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Title: Self-reported skin rash or irritation symptoms among World Trade Center Health Registry participants
Committee: Environmental Health Sub-Committee
Topic: Disaster epidemiology: tools, data, experiences, and challenges
Keywords: Disasters|Environmental exposures

Background:

We described self-reported skin rash 2-3 and 5-6 years after the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center (WTC) and examined its association with exposures to 9/11 dust/debris.

Methods:

We analyzed a longitudinal study of New York City WTC Health Registry participants in two surveys (W1 and W2) who resided or worked in Lower Manhattan or worked in rescue/recovery. Multivariate analysis, adjusted for demographics, smoking and source of enrollment, were performed using logistic regression.

Results:

Among 42,025 participants, 12% reported post-9/11 skin rash at W1, 6% both times, 16% at W2. Among participants without post-traumatic stress disorder or psychological distress, W1 self-reported post-9/11 skin rash was associated with intense dust cloud exposure (adjusted odds ratio=1.6; 95% CI=1.3-1.9), home/workplace damage (aOR=1.8; 1.4-2.3), and working >90 (aOR=1.7; 1.3-2.2) or 31-90 days (aOR=1.6; 1.3-2.1) at the WTC site.

Conclusions:

Post-9/11 skin rash may be related to acute and long-term exposure to dust, though subjectivity of skin symptoms may bias findings.

Presenting Author(s):

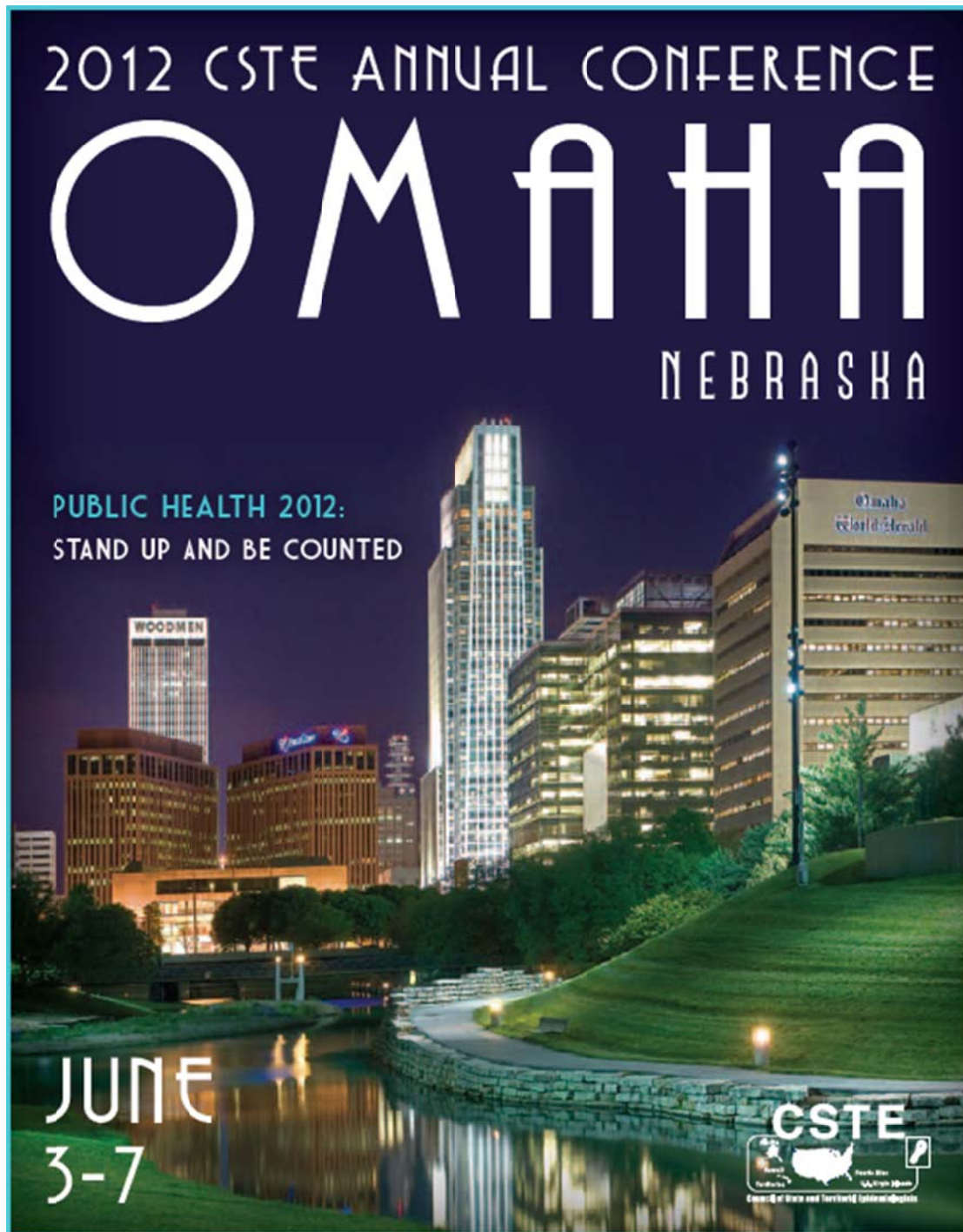
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