

FACULTY PROFILE

Harri Vainio, M.D., Ph.D.



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Professional Summary

Professor Harri Vainio, M.D., Ph.D., is a researcher in preventive medicine and in occupational health and safety, specializing in risk assessment and management. Since October 2015, he serves as a Professor in Environmental and Occupational Health, Faculty of Public Health, Kuwait University. Prior to joining Kuwait University, Dr. Vainio was the Director General of the Finnish Institute of Occupational Health (FIOH), Helsinki, Finland for the years 2003-2015. In this role, Dr. Vainio was responsible for leading the FIOH's research and advisory services, strategies, and management. Previously, Dr Vainio had been the Director of the Department of Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology at FIOH. In 1998-2000, Dr. Vainio was the Professor of Environmental Health Risk Assessment at the Karolinska Institute, Stockholm, Sweden.

Dr. Vainio has over 35 years of experience on the work at the international level from WHO and from the International Agency for research on Cancer (IARC). For many years (1983-1987, 1990-1993) Dr. Vainio was responsible for the production of the *IARC Monographs*, a series which aims to identify agents which are carcinogenic to humans. He also organized several IARC training courses on Environmental and Occupational Health, on Biomarker Epidemiology and Risk Assessment in developing countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America. Dr Vainio is the Honorary Member of the Royal College of Physicians, Faculty of Occupational Medicine in Dublin.

Dr. Vainio was the Board Member of the International Commission on Occupational on Health, ICOH, for the tenure of 2009-2015. In Finland, he was the Vice-Chair of the Governmental Tripartite Commission on Occupational Health Services in 2012-2015, and a Government representative in the Governing Council of the IARC in Lyon, France (2011-2014).

Dr. Vainio is the author of over 600 research reports and book chapters covering Toxicology, Molecular epidemiology, risk assessment, preventive oncology, and preventive medicine (H-index 67).

Education and Training

- M.D., University of Turku, Finland (1972)
- Ph.D., University of Turku, Finland (1973)
- Board Certified Toxicologist (EUROTOX 1998)
- F.F.O.M. (Ireland)

Research Interests and Projects

Dr. Vainio's research interests lie in the identification and evaluation of occupational and environmental risk factors to health, assessment of their impact and developing interventions for health protection and disease prevention.

Selected Publications

My Google Scholar citation indices are (dated 29.10.2015) as follows, based on 599 publications in SCOPUS: Citations: 17884, h-index: 67, i10-index: 312

The top 10 cited publications are as follows (according to Google Scholar 29.10.2015)

1. Expression of cyclooxygenase -2 in human lung carcinoma (H Wolff, K Saukkonen, S Anttila, A Karjalainen, **H Vainio**, A Ristimäki) *Cancer research* 58 (22) 4997-5001 (1998) (cited 788 times)
2. Overweight, obesity, and cancer risk ((F Bianchini, R Kaaks, **H Vainio**) *The lancet oncology* 3(9), 565-574 (2002) (cited 603 times)
3. Mutagenicity in urine of nurses handling cytostatic drugs (K Falck, P Gröhn, M Sorsa, **H Vainio**, E Heinonen, LR Holsti) *The Lancet* 313 (8128), 1250 -1251 (1979) (cited 410 times)
4. Reporting, appraising, and integrating data on genotype prevalence and gene-disease associations (Little, J., Bradley, L., Bray, M.S., Clyne, M., Dorman, J., Ellsworth, D.L., Hanson, J., Khoury, M., Lau, J., O'Brien, T.R., Rothman, N., Stroup, D., Taioli, E., Thomas, D.C, **Vainio, H.**, Wacholder, S., & Weinberg, C.R.) *American journal of epidemiology* 156(4), 300-310 (2002) (cited 372 times)
5. The GSTM1 null genotype as a potential risk modifier for squamous cell carcinoma of the lung (A Hirvonen, K Husgafvel-Pursiainen, A Anttila, **H Vainio**) *Carcinogenesis* 14 (7), 1479-1481 (1993) (cited 269 times)
6. Fruit and vegetables in cancer prevention (**H Vainio** , E Weiderpass) *Nutrition and cancer* 54(1), 111-142 (2006) (cited 232 times)
7. Combined effect of polymorphic GST genes on individual susceptibility to lung cancer (Saarikoski, S.T., Voho, A., Reinikainen, M., Anttila, S., Karjalainen, A., Malaveille, C., **Vainio, H.**, Husgafvel-Pursiainen, K., and Hirvonen, A) *International journal of cancer* 77(4), 516-521 (1998) (cited 220 times)
8. The cancer-preventive potential of Panax ginseng: a review of human and experimental evidence (HP Shin, JY Kim, TK Yun, G Morgan, **H Vainio**) *Cancer, Causes & Control* 11(6), 565-576 (2000) (cited 214 times)
9. Leadership, job well-being, and health effects – a systematic review and a meta-analysis (J Kuoppala, A Lamminmäki, J Liira, **H Vainio**) *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* 50(8), 904-915 (2008) (cited 204 times)
10. Allium vegetables and organosulfur compounds: do they help prevent cancer? (F Bianchini, **H Vainio**) *Environmental health perspectives* 109 (9), 893 (2001) (cited 192 times)

Professional Affiliations

- Adjunct Professor – University of Turku, Finland (1975-present)
- Member – IARC alumni (2005-present)