

American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine

September 30, 2024

Judith Eisenberg, MD, MS, FACEP Commander, U.S. Public Health Service Medical Officer, National Firefighter Registry (NFR) for Cancer Lead, Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program (FFFIPP) Medical Team National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 1090 Tusculum Avenue, MS R-14 Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

Dear Dr. Eisenberg,

Founded in 1916, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) is the nation's largest medical society dedicated to promoting the health of workers through preventive medicine, clinical care, research, and education. A dynamic group of physicians and allied health professionals in a variety of medical practices is united via the College to develop positions and policies on vital issues relevant to the practice of preventive medicine both within and outside of the workplace.

ACOEM's mission is to advance the specialty and promote optimal health and safety of workers, workplaces, and environments. The goals of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) National Firefighter Registry for Cancer (NFR) include:

- Tracking cancer diagnoses (including rare types of cancer) among a diverse group of firefighters throughout the U.S.,
- Exploring cancer risk between different groups of firefighters, including women, minorities, and sub-specialties of the fire service,
- Evaluating how exposures, including those from large or unusual incidents, relate to firefighters' cancer risk,
- Evaluating how control interventions relate to firefighters' cancer risk, and
- Investigating whether firefighters' risks for different cancers are changing over time.

The NFR will undoubtably aid occupational medicine physicians in accomplishing our mission by providing more informed guidance and cancer risk reduction strategies to our firefighter patients. One of the primary competencies of our specialty is Public Health, Surveillance, and Disease Prevention which clearly aligns with the goals of the NFR. Therefore, ACOEM supports the work of the NFR to improve the health and cancer survival rates of our nation's firefighters.

We thank you for your efforts in assisting this important worker population.

Sincerely,

Tanisha Taylor, MD, MPH

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