



EPA Activities on New Approach Methods: Update from the Office of Pesticide Programs

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Acute Toxicity

- Eye irritation (Clippinger et al., 2021)
 - Provides evaluation of human relevance, strengths, and uncertainties of *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies
 - Comparison of corneas across species
 - Proposes adverse outcome pathway for eye irritation
 - Concludes many *in vitro/ex vivo* methods are equivalent or scientifically superior to *in vivo* rabbit study
- Acute Oral (Hamm et al., 2021)
 - Pilot program to evaluate mathematical tool (GHS Mixtures Equation) as alternative to acute testing in animals
 - Worked with NICEATM to conduct retrospective analyses, which demonstrated the utility of the GHS Mixtures Equation to predict oral toxicity, particularly for formulations with lower toxicity

CUTANEOUS AND OCULAR TOXICOLOGY
2021, VOL. 40, NO. 2, 145-167
<https://doi.org/10.1080/15569527.2021.1910291>



Open access


Human-relevant approaches to assess eye corrosion/irritation potential of agrochemical formulations

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Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology 125 (2021) 105007

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology


journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/yrtph



Performance of the GHS Mixtures Equation for Predicting Acute Oral Toxicity

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Dermal Absorption “Triple Pack”

ALTEX preprint
published March 12, 2021
doi:10.14573/altex.2101121

Research Article

Retrospective Analysis of Dermal Absorption Triple Pack Data

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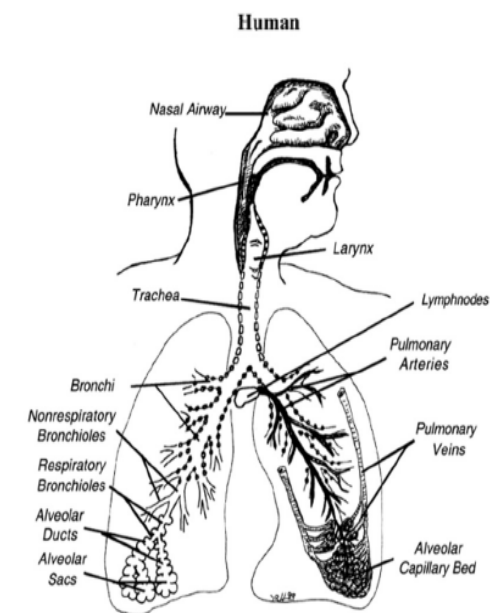
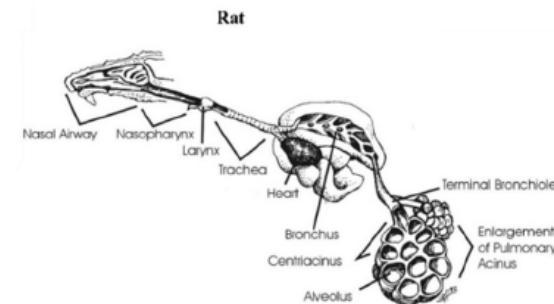
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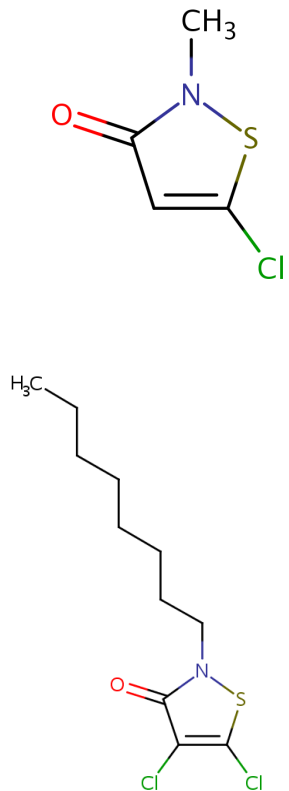
³Office of Pesticide Programs, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, DC, USA

