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Professional Profile

Dr. Mezei is a physician and epidemiologist with over 25 years of experience in research of clinical outcomes and environmental and occupational health issues. He designed, conducted and evaluated epidemiologic investigations and directed multidisciplinary research programs related to children's health (including childhood leukemia and brain cancer), adult cancers (e.g., leukemia, brain and breast cancer), neurodegenerative diseases (e.g., Alzheimer disease and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis [Lou Gehrig disease]), reproductive health outcomes (including birth defects), occupational injuries and ergonomics.

Dr. Mezei has been involved in studies of various occupational and environmental exposures, including electromagnetic fields (EMF), mineral fibers (asbestos), air pollutants and metals (welding fumes). He has expertise and experience in quantitatively and qualitatively aggregating epidemiologic evidence (via literature reviews, meta-analyses, and pooled analyses) for environmental and occupational risk assessments. Dr. Mezei appeared as an expert in hearings at several state (US) and provincial (Canada) public utility commissions and a parliamentary committee in Ireland.

Prior to joining Exponent, Dr. Mezei directed a multidisciplinary scientific research program at the Electric Power Research Institute designated to address potential human and animal health effects associated with residential and occupational exposure to power frequency and radiofrequency EMF. He also directed occupational health and safety research focusing on injury surveillance, ergonomics evaluations, and occupational exposure assessments. Earlier, at the Toronto Western Hospital, University of Toronto, he conducted research to identify clinical factors affecting hospital stay, adverse clinical and surgical outcomes and hospital readmissions following ambulatory surgery. He was a practicing physician at the National Institute for Dermatology in Budapest, Hungary.

Dr. Mezei trained as a physician (M.D.) at the Semmelweis University of Medicine in Budapest, Hungary, and as an epidemiologist (Ph.D.) at the School of Public Health of the University of California in Los Angeles (UCLA). He was the recipient of Fogarty and Fulbright Fellowships. He served as an affiliate associate professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences of the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, as a visiting scientist at the Hungarian National Research Institute for Radiobiology and Radiohygiene in Budapest, Hungary, and as an associate editor at the Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology. Dr. Mezei lectured at Stanford University, the UCLA School of Public Health, and the Electrotechnical Committee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Mezei is an author or co-author of over 60 scientific publications and book chapters on topics related to the epidemiology of environmental and occupational exposures and chronic diseases (such as cancer and neurodegenerative diseases), adverse clinical outcomes, and environmental exposure assessment.

Academic Credentials & Professional Honors

Ph.D., Epidemiology, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA), 1995

M.D., Medicine, Semmelweis University of Medicine, 1990

Fogarty Fellowship, 1992-1995

Fulbright Fellowship, 1994-1995

Academic Appointments

Affiliate Associate Professor, Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington, Seattle, 2010-2014

Publications

Mezei G, Lau E, Pace ND, Schenk J, Kheifets L. Receipt of electroconvulsive therapy and subsequent development of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis: A cohort study. Bioelectromagnetics 2022; 43(2):81-89.

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Souques M, Plante M, Ostiguy G, Goulet D, Deschamps F, Mezei G, Modolo J, Lambrozo J, Legros A. Anecdotal report of magnetophosphene perception in 50 mT 20, 50 and 60 Hz magnetic fields. Radioprotection 2014; 49(1):69-71.

Okokon E, Roivainen P, Kheifets L, Mezei G, Juutilainen J. Indoor transformer stations and ELF magnetic field exposure: use of transformer structural characteristics to improve exposure assessment. Journal of Exposure Science and Environmental Epidemiology 2014; 24(1):100-104.

Frei P, Poulsen AH, Mezei G, Pedersen C, Salem LC, Johansen C, Roosli M, Schuz J. Residential distance to high voltage power lines and risk of neurodegenerative diseases: A Danish population-based case-control study. American Journal of Epidemiology, 2013; 177(9):970-978.

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Mezei G, Gadallah M, Kheifets L. Residential magnetic field exposure and childhood brain cancer: a meta-analysis. Epidemiology 2008; 19(3):424-430.

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Forssen UM, Mezei G, Nise G, Feychting M. Occupational magnetic field exposure among women in Stockholm County, Sweden. Occupational and Environmental Medicine 2004; 61(7):594-602.

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Book Chapters

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Mezei G, Vergara X. Adult cancer and extremely low-frequency magnetic fields. In: Röösli M. Epidemiology of Electromagnetic Fields, Chapter 10, pp 161-184. CRC Press, Taylor & Francis Group, Boca Raton, Florida, 2014.

Kheifets L, Mezei G. Extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields. In: Hunter's Diseases of Occupations, 10th edition. Baxter PJ, Aw TC, Cockcroft A, Durrington, Harrington JM (Eds.), Chapter 55, pp. 663-674, Hodder Arnold, United Kingdom, 2010.

Mezei G, Kheifets L. Radiofrequency fields. In: Hunter's Diseases of Occupations, 10th edition. Baxter PJ, Aw TC, Cockcroft A, Durrington, Harrington JM (Eds.), Chapter 56, pp. 675-681, Hodder Arnold, United Kingdom, 2010.

Kheifets L, Mezei G. Extremely low frequency electric and magnetic fields. In: Encyclopedia of Quantitative Risk Assessment. Everitt B, Melnick E (Eds.), pp. 691-693, John Wiley & Sons, United Kingdom, 2008.