Symposium Highlights Emerging Occupational Health Hazards, Including H1N1

CINCINNATI—Scientists will discuss the latest occupational and environmental health research at the University of Cincinnati (UC) Education and Research Center’s 10th annual Pilot Research Project Symposium on Thursday, Oct. 1, and Friday, Oct. 2.

The symposium is free and open to the public and will take place in Kettering Laboratory’s Kehoe Auditorium at the UC College of Medicine’s environmental health department.

Led by Amit Bhattacharya, PhD, professor of environmental health, the Pilot Research Project seeks to increase the Tristate region’s research capacity through collaboration with 12 universities and colleges. The program offers financial support to doctoral students and junior faculty with promising research ideas.

The center aims to increase the research capacity of trainees and young investigators in occupational health and safety, and to encourage those in related disciplines at collaborating universities throughout the region to pursue occupational health and safety research.

During the conference, the previous year’s research award winners will present their results and 2009–2010 winners will display poster presentations of their proposed work.

John Dement, PhD, professor in the division of occupational and environmental medicine at Duke University Medical Center, will speak on COPD in workers at U.S. Department of Energy sites during a keynote address on Oct. 1 at 1 p.m. Ronald Shaffer, PhD, research branch chief of the National Personal Protective Technology Lab at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), will give the keynote address on Oct. 2 at 8 a.m. on respiratory
protection against emerging hazards of nanotechnology and the H1N1 flu virus.

To register for the symposium, contact Marianne Kautz at kautzm@ucmail.uc.edu by Sept. 25, 2009. For more information, contact Cyndy Cox at (513) 558-5710 or erccoor@uc.edu, or visit eh.uc.edu. Continuing education units are available.

UC is one of only 16 NIOSH-funded Education and Research Center programs in the United States. The center includes eight specialty occupational safety and health program tracks with more than 50 students at the graduate and residency levels.