

EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

You are holding in your hand the Supplement to the Central European Journal of Public Health dedicated to a highly relevant event, the ISEE CEE Chapter Conference (Young vision and expert know-how in environmental epidemiology) to be held in Čeladná.

We all consider epidemiology as a fundamental discipline of public health protection. Environmental epidemiology has been, particularly in the last decades, an important source of crucial information on the impact of environmental determinants on human health.

Already the second chairmanship of the ISEE Central European group is a challenge and at the same time an opportunity to present results of research teams from countries where economics and support for research had not reached adequate levels to allow massive participation of their experts in the ISEE Conference held in Mexico in September 2007. I am very happy that the National Institute of Public Health is providing support not only by the participation in the specialized programme but also as the editor of this Supplement.

What do we expect from the Conference to be held in Čeladná? What message and information will it bring about?

The submitted presentations vary widely both in terms of the level and topics. Nevertheless, such diversity will provide an opportunity to compare the experience gained and to understand the limitations imposed by the economic situation and/or resulting from different approaches to the methods and objectives of environmental epidemiology in various countries.

In a number of communications, however, the power of presented study results in limited group size and exposure homogeneity. Nevertheless, even seemingly distant communications can be of relevance to understanding the comprehensive nature of either negative or positive impacts of environmental determinants on human health and of their assessment.

As a longtime ISEE member, I wish the readers, and in particular the participants of the Conference, to gain new challenges for work in the field of environmental epidemiology and to take advantage of the opportunity to compare procedures used in their laboratories with those used by their colleagues in other countries and to establish new contacts with other experts.

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