

Ettore Majorana Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture International School of Bioelectromagnetics “Alessandro Chiabrera”

Director of the School: Ferdinando Bersani (University of Bologna, Italy)

The Centre for Scientific Culture in Erice (Sicily, Italy) is named after the great Italian scientist Ettore Majorana. Antonino Zichichi, the director of the Centre, has said: “At Erice, those who come in order to follow a certain School are called ‘students’, but actually they are young people who have successfully completed their University studies and who come to Erice in order to learn what the new problems are. However, what is distinctive for Erice is the spirit animating all participants: students no less than teachers. The prime objective is to learn. The student listens to the lectures and after that comes the most amusing part: the discussion session.”

Topics in Bioelectromagnetics have come to Erice many times in the past, especially in the 1980s, with international courses and workshops on non-ionising radiation, and today many participants of those courses contribute greatly to the development of this research field.

Following the request of the European Bioelectromagnetics Association (EBEA) and the Inter-University Centre for the study of the Interaction between Electromagnetic Fields and Biosystems (ICEmB), in 2003 the Ettore Majorana Centre has established a Permanent School of Bioelectromagnetics, named after Alessandro Chiabrera, who is considered as a master by the young scientists of the two organizations.



4th COURSE: “Electromagnetic Fields and Epidemiology”

Erice (Sicily, Italy): March 26, 2008, to April 2, 2008

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Directors of the Course:

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The fourth Course of the School will cover different aspects of epidemiology in relation to electromagnetic field (EMF) exposure, including studies of mobile phones and of power lines. All areas of interest will be covered in lectures, seminars, and discussions where senior scientists will share with participants their own experience. The course will be comprehensive: it starts with general aspects of epidemiology (study designs and statistical methods), displays the pathway from real-life exposures via exposure assessment to exposure metrics, informs about a variety of topics of EMF epidemiology and recent studies (like Interphone), discusses interactions with dosimetry experts and experimental research, and affords the use of epidemiological study results in a public health perspective and in the definition of protection guidelines.

Award for the best poster presentation

One day will be partially devoted to poster presentations by participants. A Scientific Committee will award the author of the best poster. All posters will be introduced by a 5-minute oral presentation.

Participation fee: € 1300 including food and lodging.

Application: Interested candidates should send an e-mail to the Directors of the Course at the following e-mail address:

erice@cancer.dk

with the following information:

- A short Curriculum Vitae
- Scientific interest of the candidate
- Students: a letter of recommendation of a Senior Scientist

In case of acceptance the candidate will be informed by e-mail.

The deadline for sending the requests of participation to the School is February 15, 2008.

The participation fee can be paid directly into the Bank Account of the Erice E. Majorana Centre indicating the motivation (Participation to the fourth Course of the International School of Bioelectromagnetics “Alessandro Chiabrera”) or directly to the School on arrival in Erice.

Bank Account: Banco di Sicilia, Erice

Bank Code for National participants (BBAN): T0102081850000410041482

Bank code for International participants (IBAN): IT40 T010 2081 8500 0041 0041 482

For details about the Ettore Majorana Centre: www.ccsem.infn.it

Participants must arrive in Erice on March 26th, 2008, possibly not later than 6 p.m.

The course starts on May 27th 9 a.m. and ends on April 2nd, 2008, 12:30 a.m.

Program

Arrival: March 26th ; Course: March 26th to April 2nd

Epidemiologic methods

Basic concepts and study designs
(*C. Magnani, Novara, Italy*)

Basic concepts of analyses and risk estimation
The conduct and interpretation of meta-analyses
(*M. Blettner, Mainz, Germany*)

Bias, confounding and interactions
Analysis of continuous exposure data
(*S. Greenland, Los Angeles, USA*)

Practical issues of conducting epidemiological studies
(*B. Schlehofer, Heidelberg, Germany*)

Exposure-related topics

Environmental exposures to ELF and RF
(*G. Neubauer, Seibersdorf, Austria*)

Occupational exposures to EMF
Mobile phones, cordless phones, appliances
(*K.H. Mild, Umea, Sweden*)

Exposure indices in ELF epidemiology
(*M. Feychting, Stockholm, Sweden*)

Exposure indices in RF epidemiology
(*E. Cardis, Lyon, France*)

Exposure misclassification in EMF studies
(*M. Rösli, Berne, Switzerland*)

Descriptive epidemiology of selected diseases

Childhood leukemia
(*C. Magnani, Novara, Italy*)

Brain tumors
(*B. Schlehofer, Heidelberg, Germany*)

Neurodegenerative diseases
(*C. Johansen, Copenhagen, Denmark*)

Radiofrequency (RF) EMF studies

Overview of studies on mobile phones and brain tumors
(*S. Lagorio, Rome, Italy*)

Mobile phones and brain tumors: the Interphone Study
(*E. Cardis, Lyon, France*)

Mobile phones and acoustic neurinoma
(*M. Feychting, Stockholm, Sweden*)

Cohort studies of mobile phone users
(*J. Schüz, Copenhagen, Denmark*)

Epidemiologic studies of broadcast transmitters
(*M. Rösli, Berne, Switzerland*)

Electromagnetic fields (EMF) studies

EMF and neurodegenerative diseases
EMF and cardiovascular diseases
(*C. Johansen, Copenhagen, Denmark*)

EMF and subjective symptoms
(clinical epidemiology and human studies)
(*M. Rösli, Berne, Switzerland*)

Extremely low-frequency (ELF) EMF studies

ELF and childhood leukemia
(*J. Schüz, Copenhagen, Denmark*)

ELF and breast cancer
(*M. Feychting, Stockholm, Sweden*)

ELF and other cancers
(*L. Kheifets, Los Angeles, USA*)

Epidemiology and interaction with other scientific areas

Epidemiology and exposure surveys
(*G. Neubauer, Seibersdorf, Austria*)

Epidemiology and occupational safety
(*K.H. Mild, Umea, Sweden*)

Biological research
(*I. Lagroye, Bordeaux, France*)

Epidemiology, health policy, and protection guidelines

WHO Environmental Health Criteria
(*E. van Deventer, Geneva, Switzerland*)

Risk of childhood leukemia attributable to exposure to ELF magnetic fields
(*L. Kheifets, Los Angeles, USA*)

EU SCENIHR Report
(*G. Neubauer, Seibersdorf, Austria*)

Epidemiologic results and policy implications, the ICNIRP view
(*P. Vecchia, Rome, Italy*)

Introduction and Conclusions

F. Bersani, Bologna, Italy

Practice

Poster Presentations by Participants
Group Work Exercise