Special issue on the Impact of endocrine disrupters on reproductive health

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This special issue of *Reproduction* contains articles based on presentations at the 7th Copenhagen Workshop on Endocrine Disrupters, which took place in May 2013. The workshop was the seventh in the series of successful meetings held at Rigshospitalet in Copenhagen since 2000 with the aim of bringing together leading scientists across disciplines to discuss the latest aspects of endocrine disruption with focus on human health, particularly on reproduction. More than 200 scientists from all over the world and from a wide variety of disciplines including endocrinology, basic science, toxicology, reproductive biology, immunology, chemistry, environmental health, and epidemiology gathered for 4 days during the meeting.

The papers in this special issue reflect the diversity in the fields of science that contribute to our knowledge on how environmental factors can affect hormone systems and thereby compromise health. Reports on the associations between human exposures and different health outcomes from epidemiological and clinical research are accompanied by reports from studies on experimental animal and laboratory models. One of the sessions at the workshop was dedicated to species differences in endocrine-disrupting effects, including a report of comparative studies that calls for caution in the extrapolation of effects between species (Habert *et al.* 2014).

Comprehensive new data on human exposures to a range of mainly non-persistent chemicals present in our daily environment are also presented (Frederiksen *et al.* 2014) including a study showing that aniline, to which whole populations are exposed, is a hitherto overlooked

source of exposure to paracetamol – a pharmaceutical compound – recently shown to affect the production of testosterone (see Modick *et al.* (2014) in this issue).

For the articles that closely reflect the original presentation at the meeting, the edited comments from the audience during the workshop are included at the end of the paper. This was done to provide an impression of the scientific discussions that took place as well as to retain the added information that such discussions might provide. All papers accepted for this volume have passed the thorough peer review process of *Reproduction*.

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References

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