ACGIH®

TLV®/BEI® Development Process

James H. Price
ACGIH®, Director of Science
Agenda

• Introduction to ACGIH®
• Statement of Position
• Conflict of Interest
• TLV®/BEI® Development Process and Important Changes
• Basis and Limitations of TLVs®/BEIs®
• Providing Input to ACGIH®
• Sources of Information
ACGIH®

• New Position and Tagline for ACGIH®

✓ ACGIH® Brand Promise:
  • ACGIH® advances worker protection by providing timely, objective scientific information to occupational and environmental health professionals.

✓ ACGIH® Tagline:
  • ACGIH®: Defining the science of occupational and environmental health

• ACGIH®: Membership-based organization
• ACGIH® Committees: Provide technical expertise and knowledge fundamental to ACGIH®
ACGIH® Committees

- Committees consist of members who volunteer time toward developing scientific guidelines and publications
  - Primary goal is to serve the scientific needs of occupational and environmental health professional
  - Committee expenses (travel) are supported by ACGIH®
  - Time is donated by the members
Committees

Core Mission

- ACGIH® Members
- Board of Directors
- Ex. Director & Staff

Exposure Assessment Criteria
- BEI®
- TLV®-CS
- TLV®-PA

Assessment & Control Methodology
- Air Sampling Instruments
- Bioaerosols
- Industrial Ventilation

Occupational Sector Applications
- Agr S&H
- Infectious Agents
- Small Business

Professional & Intersociety Coordination
- Computer
- International
- PCC

Administration & Governance
- Audit
- Awards
- Leadership Council
- Nominating
- Finance

Joint Committees
- JIHEEC
- Joint Interaction
Policies and Processes for Limiting Conflict of Interest
Conflict of Interest

• Committee members serve as individuals, not as representatives of organizations and/or interest groups

• Members are selected based on expertise, soundness of judgment, and ability to contribute
Conflict of Interest

- Annual discussion of conflict of interest in full Committee
- Annual declaration by each member
  - Professional employment background
  - Current professional activities
  - Consulting
  - Research funding
  - Financial holdings
ACGIH® Statement of Position
adopted by the ACGIH® Board of Directors on
March 1, 2002

ACGIH® is not a standards setting body.

TLVs® and BEIs® —

• Are an expression of scientific opinion.
• Are not consensus standards.
• Are based solely on health factors; it may not be economically or technically feasible to meet established TLVs® or BEIs®.
ACGIH® Statement of Position

TLVs® and BEIs® —

• Should NOT be adopted as standards without an analysis of other factors necessary to make appropriate risk management decisions.

• Can provide valuable input into the risk characterization process. The full written Documentation for the numerical TLV® or BEI® should be reviewed.
TLV®/BEI® Development Process
Committee Selects Substance/Agent for TLV®/BEI® Review

External Input

Committee

1. Under Study

Draft Documentation
Not available to public

External Input

Committee

Board of Directors

Withdraw
Consideration

3. Notice of Intended Changes (NIC)
Draft TLV®/BEI®
& Documentation available to public

External Input

Committee

Board of Directors

4. TLV®/BEI® & Documentation Adopted
Published in yearly Supplement
TLV® Development Process

Under Study List

Committee Review & Revision

Draft Doc.

Committee Review & Revision

External Input

NIC

Committee & Board Approval

Adopted Value

Committee & Board Approval
TLV®/BEI® Development Process

Important Changes

• **Under Study List:** Beginning 2006 provide additional information on status of substances and agents on Under Study List.

• **NIC and NIE Comment Period:** Beginning 2007 limit comment period to firm six-month period, running from February 1 to July 31 of each year.
Under Study List Change - 2006

• Continued Practice: Publish general Under Study List by February 1 of each year

• Added Practice beginning 2006: Publish updated two-tiered Under Study List by July 31 of each year
  ✓ Tier 1: Substances and agents that may move forward as an NIC or NIE in upcoming year
  ✓ Tier 2: Substances and agents that will not move forward, but will either remain on, or be removed from list in upcoming year
  ✓ Two-tier list will remain for balance of year

• Above practice: Will start over each year
  ✓ General list by February 1
  ✓ Two-tiered list by July 31
NIC and NIE Change - 2007

• Restructuring comment period to ensure receipt of comments in time for full consideration
  ✓ Comment period closes July 31 for that year’s Committee deliberations regarding outcome for possible adoption of a NIC or NIE.
  ✓ Comment period runs from February 1 to July 31.
  ✓ Draft Documentation available for review during this full six month comment period.

• Ongoing Process
  ✓ ACGIH® reviews all comments regarding substances/agents on Under Study, on NIC or NIE or currently adopted BEIs® or TLVs®
  ✓ Comments received after July 31 for a NIC or NIE will be considered in the following year.
Basis of TLVs®/BEIs®

Scientific Literature

- Published/Peer Reviewed Science (Principal Source)
- Reviewed Articles (Secondary)
- Unpublished Science (Secondary)
  ✓ Before Use: Owner must provide ACGIH® permission to use and cite the report, and release the report to a third party
  ✓ Consideration of TLVs® are not deferred pending completion of on-going or planned research
- Not a review of all available literature
  ✓ Emphasis on peer-reviewed literature
  ✓ Emphasis on literature pertinent to the issue
TLVs® Defined

• TLV® — more than just “THE NUMBER”

• Documentation describes:
  ✓ Critical health effects
  ✓ Quality of the data relied upon and areas of uncertainty
  ✓ Possible sensitive subgroups
  ✓ Type of TLV® (TWA, STEL, C) and reason for selection
  ✓ Notations
Warnings

• NOT to be used as an index of relative toxicity
• NOT for estimating toxic potential of continuous, uninterrupted exposures or other extended work periods
• NOT as proof/disproof of existing disease
• NOT to evaluate or control air pollution
• NOT legal standards
How/When Interested Parties Can Most Effectively Provide Input to the TLV®/BEI® Development Process

• Under Study stage
• NIC Stage
• Submit published, peer-reviewed science
• Unpublished works: Write an article and get it published
• Relevant unpublished studies: Submit to ACGIH® with permission to use, cite and release study
Information Sources on TLV®/BEI® Recommendations Ratified by ACGIH® Board

For Adopted and Notice of Intended Changes (NIC) Recommendations:

• ACGIH® Annual Report (January/February)*
• ACGIH® Website (January/February)*
• TLVs® and BEIs® Book (Spring)*

* Also identifies substances and agents Under Study
Online ACGIH® TLV®/BEI® Resources
www.acgih.org

- Conflict of Interest Policy
- TLV®/BEI® Policy Statement
- TLV®/BEI® Position Statement
- TLV®/BEI® Development Process
- Under Study List
- Notice of Intended Changes (NIC) List
- BEI®/TLV®-CS Committees Operations Manuals
- ACGIH® Annual Presentation at AIHce
Questions/Discussion