News and updates from the Society for Risk Analysis

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## **Newsletter Contents:**

- <u>2017 SRA Annual Meeting Abstract</u> <u>Submission</u>
- 2017 SRA Annual Meeting Continuing Education Workshop Proposals
- <u>Upcoming Webinars</u>
- <u>Register today for SRA Europe meeting</u>
- <u>Register today for Benelux chapter meeting</u>
- Dose-Response Specialty Group teleseminar series schedule
- <u>New FDA study reveals touch-less faucets in</u> restaurants prevent norovirus outbreaks
- <u>Conferences and Workshops Committee</u>
   <u>update</u>





The Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) invites your abstracts for presentations at the 2017 SRA Annual Meeting in Arlington, Virginia, USA, December 10-14.

We welcome contributions on any topic related to risk assessment, risk characterization, risk perception, risk communication, risk management, risk governance, and policy relating to risk, in the context of risks of concern to individuals, to public and private sector organizations, and to society at a local, regional, national, or global level.

The theme of the conference "*Risk Analysis – the Profession, the Practitioners, the Research*" highlights the important role risk analysts have in tackling risk problems and improving the science and practice of risk analysis.

Abstracts are due no later than May 31, 2017, midnight EST. <u>Click here for complete submission guidelines and to submit your abstract.</u>



Continuing education workshops will be offered on Sunday, December 10 and Thursday, December 14 in either 4 or 8 hour sessions. We are looking for proposals for workshops that meet basic member training needs, and this year we especially encourage proposals aimed at improving the foundations and/or practice of risk analysis (Risk analysis fundamentals, Risk assessment, Risk perception and communication, Risk management and governance, or Solving real risk problems and issues).

<u>Click here for complete workshop submission guidelines and to submit your</u> proposal. Continuing education workshop proposals are due no later than June 7, 2017.

## Save the Date! Upcoming Webinars

March 21 at 4pm ET: <u>Human Milk: Mother</u> <u>Nature's Prototypical Probiotic Food</u> April 26 at 12/noon ET: Mental Modeling for OH&S: Understanding Influences on Electricians' Occupational Safety Decisions

If you or your specialty group is interested in hosting a webinar, please contact <u>Robin Dillon-</u> <u>Merrill.</u> All of our past webinars are available here for members.

Dose-Response Group Teleseminar Series Schedule:



Register today for the 26th SRA-E Annual Conference June 19-21, Lisbon, Portugal

This year's theme is *New Challenges, New Threats: Resilience and Adaptation in a Risky World*. Abstracts notification acceptance will occur March 6-12. Early-bird registration ends April 7. April 4: Leo Transande, NYU; Health and Economic Consequences of Endocrine Disruptors in the US and EU (sponsored jointly with the Economic and Benefits Specialty Group) May 2: Wayne Landis, Western Washington Univ.; Exposure-response in Environmental Toxicology and Risk Assessment, From Receptors to Ecological Landscapes (sponsored jointly with the Ecological Risk Assessment Specialty Group) Aug 1: Jon Samet, George Daston & Lauren Zeise; Using 21st Century Science to Improve **Risk-Related Evaluations** Sept 5: Qiang Zhang, Emory Univ.; Understanding the Biochemical Basis of Sigmoidal Dose Responses: Ultrasensitive

The SRA-E Benelux Chapter will be holding its second annual meeting on March 20, 2017 at the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment - RIVM, Bilthoven, The Netherlands. This year's focal theme is *From vaccine to antimicrobial resistance: Exploring risk-risk trade-offs*. Dr. Agnes Kant, Director of Lareb, will be giving this year's keynote address on drug and vaccine safety. <u>Click here</u> to register for the meeting, free of charge.

Everyone is welcome to join! The group meets by teleconference on the 1st Tuesday of each month, from noon-1pm ET. Visit our <u>website</u> for more details.

Response Motifs

## New FDA study reveals touch-less faucets in restaurants can prevent norovirus outbreaks.

Norovirus outbreaks across the country are on the rise. The virus, one of the most contagious according to experts, affects millions of people in the U.S. each year. This new study takes a closer look at which prevention strategies work best in stopping the spread of norovirus in the retail food setting— one of the most common sources of an outbreak.

If you're sick, stay home. Wash your hands before preparing food. When preparing food, always wear gloves or do not touch the ready-to-eat food with bare hands. For food service workers, following this simple advice, which is part of the FDA Food Code, could drastically reduce the spread of norovirus, the most common type of foodborne illness. These results come from a new

U.S. Food and Drug Administration study published in the latest issue of Risk Analysis, the scholarly journal of the Society for Risk Analysis.

The study reveals that ensuring all symptomatic food employees do not work if they are experiencing symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea, including a 24-hour time period after the symptoms subside, as well as installing touchless faucets and doors, would significantly reduce the transmission of norovirus in food establishments. <u>Read more.</u>

## SRA is co-sponsoring several conferences in the coming months:

March 6-7, Washington, D.C.: Advances in Causal Understanding for Risk Based Decision Making
March 15-17, Washington, D.C.: Society for Benefit-Cost Analysis (SBCA) Annual Conference
April, Venice, Italy: 2017 Global Forum on Risk: Nanotechnology and Emerging Threats
June 12-14, University of Cambridge, UK: Cambridge Risk and Uncertainty Conference
October 3-5, Azores, Portugal: Space Weather and the Vulnerabilities of Critical Infrastructure: Risk and Resilience

Co-sponsorship is a win for both SRA and conference organizers. SRA helps spread the word about the conference and organizers provide attendees with information about SRA. If other associations you are involved with are organizing a conference or workshop outside the annual meeting please consider asking for SRA co-sponsorship; <u>http://www.sra.org/events</u>.



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