



Endocrine disrupting chemicals and emerging contaminants: new challenges and perspectives

Miguel Santos – CIIMAR/FCUP Group of Endocrine Disruptors and Emerging Contaminants

santos@ciimar.up.pt

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ACTH+

female/male

Development of: • Pubic hair

•Armpit hair •Acne

Adrenal

Androstenedione+ DHEA+

cortex



Figure 20-5. Endocrine control of puberty in males and females.

Androgen+

Sperm prod.

male

Development of: • Penis

- Pubic hair

Testes

LH/

Gonad

Inhibin-Activin+

FSH+

Ova prod.,

Menarche

female

Breasts

Ovaries

Uterus

Development of:

Estrogen+

1



Hormones are Chemical "messengers" controlling various activities within an organism. The hormones are secreted by the endocrine glands, and other tissues. Some act only on specific areas of the body (target cells or target organs), others are responsible for triggering a general response in the body. Reproductive abnormalities in the 1980s in alligators from Lake Apopka, Florida DDT (dichloro-diphenyltrichloroethane)





Guillette et al., 1996

Anti-androgenic effects of DDE, a DDT metabolite







Effects of DDT in prey birds

Feminization and masculinization of fish in rivers and estuaries in the 1980s.

Exposure to Estrogenic chemicals leads to male fish feminization



Male Sturgeon from Rio Missouri with intersex gonads



Fig. 1. (A) Testis of a maturing sworldish showing the normal testicular organization. The wall of seminipherous tubules is formed by cysts consisting in speciforously developing germ cells aved/oped in Sertoli cell processes. Magnification har -15μ m, (B) Interse quand with an isolated intertivitia in speciforously developing germ cells aved/oped in Sertoli cell processes. Magnification har -15μ m, (B) Interse quand with an isolated intertivitia tubules. Magnification har $= 35 \mu$ m, (D) Intersex gonad showing the presence of a patative coopnium, with a vescular nucleus containing an eccentric nucleous and a bascphile tyrophasm, along the wall of a seminipherous tubule. Magnification har -5μ m. Haematorythic-cosin staiming. Arrow: putative coopnium; arrowhead: spermatogonium; asterisk: connective stroma; I: lumen of seminipherous tubules; pvo: previtellogenic cocyte; sc spermatoryce; cyst; sd: spermatid cyst; st seminipherous tubules; zs sperm cyst. Imposex in marine snails due to exposure to the fungicide tributilytin (TBT) used in antifouling paints



Masculinization of female snails



Intersex in crustaceans





TABLE 2.2Sources of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) Entering Watercourses

Source of EDCs Domestic sewage effluent	Receiving Waters Surface water Groundwater	Source Method Point Nonpoint	EDCs Likely to Be Present Steroid estrogens, ² Surfactants, ³ PAEs, BPA ⁴
	Groundwater	Point (recharge)	
Industrial sewage effluent	Surface water	Point	Surfactants, ^{5,6} PAHs, ⁷ PCBs, ⁷ PBDEs, ⁸ pesticides, ⁷ PAEs, ⁴ BPA
	Groundwater	Nonpoint	
Industrial discharges	Surface water	Point	Dioxins, PBDEs, ⁸ TBBA, ⁹ PAEs, PCBs, ⁷ PAHs, ⁷ pesticides, ⁷ BPA ⁴
	Groundwater	Nonpoint	
Paint applied to boats Agricultural runoff (crops)	Surface water Surface water Groundwater	Point Nonpoint Nonpoint	TBT ¹⁰ Pesticides, ⁷ APs, APEs, ¹¹ PBDEs, ¹² PAHs ^{13,14}
Agricultural runoff (animals)	Surface water Groundwater	Nonpoint Nonpoint	Steroid estrogens ^{15,16}
Recreational/Urban runoff	Surface water Groundwater	Nonpoint Nonpoint	Pesticides, PAHs ⁷
Leachate from waste dumps Deposition from the air	Groundwater Surface water	Nonpoint Nonpoint	PAHs, ¹⁷ PBDEs, TBBA, ⁹ BPA, PAEs PAHs, ⁷ PCBs, PCDDs, PCDFs, PBDEs, ¹⁸
	Groundwater	Nonnoint	TBBA, pesticides
	Groundwater	Nonpoint	
Natural	Surface water Groundwater	Nonpoint Nonpoint	PAHs, steroid estrogens (natural) ¹⁹

Phthalate acid esters (PAEs); bisphenol A (BPA); polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs); polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs); polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs); tetrabromobisphenol A (TBBA); tributyltin (TBT); polychlorinated dibenzo-*p*-dioxins (PCDDs) and polychlorinated dibenzofurans (PCDFs)

^aSurface waters include streams, rivers, estuaries, and seas



An endocrine disrupter is an exogenous agent that interferes with the synthesis, secretion, transport, binding, action or elimination of natural hormones responsible for the maintenance of homeostasis, reproduction, development, and / or behavior.



