

# Non-animal safety assessment of cosmetic ingredients

Paul Russell & Renato de Ávila



Unilever

2.5bn  
consumers  
reached

48k  
suppliers

190  
countries

60%

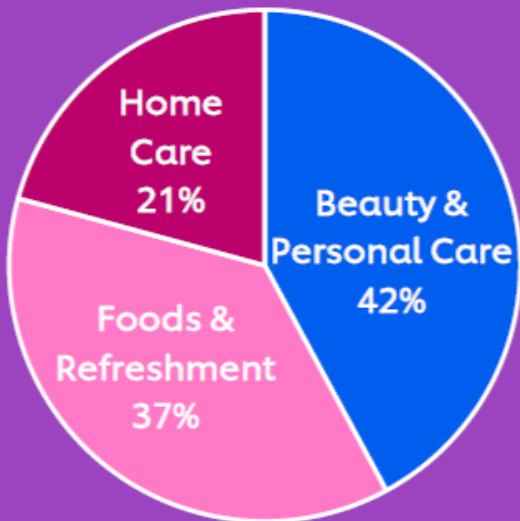
sales in emerging  
markets

12  
billion euro  
brands

1.3bn  
people helped to  
improve health  
and hygiene



14 of the top 50 global  
consumer brands



90%  
local leaders



# Safety and Environmental Assurance Centre (SEAC)

SEAC is a team of industry-leading safety and environmental sustainability scientists. They use the latest techniques, deep scientific expertise and an evidence-based approach to ensure that our products are safe for consumers and workers and better for the environment.

Working with teams across Unilever, from the beginning to the end of a product's life, SEAC scientists ensure that safety and sustainability are built into everything we make and do. In addition to this, SEAC scientists work with leading experts around the globe to constantly advance the science we use to assess our product innovations of the future.

“ Our leading-edge approach has one clear purpose: to continue to develop, apply and let others know about the research we do to guarantee that our products are safe, without the need for animal testing. ”

**Julia Fentem, Head of SEAC**

<https://www.unilever.com/brands/innovation/safety-and-environment/>



AXE



LUX



# Outline

## **PART ONE**

- Introduction to non-animal safety assessment
- History of safe use (HoSU) for botanical ingredients

