

## **Disability Rights Information Page**

### **Australian Information:**

In Australia the Human Rights and Equal Opportunities Commission (HREOC) has acknowledged that MCS is a disability covered by the Disability Discrimination Act. A [Letter](#) sent to the ASEHA President in May 2004 from the Disability Discrimination Commissioner substantiates this. Complaints of disability discrimination can be made to HREOC website [www.humanrights.gov.au/disability\\_rights](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/disability_rights)

Link to MCS Job Access Information [Australian Government MCS Disability Job Access](#)

### **International Information and References:**

**The Canadian Human Rights Commission (CHCR)** has released its policy on Environmental Sensitivities, which is available at: [CHCR Environmental Sensitivities Policy](#)

This is following the reports that were commissioned:

[Accommodation for Environmental Sensitivities: Legal Perspective:](#)

[The Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities:](#) Abstract Below.

The Medical Perspective on Environmental Sensitivities By: Margaret E. Sears (M.Eng., Ph.D.)  
May 2007

**Abstract** Approximately 3% of Canadians have been diagnosed with environmental sensitivities, and many more are somewhat sensitive to traces of chemicals and/or electromagnetic phenomena in the environment. People experience neurological and numerous other symptoms, and avoidance of triggers is an essential step to regaining health. The Canadian Human Rights Commission commissioned this report to summarize scientific information about environmental sensitivities. For those interested in the original scientific and technical literature, an annotated bibliography is available on request from [environmentalhealthmed@gmail.com](mailto:environmentalhealthmed@gmail.com)

This report addresses issues such as; the definition and prevalence of environmental sensitivities; recognition by medical authorities; education and training within the medical community; origins, triggers and symptoms of sensitivities; impact of environmental sensitivities in the workplace; government; policies and standards for building codes, air quality and ventilation as they affect individuals with environmental sensitivities; and guidelines for accommodation within the workplace. For people with environmental sensitivities, their health and ability to work rests with the actions of others, including building managers, co-workers and clients. Accommodating people with environmental sensitivities presents an opportunity to improve workplace environmental quality and workers' performance, and may help prevent the onset of sensitivities in others. 86 page report here:

[http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/pdf/envsensitivity\\_en.pdf](http://www.chrc-ccdp.ca/pdf/envsensitivity_en.pdf)

**MCS America** [www.mcs-america.org](http://www.mcs-america.org) : The mission of MCS America is to gain respect and understanding for the many men, women, and children suffering with multiple chemical sensitivities (MCS), toxic injury (TI), and other related chronic illness and disability through brochures, printed materials, newsletters, support groups, public awareness campaigns, and lobbying for the full recognition of MCS in the medical and legal communities, while promoting mutual respect between fellow human beings and encouraging all members of the MCS community to participate to create a world in which there is no threat of toxic injury.

The **James Madison University Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS) Research Team** study the life impacts of living with Multiple Chemical Sensitivity.

[JMU MCS Home Page](#)

A 2007 article on Accommodation in the Workplace by Gibson, P.R., & Lindberg, A. (2007). *"Work accommodation for people with multiple chemical sensitivity. Disability & Society, 22(7), in press."*

This is a preprint of an article submitted for consideration (and accepted for publication) in Disability & Society (c) 2007 can found on the

[Research Papers Page](#)

**University of Minnesota** [Internal Guidelines regarding Multiple Chemical Sensitivity/Environmental Illness \(MCS/EI\)](#)

**Accomodation Access** Environmental Health Network Take Heart! [Take Heart!](#) This has information and links on access to accomodation, hospitals, and schools etc