List of Compounds Classified as EDCs by Various Organizations

Compound	UKEA	USEPA	OSPAR		JEA	WWF
			vivo	vitro		
Steroids						
Ethinyl estradiol	x		x			
17B-estradiol	x		x			
Estrone	X		x			
Mestranol			x			
Diethylstilbestrol	X		x			
					X	X
Alkylphenols						
Nonylphenol	X	x	X		X	X
Nonylphenol	X			X		
ethoxylate						
Octylphenol	X	X	X		X	
Octylphenol	X					
ethoxylate						
Deharomatic						
Compounds						
Polychlorinated	x	x	x		x	Y
hiphanyls (DCBs)	A	A	A		A	A
Brominated flame				x	x	x
retordante				A	A	A
Polyaromatic		x		x		
hydrocarbons		A		A		
(DA He)						
(PAHS)						
Organic Oxygen Compounds						
Phthalates	X	X		X	X	X
Bisphenol A	X	x			X	х
2000						
Pesticides	13736				1279.51	62.546
Atrazine	X	x		X	x	X
Simazine	X	X		X	X	Х
Dichlorvos	x				120	201
Endosulfan	X	X		X	X	Х
Trifluralin	X	X				Х
Demeton-S-methyl	X					
Dimethoate	X					X
Linuron						X
Permethrin	X	X			X	
Lindane	X	X	X			X
Chlordane	X			X	X	X
Dieldrin	х	X		х	х	Х
Hexachlorobenzene	X			X	X	X
Pentachlorophenol	X	X			X	X
(PCP)						
Others						
Dioxins and furans	X		X		X	X
Tributyltin	X	X	X		X	
UKEA - United King	dom Enviro	nment Agency	,			
USEPA _ United Sta	tes Environe	nental Protecti	on Agency			
OSDAD Onle and T	Darie Comerci	scion	on Agency			
IEA Land F	ans Commi	551011				
JEA — Japan Environ	ment Agenc	У				
WWF — World Wildl	ite Fund					



Endocrine-Disrupting Effects in Wildlife

Species Mammals

Panther Baltic seals Beluga whales

European otter Dall's porpoises

Birds Western gull

Peregrine falcon Fish-eating birds (U.S., Great Lakes) Common tern

Reptiles

Snapping turtles

American alligator

Fish

Roach

Flounder

Flounder Rainbow trout

Contaminant/Effect

Hg, DDE, PCBs/cryptorchidism PCBs/sterility, adrenocortical hyperplasia PCBs, Dieldrin, 2,3,7,8-TCDD/hermaphroditism PCBs/reproductive impairment PCBs, DDE/reduced testosterone levels

DDT compounds, methoxychlor/feminization, female–female pairing DDE/egg shell thinning PCDD, PCDF/reproductive failure, deformities PHAHs/reduced hatching, morphological abnormalities

Organochlorine compounds/developmental abnormalities, feminization DDE/low hatching rates, abnormalities in males and females

Steroid estrogens/increased vitellogenin in males, intersex Nonylphenol, octylphenol/vitellogenin in male fish Estrogens/vitellogenin in male fish Estrogens, nonylphenol/vitellogenin in male fish





Mode of action:

- Agonists
- Antagonists
- Interfere with synthesis and/or metabolism
- Interfere with receptor number

NR are frequently impacted by EDCs





pubs.acs.org/est

To Bind or Not To Bind: The Taxonomic Scope of Nuclear Receptor Mediated Endocrine Disruption in Invertebrate Phyla

L. Filipe C. Castro*^{,†,‡} and Miguel M. Santos*^{,†,‡}



Figure 1. Phylogenetic relationships between major extant Metazoa lineages. Examples of NR repertoire (RXR, ER and RAR) and known ligand binding affinities toward endogenous compounds and/or EDCs are identified.















