

RA-COURSES is a project financed by European Union Marie Curie Actions. RA-COURSES provides training in health risk assessment and is funding travel, subsistence and course fee for PhD students and post docs.

Implementation of reliable and efficient risk assessment procedures for the exposure to various types of chemicals is of high concern in Europe today. The number of chemicals in use is increasing and for many of the chemicals little knowledge is available on possible health risks. To meet these needs and interests in EU there is an increasing need for well-educated experts in health risk assessment procedures, who can provide the European public with reliable risk assessment of the adverse health effects of chemicals.

RA-COURSES provides a coherent European course programme in health risk assessment that includes 10 courses:

- Receptor-mediated toxicity.
- Health risk assessment I: Principles and applications.
- Regulatory toxicology.
- Reproductive and developmental toxicology.
- Child health and the environment.
- Exposure Assessment I: Environmental chemistry and metabolism, including chemical exposure assessment analysis and modelling.
- Philosophy of risk in health risk assessment.
- Health risk assessment II: Focus on risk assessment based on cancer, developmental neurotoxicity and endocrine disruption as the critical end-points.
- Exposure assessment II: Focus on residue and consumption databases and probabilistic modelling.
- Statistics for toxicologists with focus on dose response modelling.

**Further information:**

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# RA-COURSES

Advanced international training courses in health risk assessment

## Child health and the environment

Stockholm, Sweden  
March 23-27, 2009



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Advanced international training courses in health risk assessment

**The course is organised** by RA-COURSES, a project funded by European Union Marie Curie Actions and the Postgraduate programme in Environmental Factors and Health at Karolinska Institutet in collaboration with CASCADE Network of Excellence.

**The objective of the course** is to provide state-of-the-art knowledge about the environmental threats to child health in Europe in the context of health risk assessment. Overarching themes will be the specific susceptibility and exposure of the developing foetus, infant and child to environmental toxicants and the importance of modifying factors, e.g. nutrition and genetics.

**The course will include** specific environmental areas of high concern for child health in Europe, such as indoor environment, environmental tobacco, air quality, organic and metal pollutants, noise, and electromagnetic fields. In addition the course will give an overview of general child health and the importance of modifying factors such as nutrition and genetics. Attention will be given to the issue of the increased frequency of allergy disease among children and their susceptibility. The overarching theme of the course will be risk assessment of environmental factors and the course include a information and discussion about the role of health outcome and exposure monitoring and the European action plans for child health and environment. Specific examples of risk assessments, where child health are crucial, will be discussed.

**The course consists of** lectures and group work that are presented orally and discussed.

**The intended learning outcome is** that the student shall have acquired knowledge and understanding of the specific susceptibility and exposure of the developing foetus, infant and child to environmental factors and the importance of modifying factors. The student shall also have acquired a professional attitude in interpretation of toxicological and epidemiological studies related to child health for use in health risk assessment.

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**The course is intended for** PhD students, post docs, senior scientists and other professionals. Thirty places are available.

**Course fee** is 150 euro and will include course material, lunches, coffee breaks and social programme. Course fee for participants from industry is 500 euro. Payment details will be supplied to accepted participants later.

**RA-COURSES will offer funding** for travel, subsistence and course fee for 20 PhD students and 5 post docs.

**Deadline** for application to the course is February 4, 2009.

**For further information** and application visit:  
[www.cascadenet.org/~RA-COURSES](http://www.cascadenet.org/~RA-COURSES) or  
[www.cascadenet.org](http://www.cascadenet.org)

**Course organiser:** Mattias Öberg, Institute of Environmental Medicine, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden.

**Course committee:** Annika Hanberg, Helen Håkansson, Agneta Rannug and Mattias Öberg, Karolinska Institutet, Sweden; Karin Wiberg, Umeå University, Sweden; Markku Pasanen, Jarkko Loikkanen, University of Kuopio, Finland and Ibrahim Chahoud, Charité Universitätsmedizin Berlin, Germany.

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