## **PART TWO**

- Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA) – concepts and tools

## **PART THREE – NGRA Case studies**

- Local effects – skin sensitisation
- Systemic effects

## **AFSA – Animal Free Safety Assessment Collaboration**

# PART ONE

## Introduction to non-animal safety assessment



Unilever

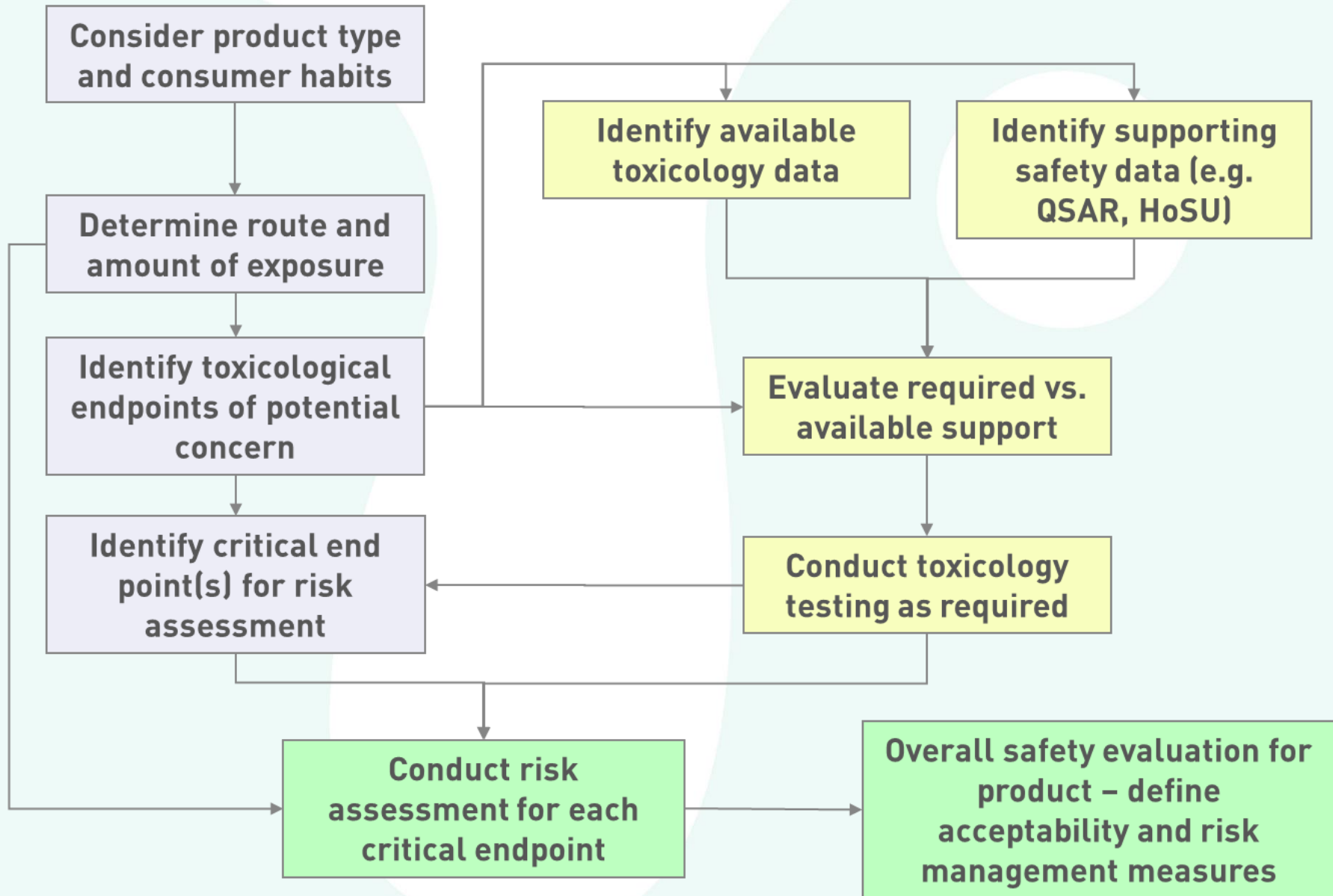
# Can we use a new ingredient safely?

- Can we safely use **x%** of ingredient **y** in product **z**?