Tintas antivegetativas com organoestanhos (TBT/TPT)





Lima et al., 2011





Source: http://bodyago.com/obesity-ticking-time-bomb/





Fig. 4. Histological changes of the liver in the male mice treated with TBT for 45 days. The sections were stained with Oil Red O and counterstained with hematoxylin. (A) Control; (B) 0.5 μ g/kg TBT; (C) 5 μ g/kg TBT; (D) 50 μ g/kg TBT. Lipid droplets revealed by orange red staining. [Color figure can be viewed in the online issue, which is available at www.interscience.wiley.com.]



Obesogens





Fig. 1. Mean body weights (g) of mice from PNDs 24 to 84. Mean body weights (\pm SEM) of mice from PNDs 24 to 49 (n = 25), from PNDs 56 to 84 (n = 15). No significant differences in average body weight of mice between the TBTCI-treated group and the control at all time points depicted were observed from PNDs 24 to 49 (P > 0.22). At all time points depicted after PND 49, mice exposed to 0.05 mg/kg TBTCI were significantly heavier than control ones ($^{*}P < 0.05$). Mice treated with low-dose TBTCI were heavier than the high-dose mice on PNDs 56, 63, and 70 ($^{#}P < 0.05$), but no significant differences in average body weight of mice between 0.5 mg/kg group and control were observed at all time points depicted.



Impact over several generations without exposure



Figure 3. Transgenerational effects of DMSO (vehicle), ROSI, or TBT (5.42, 54.2, or 542 nM) on hepatic lipid accumulation in F1, F2, and F3 male (A) and female (B) mice. Histological sections of frozen livers were stained with Oil Red O and hematoxylin; at least five animals per exposure group were analyzed, and representative photomicrographs are shown. Bars = 50 µm.

Chamorro-Garcia et al., 2013



PLOS ONE

RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Mammalian "Obesogen" Tributyltin Targets Hepatic Triglyceride Accumulation and the Transcriptional Regulation of Lipid Metabolism in the Liver and Brain of Zebrafish

Angeliki Lyssimachou¹*, Joana G. Santos¹, Ana André¹, Joana Soares¹, Daniela Lima¹, Laura Guimarães¹, C. Marisa R. Almeida¹, Catarina Teixeira¹, L. Filipe C. Castro¹*, Miguel M. Santos^{1,2}*

1 CIMAR/CIIMAR-AL, Interdisciplinary Centre of Marine and Environmental Research, Rua dos Bragas 289, 4050–123, Porto, Portugal, 2 FCUP–Department of Biology, Faculty of Sciences, University of Porto, Porto, Portugal







Adipogenesis stimulators

Lyssimachou et al., 2015





Lyssimachou et al., 2015













Arrows indicate adipocites

Lyssimachou et al., 2015



Canaries in the coal mine: a cross-species analysis of the plurality of obesity epidemics





Figure 1. Mean and ± 1 s.e. of per cent weight gain and obesity status by decade. The left side of the *y*-axis refers to the raw scale of obesity status, and the right side refers to the log scale of obesity status.



PPAR:RXR transcriptional regulation







Estimating Burden and Disease Costs of Exposure to Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals in the European Union

Table 4. Evaluations of Exposure-Outcome Relationships

Exposure	Outcome	Strength of Human Evidence	Strength of Toxicological Evidence	Probability of Causation, %	Base Estimate, €	Low Estimate, €	High Estimate, €
PBDEs	IQ loss and intellectual disability	Moderate-to-high	Strong	70–100	9 587 571 420	1 577 449 522	22 356 864 892
Organophosphate pesticides	IQ loss and intellectual disability	Moderate-to-high	Strong	70–100	146 178 556 566	46 760 988 423	194 850 545 761
DDE	Childhood obesity	Moderate	Moderate	40-69	24 610 041	24 610 041	86 448 264
DDE	Adult diabetes	Low	Moderate	20-39	834 741 170	834 741 170	16 694 823 393
Di-2-ethylhexylphthalate	Adult obesity	Low	Strong	40-69	15 610 612 091	15 610 612 091	15 610 612 091
Di-2-ethylhexylphthalate	Adult diabetes	Low	Strong	40-69	606 944 344	606 944 344	606 944 344
BPA	Childhood obesity	Very low-to-low	Strong	20-69	1 537 177 463	1 537 177 463	1 537 177 463
PBDEs	Testicular cancer	Very low-to-low	Weak	0-19	1 695 951 864	626 359 671	1 695 951 864
PBDEs	Cryptorchidism	Low	Strong	40-69	259 614 654	233 683 168	233 683 168
Benzyl and butyl phthalates	Male infertility, resulting in increased assisted reproductive technology	Low	Strong	40-69	4 714 114 146	4 714 114 146	4 714 114 146
Phthalates	Low T, resulting in increased early mortality	Low	Strong	40-69	7 958 358 238	7 958 358 238	7 958 358 238
Multiple exposures	ADHD	Low-to-moderate	Strong	20-69	1 743 332 686	1 212 298 027	2 861 405 410
Multiple exposures	Autism	Low	Moderate	20–39	199 339 876	79 735 951	398 679 753

Abbreviation: ADHD, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder.



