» Skin Models, Practical Training Course on Skin Penetration Models and *In Vitro* Test, Methods for the Identification of Dermal Corrosive or Phototoxic Potential, 6.-8. February 2006, Institute for Pharmacy, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

rminkalender

The Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, BfR, Berlin, offers practical training of in vitro methods for the prediction of skin corrosive or phototoxic potential. The Training Course focuses on the Skin Corrosivity Test and the In Vitro 3T3 NRU Phototoxicity Test which have gained regulatory acceptance by the OECD. In addition, the lab course includes the Franz-Cell Skin Penetration Model. All in vitro methods will be hands-on laboratory exercise. The participants will perform the tests and evaluate the results according to Standard Operation Procedures. The theoretical background of each test method will be introduced during seminars. Moreover, general aspects concerning the 3Rs concept and validation studies will be addressed. For further information and registration please visit the homepage: http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~invitrot/ or contact mengelke@zedat.fu-berlin.de.

» 6th International Conference and Workshop on Cell Culture and *in-vitro* Models for Drug Absorption and Delivery, March 1 - 10, 2006, Department of Biopharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Technology, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany.

For further information please contact the website http://www.kwt.deepweb.de/. » TestSmart DNT (Developmental Neurotoxicity) Symposium: Creating a Humane and Efficient Approach to Developmental Neurotoxicity Testing, March 13-15, 2006, Hyatt Regency Reston, Reston, Virginia.

This symposium is the first of a series that will bring together leading stakeholders from around the world to develop the Developmental Neurotoxicity (DNT) testing methods of the future. Current methods for DNT testing are complex and expensive in terms of scientific resources, time, and animal use. Given the increasing number of chemicals that need to be tested and the increasing amount of information needed about them, we must look for new approaches to meet the demands for identifying developmentally neurotoxic agents with speed, reliability, and respect for animal welfare.

For further information please contact the website http://caat.jhsph.edu/dnt/.

» Alternative Pyrogen Testing Conference, March 23-24 2006,

Bacharach/Frankfurt, Germany. True In-vitro Pyrogen Tests (IVPT) have been developed in several European countries (United Kingdom, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany) in national and international research projects. The tests imitate the central step of human fever reaction, i.e. the activation of human monocytes by endotoxin as well as non-endotoxin pyrogens. Standardisation and user friendliness of these tests are key issues which have to be addressed. At the same time, regulatory authorities have to support this progress. These improvement must be taken into account for up-dates of regulatory demands e.g. the European Pharmacopoeia. All these challenging topics will be discussed during the conference.

Conference organisation: Concept Heidelberg, P.O. Box 10 17 64, 69007 Heidelberg/Germany, Tel. +49 (0) 62 21 / 84 44-0, Fax +49 (0) 62 21 / 84 44 34, e-mail: info@concept-heidelberg.de, www.concept-heidelberg.de; online registration at http://www.pyrogen-conference.com.

» 46th ETCS international meeting/3rd international joint meeting AICC-CELLTOX on *in vitro* cytotoxicity mechanisms, 26-29 March 2006, Verona, Italy.

Details from Iantra Viaggi and Eventi, P. Donatori di Sangue 5, 37124 Verona, Italy Tel. +39-045-830 3306, Fax +39-045-838 8581, e-mail: info@iantra.it.

» Acute Eye Toxicity Practical Training Course on *In Vitro* Methods for the Identification of Ocular Irritancy and Corrosivity Institute for Pharmacy, 27-29. March 2006,

Freie Universität Berlin, Germany.

The Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, BfR, Berlin, offers practical training of *in vitro* methods for the prediction of eye irritancy and corrosivity that have gained regulatory acceptance for specific purposes. The practical training focuses on the Hen's Egg Test on Chorio-Allantois Membrane (HET-CAM), the EpiOcular Tissue Model and the Bovine Cornea Opacity and Permeability Test (BCOP). All *in vitro* methods will be hands-on laboratory exercise. The participants will perform the tests and evaluate the results according to Standard Operation Procedures or Invittox Protocols. The theoretical background of each test method will be introduced during seminars. Moreover, general aspects concerning the 3Rs concept and validation studies will be addressed. For further information and registration please visit the homepage: http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~invitrot/ or contact mengelke@zedat.fu-berlin.de.

 >> 13th Congress on Alternatives to Animal Testing,
10th Annual Meeting of MEGAT – Middle European Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing,
2nd – 4th June 2006,
Linz, Austria.

Congress languages: English and German, with simultaneous interpretation. Subjects: Legal and ethical aspects in animal experimentation; ecotoxicology; good cell culture practice; *in vitro* models for testing long term (chronic)

toxicity; target organ toxicity; acute

toxicity testing; REACH; free speeches; poster sessions. Exhibition: An appropriate exhibition will take place at the congress site. Awards: A thesis award and poster awards will be given. Submission deadlines: Lectures: 31st January 2006, Posters: 28th February 2006. Scietific committee: Thomas Hartung (ECVAM), Walter Pfaler (zet), Horst Spielmann (ZEBET). Congress office: zet - Centre for Alternative and Complementary Methods to Animal Testing, P.O. Box 210, 4021 Linz, Austria Tel.: +43-732-770325, Fax: +43-732-770325-13, E-mail: linz2006@zet.or.at, www.zet.or.at/kongress/Linz2006.

» 14th International INVITOX workshop,
2-5 October 2006,
Ostend, Belgium.

The scientific programme will include state-of-the-art lectures, workshops,

original communications and poster sessions. INVITOX 2006 will cover strategies to develop sensitive and specific molecular markers (genes and proteins), the use of advanced cell technology, how to address sensitive subgroups e.g. children, ecotoxicology and testing for endpoints related to major human health effects, e.g. teratogenesis, endocrine disruption and immune effects. Conference secretariat: Lily Dierckx, Environmental Toxicology Unit, VITO, Boeretang 200, 2440 Mol, Belgium phone 32-14-335107, fax 32-14-580523, e-mail: secretariat@invitox2006.org. Further details from www.invitox2006.org.

» 6th World Congress on Alternatives
& Animals in the Life Sciences.
21-25 August, 2007,
Tokyo, Japan.

www.knt.co.jp/ec/2007/wc6

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