

Reviewer's report

Title: Cancer incidence in the population exposed to dioxin after the "Seveso accident": twenty years of follow-up

Version: 1 **Date:** 19 April 2009

Reviewer: Richard W. Clapp

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This is an important article in a series of summaries of the Seveso accident health effects. It should be of general interest to the public health community and readers of Environmental Health.

Minor Essential Revisions: There are a few spelling errors, including on p. 6, the word "homogenous" should be homogeneous and on p. 7, the word "parenchimal" should be parenchymal. Also, on Table 1, the column heading for Mean TCDD soil measurements should be micrograms per meter squared, not meter cubed.

Discretionary Revisions: On p. 8, the first sentence says "with the only exception of. . ." and it could say "with the exception of. . ." Also, on p. 8, the parenthetical "n. 183" could be n=183. On p. 9, the grammatical construction "diet and leisure -: this. . ." could be "diet and leisure. This. . ." On p. 10, the phrase "even probably for the still small number of events . . ." could be "even for the small number of events. . ."

On p. 11, first line, the phrase "as credible explanation. . ." could be "as a credible explanation. . ."

On p. 11, the word "concordantly" is not necessary and could be deleted. On p. 12, first line, the phrase "two chemical plant. . ." should be "two chemical plants. . ." On p. 12, the parenthetical "the only congener to which the the population was mainly exposed" could be "the main congener to which the population was exposed" On p. 12, last sentence in the Conclusion, the word "represent" should be "represents."

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being published

Statistical review: No, the manuscript does not need to be seen by a statistician.

Declaration of competing interests:

I declare that I have no competing interests.