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**ACMT MISUSE OF REFERENCES TO PROMOTE THE VERITOX THEORY AS SOUND SCIENCE**

**ACMT Mold Statement Reference #1** is the 2004 National Academy of Science *“Institute of Medicine Damp Indoor Spaces and Health Report”* (IOM Report) [16]. Chapter 4 of the book is *“Toxic Effects of Fungi and Bacteria”*. When actually read rather than blindly accepted as a legitimate reference in support of the validity of the Veritox Theory, one can easily see that this reference, the IOM Report, discredits the scientific validity of the Veritox Theory by accurately stating:

“Except for a few studies on cancer, toxicologic studies of mycotoxins are acute or short-term studies that use high exposure concentrations to reveal immediate effects in small populations of animals. Chronic studies that use lower exposure concentrations and approximate human exposures more closely have not been done except for a small number of cancer studies.” [Page 125] “Toxicologic studies, which examine such responses using animal or cellular models, cannot be used by themselves to draw conclusion about human health effects.” [Exec Summary Page 7]

In 2011, the World Health Organization (WHO) issued *“Guidelines on Dampness and Mould.”*[17] Like IOM, and directly contradictory to the Veritox Theory and the ACMT Mold Statement, WHO found that there is currently no scientific method to establish a threshold level of exposure to the multiple contaminants, including mycotoxins, found in WDB before they cause/contribute to adverse human health effects. To quote WHO:

*“As the relations between dampness, microbial exposure and health effects cannot be quantified precisely, no quantitative health-based guideline value thresholds can be recommended for acceptable levels of contamination with microorganisms”.* [Executive Summary Page xv] *“Although direct extrapolation from experimental data to human risk is not possible, the studies that are described provide important information about the possible toxicological mechanisms behind the observed health effects in damp buildings.”* [Page 84, para 5 lines 7-10]

**ACMT Mold Statement Reference #8** that is cited in alleged support of the Veritox Theory and the boxed-in key sentence in the ACMT Mold Statement is Environmental Health Perspectives (EHP) *“Satratoxin G from the black mold Stachybotrys chartarum evokes olfactory sensory neuron loss and inflammation in the murine nose and brain.”*[18] Its authors’ understanding of the relevance of their research directly contradicts the sentence their research is cited to support in the ACMT Mold Statement.

ACMT Reference #8 was a mechanistic study which establishes that mycotoxins can breach the blood-brain barrier and inflame the noses and brains of rats. It had nothing to do with giving credence to the myopically formed LNT Veritox Theory. ACMT Reference #8’s authors state that their research suggests plausibility of human toxicity and brain inflammation from mycotoxin exposure in WDB. They concluded:

*“These findings suggest that neurotoxicity and inflammation within the nose and brain are potential adverse health effects of exposure to satratoxins and Stachybotrys in the indoor air of water-damaged buildings.” “Ultimately, all such information must be framed against accurate quantitative assessments of human exposure to satratoxins using both state-of-the-art sampling and analytical methods and relevant biomarkers.”*

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[16] 2004 IOM *Damp Spaces and Health* Report <http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?isbn=0309091934>

[17] 2011 WHO *Guidelines on Dampness and Mould*  
[http://www.euro.who.int/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0017/43325/E92645.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/_data/assets/pdf_file/0017/43325/E92645.pdf)

[18] Islam Z, Harkema JR, Pestka JJ. *Satratoxin G from the Black Mold Stachybotrys chartarum Evokes Olfactory Sensory Neuron Loss and Inflammation in the Murine Nose and Brain*. *Environmental Health Perspectives*. 2006;114(7):1099-1107. doi:10.1289/ehp.8854. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1513335/>