
This book, which conforms to the usual high standards of IARC monographs, provides a detailed account of the biophysics of ultraviolet and solar irradiation and their biochemical actions on DNA. There is much about their intriguing biological effects on cellular responses and repair, and a critical review of their tumorigenic, local immunosuppressive, and other harmful effects—for example, in causing cataract and “solar keratosis”. Fluorescent lighting is reviewed and is regarded as an improved carcinogenic risk for man, but improper use of sunbeds is shown to be harmful. Sun screens are briefly discussed, too.

There is rightly much concern about the risks to man of excessive ultraviolet and solar irradiation. This book provides the facts to support the drive to protective measures, and at the same time it is a valuable source of information about the neglected areas of radiation pathology and toxicology.

A D DAYAN

**Errata**

The following errors appeared in: Bacteriological evaluation of a down-draught necropsy table ventilation system by McLaughlin et al, J Clin Pathol 1993; 46:746:9; the third paragraph of the Results section should read: The mean counts of the tracer organism B subtilis var niger are shown in fig 3. The effect of the local air extraction was to reduce the counts from >10⁷ to 10³ l air to 13,000 l air. The settle plate counts increased . . .

On page 748: The mean air velocity at the level of the table should read 2-240 m/second and not 2-240 cm/second as currently printed.