Results: Expert panels achieved consensus for probable (>20%) EDC causation for IQ loss and associated intellectual disability, autism, attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, childhood obesity, adult obesity, adult diabetes, cryptorchidism, male infertility, and mortality associated with reduced T. Accounting for probability of causation and using the midpoint of each range for probability of causation, Monte Carlo simulations produced a median cost of €157 billion (1.23% of EU gross domestic product) annually across 1000 simulations. Notably, using the lowest end of the probability range for each relationship in the Monte Carlo simulations produced a median range of €119 billion that differed modestly from base case probability inputs.

Conclusions: EDC exposures in the EU are likely to contribute substantially to disease and dysfunction across the life course with costs in the hundreds of billions per year. These estimates represent only those EDCs with the highest probability of causation; a broader analysis would have produced greater estimates of burden of disease and costs. (J Clin Endocrinol Metab 100: 0000–0000, 2015)



OECD Conceptual Framework for Testing and Assessment of Endocrine Disrupters (as revised in 2012)

Mammalian and non mammalian Toxicology				
Level 1	Physical & chemical properties, e.g., MW reactivity, volatility, biodegradability			
Existing Data and Non-Test	 All available (eco)toxicological data from standardized or non-standardized tests. 			
Information	• Read across, chemical categories, QSARs and other <i>in silico</i> predictions, and ADME model predictions			
Level 2	Estrogen or androgen receptor binding affinity			
In vitro assays providing data	 Estrogen receptor transactivation (OECD TG 455 – OECD TG 457) 			
about selected endocrine	 Androgen or thyroid transactivation (If/when TGs are available) 			
mechanism(s) / pathways(s)	 Steroidogenesis in vitro (OECD TG 456) 			
(Mammalian and non	• MCE-7 cell proliferation assays (FR ant/agonist)			

- MCF-7 cell proliferation assays (ER ant/agonist) •
- Other assays as appropriate •

	Mammalian Toxicology	Non-Mammalian Toxicology		
Level 3	Uterotrophic assay (OECD TG 440)	• Xenopus embryo thyroid signalling assay		
In vivo assays providing data	Hershberger assay (OECD TG 441)	(When/if TG is available)		
about selected endocrine		Amphibian metamorphosis assay (OECD		
$mechanism(s) / pathway(s)^{1}$		TG 231)		
		• Fish Reproductive Screening Assay (OECD TG 229)		
		Fish Screening Assay (OECD TG 230)		
		• Androgenized female stickleback screen		



mammalian methods)

Level 4

In vivo assays providing data on adverse effects on endocrine relevant endpoints²

- Repeated dose 28-day study (OECD TG 407)
- Repeated dose 90-day study (OECD TG 408)
- 1-generation reproduction toxicity study (OECD TG 415)
- Male pubertal assay (see GD 150, Chapter C4.3)³
- Female pubertal assay (see GD 150, Chapter C4.4)³
- Intact adult male endocrine screening assay (see GD 150, Chapter Annex 2.5)
- Prenatal developmental toxicity study (OECD TG 414)
- Chronic toxicity and carcinogenicity studies (OECD TG 451-3)
- Reproductive screening test (OECD TG 421 if enhanced)
- Combined 28-day/reproductive screening assay (OECD TG 422 if enhanced)
- Developmental neurotoxicity (OECD TG 426)

 Extended one-generation reproductive toxicity study (OECD TG 443)⁵

- Fish sexual development test (OECD TG 234)
- Fish Reproduction Partial Lifecycle Test (when/If TG is Available)
- Larval Amphibian Growth & Development Assay (when TG is available)
- Avian Reproduction Assay (OECD TG 206)
- Mollusc Partial Lifecycle Assays (when TG is available)⁴
- Chironomid Toxicity Test (TG 218-219)⁴
- Daphnia Reproduction Test (with male induction) (OECD TG 211)⁴
- Earthworm Reproduction Test (OECD TG 222)⁴
- Enchytraeid Reproduction Test (OECD TG 220)⁴
- Sediment Water Lumbriculus Toxicity Test Using Spiked Sediment (OECD TG 225)⁴
- Predatory mite reproduction test in soil (OECD TG 226)⁴
- Collembolan Reproduction Test in Soil (TG OECD 232)⁴
- FLCTT (Fish LifeCycle Toxicity Test) (when TG is available)

