原著論文

室内の化学物質に起因すると考えられる自覚症状の実態と住環境に関する調査研究

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Survey on the Symptoms of Illness possibly related to Chemical Substances in Living Environments

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要旨

本研究はアンケート調査に基づき、室内の化学物質に起因すると考えられる自覚症状の実態について検討を行った。さらに住宅工法や住宅形態、内装仕上材、通風条件などの住環境および在宅時間、冷暖房機器の使用状況とその時の換気状況などの暮らし方と自覚症状の知覚率との関係を検討した。調査対象は1990年代以降に開発された住宅地の住宅が中心である。調査方法は質問紙調査とし、留置、郵送を併用して行った。回収状況は留置が343/437部(78.5%)、郵送が253/305部(83%)で、計596/742部(80.3%)であった。

室内の化学物質に起因すると考えられる自覚症状については、調査対象世帯の12.6% (N=596)、個人対象では4.7% (N=2247) に知覚者が認められた。年齢では30代~50代の知覚率が高く、性別による差は少なかった。申告された自覚症状は目や鼻に対する刺激が多く、それらは入居後間もなく知覚される割合が高かった。

居住者の自覚症状の知覚率と住環境属性をタロス集計し、知覚率の差から問題点について考察することを試みた結果、特に1990年以降に建築された住宅や集合住宅の居住者、通風条件の悪い居住者の知覚率が高かった。暮らし方との関係では長時間冷暖房機器を使用する居住者の知覚率が高く、在宅時間と知覚率との関係では男女差がみられた。さらに、アレルギー性疾患を有する居住者の知覚率も高い傾向があり、個人の体質も自覚症状の知覚に関与すると推察された。

Abstract

We surveyed information on symptoms of illness resulting from the presence of chemical substances in living environments. We also investigated the relationship between prevalence of symptom perception and the following environment-related factors: the construction and structure of dwellings; interior finishing materials; ventilation conditions and other building configuration factors and periods of actual occupancy; use of air conditioning and related ventilation conditions. The questionnaire focused on housing developed from 1990 onward, and forms were either posted or distributed directly. Response rates were as follows: house calls = 342 out of 437 (78.5%); by mail = 253 out of 305 (83%); total = 596 out of 742 (80.3%).

Of all the households (N=596), 12.6% had at least one resident with perceived symptoms possibly associated with their indoor air quality, and 4.6% of the individual respondents (N=2247) had symptoms. The prevalence of individuals with perceived symptoms was highest in the age group of 30 ~ 50 years, and the prevalence was similar between females and males. The most commonly reported symptom was nose and eye irritation; which most of the affected individuals perceived immediately following occupancy.

By cross-tabulating prevalence of symptomatic perception by characteristic of their living environments, we found that the prevalence of symptoms perception was clearly highest among individuals living in poorly ventilated dwellings built 1990 or after. Greater symptoms perception was reported by individuals with extended use of air-conditioning. Also, there was a distinct difference in the prevalence of symptom perception between males and females when stratified by hours spent at home. Since those with allergies showed higher tendency to report symptoms, we suspect that the physical condition of the individuals may also affect the symptomatic perception possibly associated with

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