

Maternal Infant-Child Health and Environment Research Symposium:

“How Local Research can Influence Policy and Practice”

Thursday, February 26th, 2009, 08:00-17:00 hrs

Maple Leaf Room, Lister Hall, University of Alberta

Speaker Bio-sketch:



Glenys M. Webster, MRM, PhD (Candidate)

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Glenys Webster is a PhD candidate at the UBC School of Environmental Health, and a scholar in the Interdisciplinary Women's Reproductive Health (IWRH) Program. For the past 10 years, she has been interested in how common environmental chemicals disrupt hormone function and affect human and wildlife health. For her PhD, Glenys is directing the Vancouver-based Chemicals, Health and Pregnancy study (CHirP) (www.cher.ubc.ca/chirp), to examine the effects of flame retardant (PBDEs) and stain repellent (PFCs) chemicals on thyroid hormone levels during pregnancy. This question is important because thyroid hormones play a critical role in fetal brain development. A second goal of the study is to identify the main sources of human exposure to PBDEs and PFCs, to help guide policies for reducing exposures to these chemicals in the future. To undertake this work, Glenys has recruited a new pregnancy cohort in Vancouver, and has built a new interdisciplinary research team spanning 8 institutions across the US and Canada. Glenys' background in ecology, toxicology and environmental epidemiology bring a unique interdisciplinary perspective to her work. In addition to her environmental health research, Glenys maintains a part-time career as a professional baroque violist in Vancouver, and is also a proud new mom.

Publication list

Webster GM, Kelly S, Teschke K. Pentachlorophenol and tetrachlorophenol. In: Rom WN, ed. Environmental and Occupational Medicine, 4th Edition. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins Publishers. 2007; Chapter 76:1194-1202.

FAPC Gobas, CE Mackintosh, **GM Webster**, MG Ikonou, TF Parkerton, K Robillard (2003). Bioaccumulation of phthalate esters in aquatic food-webs. In: Handbook of Environmental Chemistry, 3Q, C Staples ed. New York: Springer-Verlag

GM Webster, FAPC Gobas, NP Hoover, and MG Ikonou (2002). Dietary uptake & metabolism of phthalate esters in Staghorn sculpin. Proceedings of the 29th Annual Aquatic Toxicity Workshop: Oct 21-23, 2002, Whistler, British Columbia.