New Approaches to Chemical Risk Assessment for Foods & Food Ingredients Task Force

About the Task Force

New tools in the assessment of toxicity focus on developing a better mechanistic understanding of the biological interactions and pathways involved, through the application of cellular and molecular based methods, combined with computational approaches. These methods are designed to measure biological perturbations, rather than toxicity per se. Hence, some changes may reflect desirable effects whilst others may reflect untoward effects, depending on the concentration of the chemical present. This is particularly important when considering food. Hence, this task force is investigating how these new approaches can be applied in risk assessments that are relevant to the development of safe foods and food ingredients.

WHAT'S NEW?

WORKSHOP

The task force arranges a workshop 'The Use of AOPs in Safety Evaluation of Food Additives' 26-27 February 2019 in Brussels.

SCIENTIFIC SESSION

The task force is involved in two scientific sessions at EuroTox 2019, 8-11 September in Helsinki, in collaboration with the Alternative to Animal Testing and the Threshold of Toxicological Concern Task Forces.

POSTER

The poster 'Exploitation of ToxCast Data in safety risk assessment of food chemicals' was presented in the 20th International Congress on *In Vitro* Toxicology (ESTIV2018) 15-18 October in Berlin.

ACTIVITIES

Application of Adverse Outcome Pathways (AOPs) for Foods and Food Ingredients in Risk Assessment

This activity aims to understand the coverage of existing AOPs for foods and/or food ingredients and to identify the necessary additional information required to enable AOPs to be implemented for quantitative risk assessment and regulatory use to support the shift from animal testing to non-animal approaches in food safety risk assessment.

The activity will provide guidance for industry and risk assessors in the food sector to maximise the utilisation of emerging toxicological science that is more human relevant and less animal dependent.

Exploitation of ToxCast Data on Food Chemicals for Safety Risk Assessment

A high throughput screening programme of chemicals for potential toxicity (ToxCast) was performed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The ToxCast Expert Group aims to exploit the data relevant to the food industry from the ToxCast programme and assesses the utility of the data and methods for their use in the safety risk assessment of food chemicals. This activity will draw conclusions from the chemical structure of food-relevant compounds to assess their safety for human consumption and handling. An Adverse Outcome Pathway (AOP) may be developed based on these conclusions and the possibility of read-across will be assessed. The activity is working on three manuscripts, the first one of them with the title 'Methodological Analysis on Food Relevant Chemicals in ToxCast Data' being closest to submission.

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Member Companies

- BASF SE
- Danone Nutricia Research
- DSM
- Mayr-Melnhof Karton
- Mondelēz International
- Nestlé Research Centre
- Syngenta
- Unilever

Recent Publications

B.J. Blaauboer, A.R. Boobis, B. Bradford, A. Cockburn, A. Constable, M. Daneshian, G. Edwards, J.A. Garthoff, B. Jeffery, C. Krul, J. Schuermans. **Considering New Methodologies in Strategies for Safety Assessment of Foods and Food Ingredients**. *Food and Chemical Toxicology* 2016;*91:19-35.*

B. Schilter, R. Benigni, A. Boobis, A. Chiodini, A. Cockburn, M.T. Cronin, E. Lo Piparo, S. Modi, A. Thiel and A. Worth. **Establishing the Level of Safety Concern for Chemicals in Food Without the Need for Toxicity Testing**. *Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology* 2014;68:275-96.

All publications commissioned by this task force are available on our website: www.ilsi.eu.

For more information on ILSI Europe's activities, don't forget to follow us on Twitter @ILSI_Europe and connect with us on LinkedIn.

Contact

Dr Kirsi Forsberg
Scientific Project Manager
kforsberg@ilsieurope.be
Tel. (+32) 2 775 91 35

ILSI Europe
Avenue E. Mounier 83, Box 6
BE – 1200 Brussels
BELGIUM

Scan the QR code for more information on ILSI Europe