- Retrospective analysis of human *in vitro*, rat *in vitro*, and rat *in vivo* studies using similar protocols (e.g., same test material, doses)
- Industry partners provided >30 triple pack studies
- Demonstrates *in vitro* studies alone provide similar or more protective estimates of dermal absorption, with limited exceptions
- Incorporating shift in use of *in vitro* studies into updated OECD Guidance Notes on Dermal Absorption

Inhalation Risk Assessment

- Refined approach using *in vitro* point of departure and human dosimetry modeling incorporated into chlorothalonil risk assessment for Registration Review
- <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OPP-2011-0840-0080>
- Evaluating available *in vitro* data for other contact irritants
- Investigating potential to apply similar approach for other pesticides
- Additional projects/discussions to evaluate and compare across *in vitro* assays

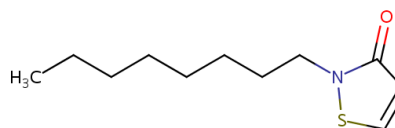
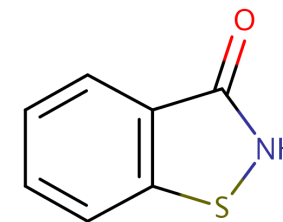
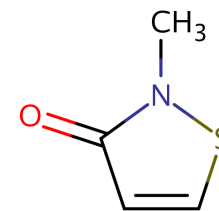
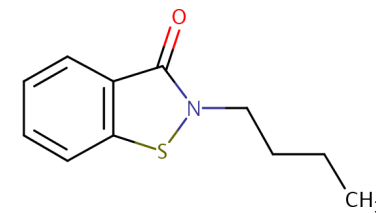




HAZARD
CHARACTERIZATION OF
ISOTHIAZOLINONES IN
SUPPORT OF FIFRA
REGISTRATION REVIEW
April 6, 2020

US Environmental Protection
Agency, Office of Pesticide
Programs, Antimicrobials Division

In Collaboration with the National
Toxicology Program's Interagency
Coordinating Committee for the
Evaluation of Alternative
Toxicological Methods



Isothiazolinone biocides are used as material preservatives to prevent the growth of microbial organisms and are used in industrial processes and consumer products

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/05/14/2020-10376/pesticide-registration-review-draft-human-health-and-ecological-risk-assessments-for-several>

Rethinking Carcinogenicity Assessment for Agrochemicals Project (ReCAAP)

- Collaborative project to develop a waiver framework for pesticides
 - Project led by PETA-ISC
 - Retrospective & prospective case studies were developed as part of the weight of evidence (WOE) development
 - Framework provides structure to organize existing critical information, including NAM data, that can be considered by a regulatory authority when making a waiver decision
 - Review by 2020 Scientific Advisory Board (SAB)
 - Manuscript published in June 2022



Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology

Volume 131, June 2022, 105160



Rethinking chronic toxicity and carcinogenicity assessment for agrochemicals project (ReCAAP): A reporting framework to support a weight of evidence safety assessment without long-term rodent bioassays

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Developmental Neurotoxicity (DNT)

- International effort to develop DNT NAM battery to assess critical processes of neurodevelopment
- Convened FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel (SAP) soliciting comment on currently available battery of assays
 - Report published in December 2020: <https://www.epa.gov/sap/use-new-approach-methodologies-nams-derive-extrapolation-factors-and-evaluate-developmental>
- Provide chemical nominations to NTP for additional testing
- OECD DNT NAM Expert Group drafting guidance document on integration of DNT NAMs into regulatory decision-making
- Release of data evaluation records (DERs) and memos to aid in NAM evaluation
 - Docket on regulations.gov: EPA-HQ-OPP-2016-0093



Integration of toxicodynamic and toxicokinetic new approach methods into a weight-of-evidence analysis for pesticide developmental neurotoxicity assessment: A case-study with DL- and L-glufosinate ☆