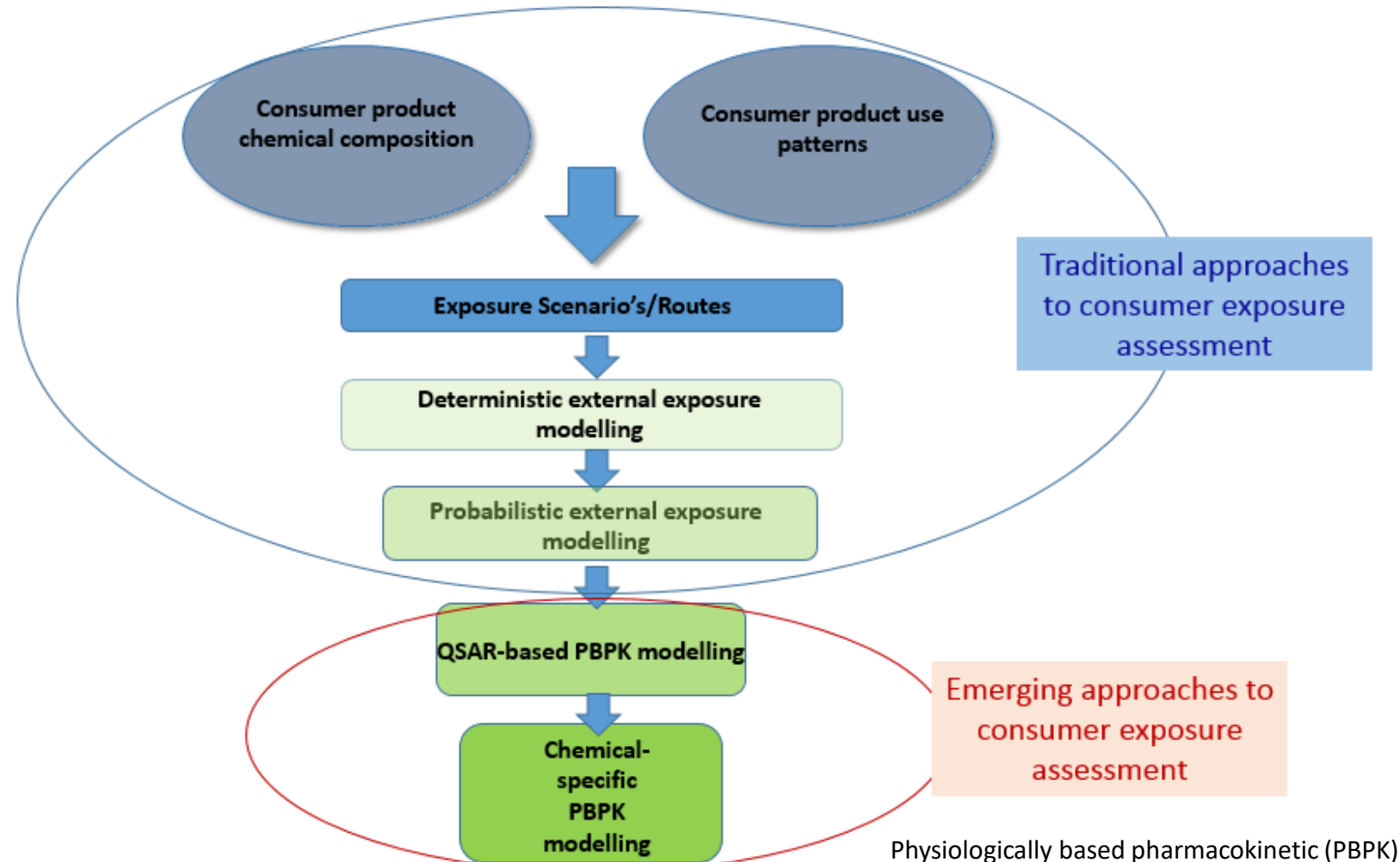
**Risk = Hazard x Exposure**

# Exposure-driven Safety Assessment



# Exposure Science overview

**Exposure assessment:** Drives the risk assessment process. This quantifies the dose (amount) of a material that is externally applied during consumer use of the product, which is then compared to the relevant dose at which toxicological effects are expected to establish the safety risk.





# Habits and practices

**Table 2:** Estimated daily exposure levels for different cosmetic product types according to Cosmetics Europe data (SCCNFP/0321/00; Hall *et al.*, 2007, 2011).

Product type	Estimated daily amount applied	Relative amount applied (mg/kg bw/d)	Retention factor <sup>1</sup>	Calculated daily exposure (g/d)	Calculated relative daily exposure (mg/kg bw/d)
<b>Bathing, showering</b>					
Shower gel	18.67 g	279.20	0.01	0.19	2.79
Hand wash soap <sup>2</sup>	20.00 g	-	0.01	0.20 <sup>3</sup>	3.33
<b>Hair care</b>					
Shampoo	10.46 g	150.49	0.01	0.11	1.51
Hair conditioner <sup>2</sup>	3.92 g	-	0.01	0.04	0.60
Hair styling products	4.00 g	57.40	0.1	0.40	5.74



**Mouthwash - Per unit body weight exposure g/Kg/day**

Population	Value	Error	P95-P10
Count	10000		
% of total			
Upper	0.1600	0.0009	0.00194
Mean	0.1600	0.0009	0.00202
Std Dev	1.0000	0.0009	1.00000
Minimum	2.0000	0.0009	0.00000
Maximum	0.1000	0.0009	0.00000
Mode	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P1	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P2.5	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P5	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P10	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P15	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P20	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P25	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P30	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P35	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P40	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P45	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P50	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P55	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P60	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P65	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P70	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P75	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P80	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P85	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P90	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P95	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P99.5	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000
P99.9	0.0000	0.0009	0.00000

**Food and Chemical Toxicology**  
 Contents lists available at [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)  
 Journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)

