinic can be reached by telephone at 415.885.7580. Referrals are accepted from physicians, other licensed medical practitioners, attorneys, and selected self-referrals from individuals.

For a link to the clinic go to:

<http://oem.ucsf.edu/care/clinics.html>

## Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency at UCSF

The UCSF Occupational & Environmental Medicine (OEM) residency program is a 30+ year old program that is designed to prepare physicians for occupational and environmental medicine practice and leadership roles in clinical, academic, government, NGO, consulting, and corporate settings. In addition to the traditional OEM residency program track, which is funded through support from the CDC National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), we also offer an innovative and unique training track focused on vulnerable workers and occupational health disparities. This track in the residency is funded by the federal Health Resources and Services Agency (HRSA) and is one of three HRSA supported OEM programs in the U.S. and the only one with this focus. Trainees in this track fulfill all the ACGME requirements of our larger residency. In addition, however, this special program concentration offers the opportunity for additional clinical activities, public health field work, policy work, and didactic content relevant to low wage and vulnerable working populations as well as issues of environmental social justice. Specific examples may include work with California State agencies, outreach through the Labor Occupational Health Program at UC Berkeley, field experience with the Natural Resources Defense Council, and clinical service in community clinics serving migrant and day laborers and other uninsured and/or low wage workers.

Training in research methods and development of research projects is a vital element of our program. Trainees are expected to identify a research mentor in their first year of training and begin a project that will be completed in the second year. The Training in Clinical Research (TICR) course, offered by the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics at UCSF is a unique opportunity to learn about the design of clinical research studies, collecting and managing clinical research data, and preparing for a career in clinical research. Additional training is provided in the twice monthly grand rounds speakers' series coordinated by Dr. Dennis Shusterman; the monthly resident-led Journal Club and the monthly clinical case series (led by our volunteer clinical faculty). Each OEM resident also has the opportunity for individual research projects working one on one with faculty research mentors. Dr. Craig Steinmaus is assuming a new role specifically to coordinate this research component of the training program.

With additional HRSA funding, we were able to recruit a stellar incoming class of residents for 2015. We had an outstanding interest and increase in the total applicant pool for the OEM program. Five new OEM residents will be starting in 2015, in addition to the two staying in the program. Please welcome them to our program. Additional information on the residency can be found at: <http://oem.ucsf.edu/education/>



We are pleased & proud to sponsor the  
UCSF Division of Occupational & Environmental Medicine  
and its annual seminar



**KAZAN, McCLAIN,  
SATTERLEY & GREENWOOD**

KAZANLAW.COM  
Kazan Law: Helping Asbestos Victims Since 1974

55 Harrison St #400, Oakland, California 94607  
(510) 302-1000 (877)995-6372 toll-free  
[www.kazanlaw.com](http://www.kazanlaw.com)