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✉

Use of DNT assays in WOE

- DNT study exists for DL-glufosinate; however, L-glufosinate isomers lack *in vivo* DNT study
- Data from *in vitro* DNT assays and toxicokinetics of DL- and L-glufosinate evaluated
- Incorporated data into a WOE assessment to support waiving *in vivo* DNT study for L-glufosinate

Eco Retrospective Analyses

- Fish acute retrospective
 - OPP uses cold freshwater fish, warm freshwater fish, and saltwater fish to assess acute risks (200 fish or more used)
 - Is there a consistently more sensitive fish across all compounds and can we reduce data sets to two or even one fish study?
 - Manuscript in preparation
- Avian reproductive retrospective
 - Currently 2 species are required: Mallard Duck and Bobwhite Quail
 - How could a protective risk assessment be done with only one species?
 - Currently in data curation and exploration stage

QSAR Evaluation for Acute Lethality

- QSAR for Fish LC₅₀
 - Data submitted to EPA by registrants
 - Much larger database than main current tool (ECOSAR) and with pesticide-specific data
 - Working on peer-reviewed publication and web-based GUI
- Collaborative Acute Toxicity Modeling Suite (CATMoS)
 - 35 participants/groups from around the globe representing academia, industry, and government contributed to the development
 - Evaluate potential replacement of rat acute oral toxicity study with LD₅₀ predictions
 - Manuscript in preparation

Honeybees

- Five tests (adult acute contact, adult acute oral, larval acute, adult chronic, and larval chronic toxicity) currently required
 - Examining EFED data holdings to determine whether all 5 tests are needed to do risk assessment
 - Manuscript published in PLOS One, April 7, 2022: “A retrospective analysis of honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) pesticide toxicity data”
- SeqAPASS (Sequence Alignment to Predict Across Species Sensitivity) model being evaluated to extrapolate honeybee data to non-*Apis* bees
- Colony models (e.g., VarroaPOP)



Updated OPP Webpage

Main page:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-science-and-assessing-pesticide-risks/strategic-vision-adopting-new-approach-methodologies>

Metrics: <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-science-and-assessing-pesticide-risks/adopting-21st-century-science-methodologies-metrics>



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Adopting 21st-Century Science Methodologies —Metrics

On Sept. 10, 2019, EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler issued a [directive](#) to prioritize efforts to reduce animal testing, which included the goals of reducing mammal study requests and funding 30 percent by 2025 and eliminating them by 2035. The administrator's directive specifically charged the Agency to establish baselines, measurements and reporting mechanisms to track its progress.

Additionally, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a [report](#) to Congress in 2019 recommending that Federal agencies develop metrics to assess the progress made toward reducing, refining and replacing animal use in testing. The activities and policies EPA has implemented over the past several years demonstrate significant impacts in reducing the number of animals used in testing and saving resources for the Agency and stakeholders.

Details on these reduction and replacement metrics are described on their respective pages. EPA's Pesticide Program reports its progress in the [Annual Reports on PRIA Implementation](#), and began to release specific metrics in FY2015.

On this page:

- [Hazard and Science Policy Council \(HASPOC\) metrics](#)
- [Chemistry and Acute Toxicology Science Advisory Council \(CATSAC\) metrics](#)
- [Acute Dermal Retrospective Waiver Requests](#)



Evaluate
regulatory
flexibility for
accommodating



Develop
baselines and
metrics for
assessing



Establish
scientific
confidence and
demonstrate



Develop NAMs
that fill critical
information
gaps



Engage and
communicate
with
stakeholders

EPA NAM Workplan

- Original EPA NAMs Work Plan released in June 2020, which laid out the Agency's objectives and strategies
- Committed to regularly reviewing the work plan and acknowledge the work plan will evolve as EPA's knowledge and experience grows, and as outside experts offer their perspectives and contributions
- Work plan recently updated in December 2021
 - Main objectives and strategies were left unmodified

Thank You!
