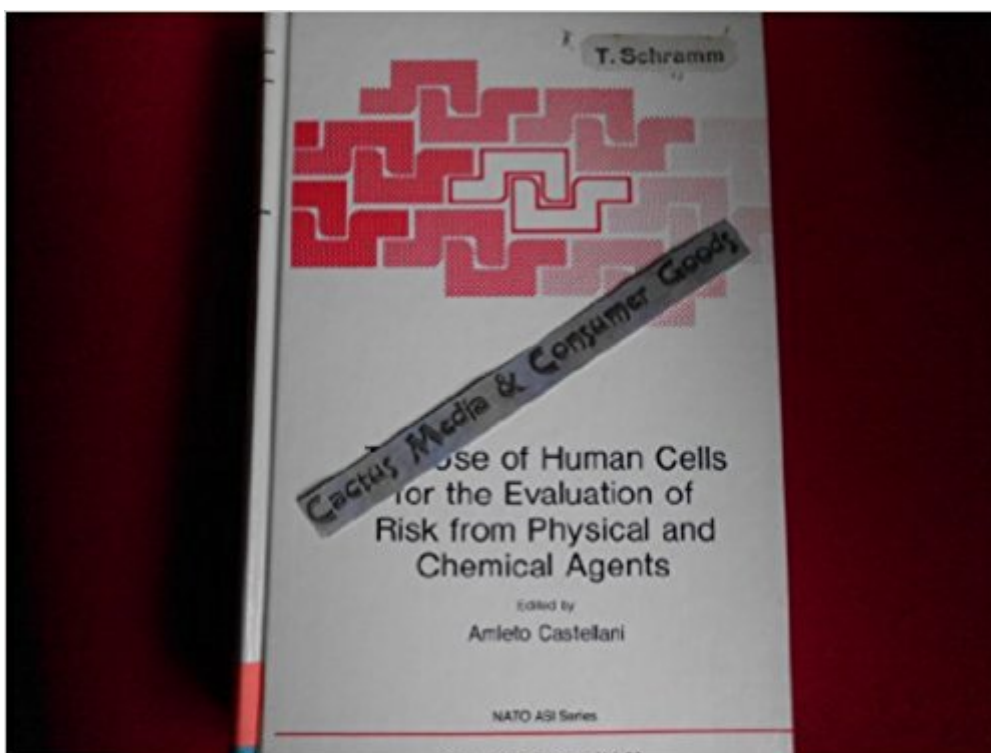


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The Use Of Human Cells For The Evaluation Of Risk From Physical And Chemical Agents (Topics In Language And Linguistics)



Synopsis

In this volume are collected 30 papers, 9 round table discussions and 11 communications presented at the ASI Course on "The use of human cells for the evaluation of risk from physical and chemical agents", sponsored by NATO and organized by ENEA. The aim of the Course was to present different scientific approaches and technical advices in order to get dose-effect relationships which are the basis for risk evaluation. The scientific background which is behind this approach was extensively discussed. Emphasis has been given to the use of human cells or human data in order to attempt to have a correct and realistic evaluation of the damage in humans. There are many criticisms on the use of animal data for human risk evaluation because of differences between species and between strains within the same species: differences in metabolism, activation processes and DNA repair ability makes uncertain the extrapolation of animal data to humans. Also data obtained using specific strains or highly inbred strains in order to reduce the variance are not applicable due to the heterogeneity of the human population connected with individual responses. In this respect only the use of human cells enable us to detect the individual variability and to identify sensitive subpopulations that would be at greater risk. My appreciation to Pieranita and Alberto Castellani for the assistance during the meeting and to Giuseppe Biondi for his help in some of the editorial work.

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