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For the last eight years, Dr. Hammond has been engaged in a major epidemiological study of children with asthma. She is also continuing a previous study of automotive workers' exposure to hexane in brake cleaning fluid causing peripheral neuropathy, which led the state to issue a warning and manufacturers discontinued the use of hexane in the products. Her new research will examine persistent peripheral neuropathy, cognitive effects, and reproductive effects in auto mechanics in the Bay Area.

Previous work focused on the pulmonary effects of exposures to silicon carbide in manufacturing, the carcinogenic potential of diesel exhaust exposures in railroad workers, and the effects of machining fluids in the automobile industry. She is also considered the world's leading expert on exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS), and her work on SHS exposure on commercial airlines led to banning cigarette smoking on domestic flights.

In 2008, Dr. Hammond received the Dr. William Cahan Distinguished Professor Award from the Flight Attendants Medical Research Institute to develop a set of tools to evaluate secondhand smoke exposure of flight attendants on commercial aircraft from 1950 to the present.

She earned a B.A. in Chemistry from Oberlin College, an M.S. in Environmental Sciences from Harvard School of Public Health, and a Ph.D. in Chemistry from Brandeis University.