**Skin exposure to deodorants/antiperspirants in aerosol form**  
 W. Steiling<sup>a</sup>, P. Buttgereit<sup>b,1</sup>, B. Hall<sup>c,\*</sup>, L. O'Keeffe<sup>d</sup>, B. Safford<sup>e</sup>, S. Tozer<sup>d</sup>, M. Coraama<sup>f</sup>

**ABSTRACT**  
 Many cosmetic products are available in spray form. Even though the principal targets of these products are the skin and hair, spraying leads to the partitioning of the product between the target and the surrounding air. In the previous COSIPA study (Hall *et al.*, 2007) the daily use of deodorants/antiperspirants (Do/AP) in spray form was quantified in terms of the amount of product dispersed from the can. The present study provides additional information on the product fractions reaching the skin during use. Results of the present study provide this additional information, necessary for a reliable safety assessment of spray Do/AP products. In a novel experimental approach the information necessary for a reliable safety assessment of spray aerosol cloud sampling data obtained from the same products, including the information on real-life movement of the product on the skin. The 5000 percentile values, expressed as percent of the product deposited on the skin, were respectively 23.5% and 11.4% for ethanol-based and non-ethanol-based products. Additionally the study has generated data on the skin area covered by the products, spray duration time, spray angle and spray distance from the skin.

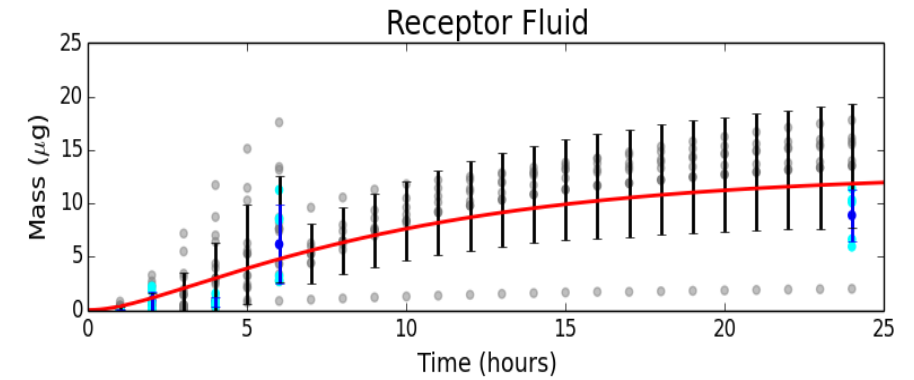
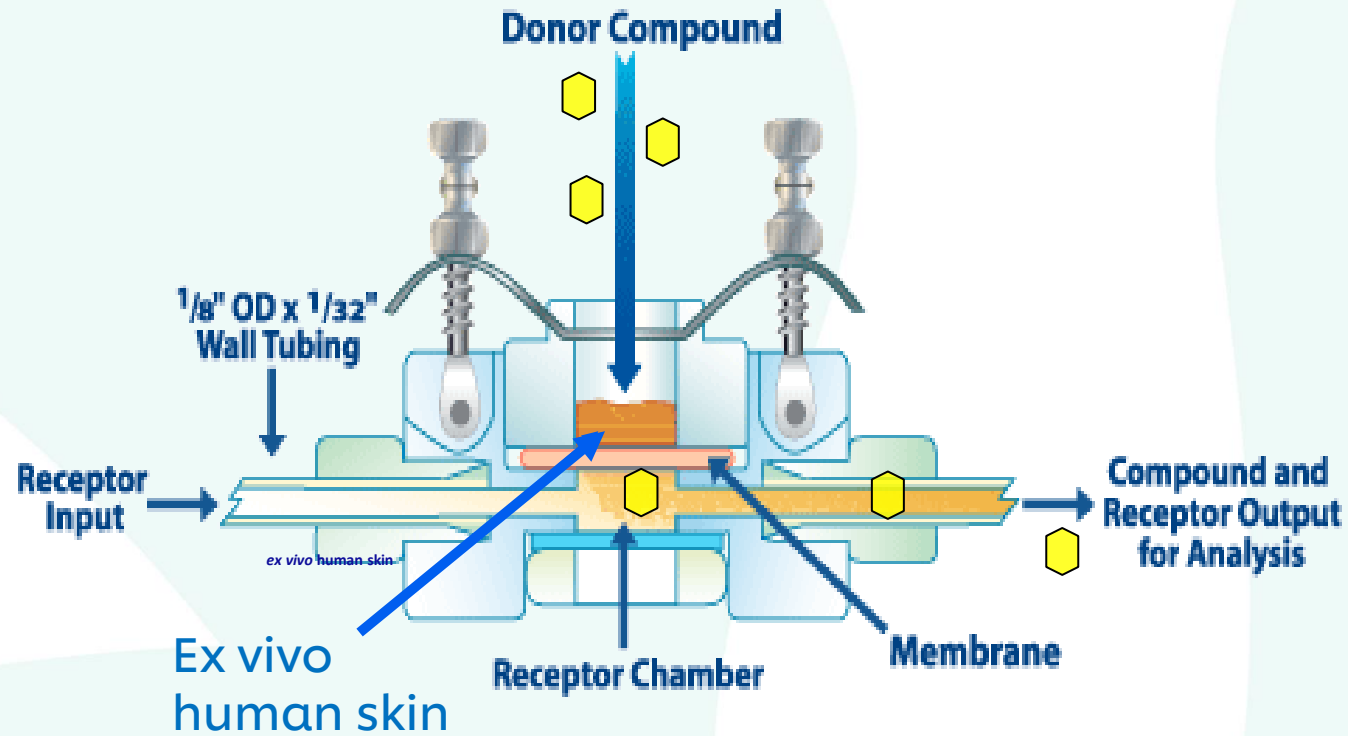
**1. Introduction**  
 The European cosmetics industry under the organization of COU-PA (The European Cosmetics Association, currently Cosmetics Europe, The Personal Care Association, [www.cosmetics.eu/coupa/](http://www.cosmetics.eu/coupa/)) has published the outcome of a project aimed at updating information on the consumer exposure to cosmetic products (Hall *et al.*, 2007, 2011). The first part of this project, in which exposure to deodorants/antiperspirants (Do/AP) in aerosol was studied, (Hall *et al.*, 2007; McNamara *et al.