Level 5 In vivo assays providing more

Level 5	 Extended one-generation reproductive	• FLCTT (Fish LifeCycle Toxicity Test)
In vivo assays providing more	toxicity study (OECD TG 443) ⁵	(when TG is available)
comprehensive data on adverse effects on endocrine relevant endpoints over more extensive parts of the life cycle of the organism ²	 2-Generation reproduction toxicity study (OECD TG 416 most recent update) 	 Medaka Multigeneration Test (MMGT) (when TG is available) Avian 2 generation reproductive toxicity assay (when TG is available) Mysid Life Cycle Toxicity Test (when TG is available)⁴ Copepod Reproduction and Development Test (when TG is available)⁴ Sediment Water Chironomid Life Cycle Toxicity Test (OECD TG 233)⁴ Mollusc Full Lifecycle Assays (when TG is available)⁴ Daphnia Multigeneration Assay (if TG is available)⁴





Emerging pollutants











Fig. 3. Chronic effects of SIM on Gammanus locusta females reproductive endpoints in bioassay 2. (A) Percentage of ovigerous females; (B) Number of stadium 1–II embryos per female; (C) number of newborns per female. Error bars indicate the standard errors: " and "" indicate significant differences from control groups (p<0.05 and p<0.01, respectively).





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



Statins: An undesirable class of aquatic contaminants?

Miguel M. Santos^{a,b,*}, Raquel Ruivo^a, Mónica Lopes-Marques^{a,c}, Tiago Torres^a, Carmen B. de los Santos^a, L. Filipe C. Castro^{a,b}, Teresa Neuparth^a







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MEVALONATE PATHWAY











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Fig. 3. Partial alignment of the catalytic domain of HMCR. Harran HMCR catalytic and substrate-binding residues are highlighted (htrun and Decembrie, 2000, 2001). The catalytic totack is denoted by gray dots. In green, residues involved in CoA binding. Co-factor (NACP+2)-binding residues are highlighted in end, in Mucr. and the action with the hydroxymethylptatoryl (HMC) models in the A and status. Bendue, to show the MMCP and HMC are imprint. A photphorylation site in also shown (will be hydroxymethylptatoryl (HMC) models of both HMC-CoA and status. Bendues the mode in referred to the web version of this article).

MM. Samins et al. / Aquatic Tentrology 174 (2016) 1-0



Personal Care Products (PCPs)











Nanoparticles





GRAEME et al., 2013

1-1

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Effects potentially associated with exposure to nanoparticles

MR26 Buzea, Pacheco, and Robbie: Nanomaterials and nanoparticles: Sources and toxicity



FIG. 7. Schematics of human body with pathways of exposure to nanoparticles, affected organs, and associated diseases from epidemiological, *in vivo* and *in vitro* studies.

TABLE 1. Estimated Environmental Concentrations of ManufacturedNanomaterials Compared to Predicted No Effects Concentrations

61
in 46
61
41
in 46
in 46





Overview

For several compounds the information for calculating PNECs is still limited.

The PECs, in most cases, are several orders of magnitude below the concentrations that induce effects in ecotoxicological trials.

Further studies are needed to evaluate NOECs.

Need for chronic toxicity studies involving environmentally relevant levels.

Evaluation of bioconcentration;

Effects on parameters that are relevant from an environmental point of view;



Microplastics





Overview

Considering the high concentrations of microplastics observed in different areas, (2) the fact that plastics are extremely persistent in the environment, (3) the microplastics in the environment have their origin in several sources, strategies should be developed to mitigate their presence and better understand their ecological effects. How to better improve risk assessment of Emerging Contaminants acting as EDCs?

Diversity is a key aspect



If we aim to improve risk assessment of EDCs and emerging pollutants at an ecosystems scale, and understand their mode of action (MOA), we must establish a framework to include a broad phylogenetic sampling of Metazoans taking advantage of all tools available.

available This includes data on genomes/transcriptomes, functional characterized NR/enzymatic assays, laboratory-established life cycles of representative taxa, OECD toxicity testing protocols. The development of these tools metazoans will allow the across implementation of this step-wise procedure to prioritize chemicals to assess their potential risk as EDCs.



