

# Dall'igiene e tossicologia industriale all'igiene e tossicologia ambientale: problemi e prospettive

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## KEY WORDS

Environmental hygiene; environmental toxicology

## SUMMARY

**«From occupational hygiene and toxicology to environmental hygiene and toxicology: questions and perspectives».** **Background:** *Low-dose exposures to mixtures of substances have received increasing interest and they involve many different occupational and environmental situations. The presence in the population (working and general) of groups of susceptible individuals is an important public health issue that poses new challenges to science and society.* **Objectives:** *To discuss the evolution from traditional occupational hygiene and toxicology to the new environmental (general and occupational) hygiene and toxicology.* **Results:** *Environmental hygiene and toxicology have remarkably improved analytical tools available to solve most of the analytical issues posed by the present exposure scenario. Biomarkers of low-dose exposure, early effects and individual susceptibility are being intensively investigated.* **Conclusions:** *The challenge in this field for the coming years appears to be not the analytical but the medical and ethical implications.*