*, 2007) produced the value of 6.1 g/day (90th percentile of average use). As the output of that project was based on the probabilistic calculation of amounts dispersed from the can during product use, there was a need to refine the data in order to provide the safety assessment of amounts dispersed under normal conditions of use. Do/AP aerosol products on the European market may be broadly divided into two types: those where ethanol is the principal ingredient (the first ingredient listed on the product label after the propellant) and "others" also defined here as non-ethanol based. These "other" products often produce a "dry" spray. As these differences in formulations may impact their use by the consumer and subsequently the dermal exposure, it was decided to separate the products in the study into two groups, referred to as ethanol-based and non-ethanol-based. As the habitual use of products is an essential requirement for obtaining reliable exposure data, the study volunteers used their own spray products in an environment resembling the home environment. All product applications were recorded on video and camera in order to capture and quantify relevant parameters of the different spraying habits of the volunteers. The study proceeded in four phases, described in detail in the following sections:

1. Movement analysis.
2. 3D (three dimensional) aerosol cloud modelling.
3. Verification of the proposed modelling approach.
4. Integration of data (in silico modelling).

Results are presented as statistical distributions (percentiles) to better reflect the inter-individual variability in the daily habit of product use.

**2. Materials and methods**  
 Sixty-nine volunteers, all habitual users of the products in the study, were recruited from the general population in the Cologne region of Germany. Seven volunteers enrolled but failed to attend and 62 completed the study. This had no

# Skin penetration measurements



OECD/OCDE

428

Adopted :  
13 April 2004

## OECD GUIDELINE FOR THE TESTING OF CHEMICALS

Skin Absorption: *in vitro* Method

### INTRODUCTION

1. This test guideline has been designed to provide information on absorption of a test substance applied to excised skin. It can either be combined with the OECD Test Guideline for Skin Absorption: *In vivo* Method (1), or be conducted separately. It is recommended that the OECD Guidance Document for the Conduct of Skin Absorption Studies (2) be consulted to assist in the design of studies based on this Test Guideline. The OECD Guidance Document has been prepared to facilitate the selection of appropriate *in vitro* procedures for use in specific circumstances, to ensure the reliability of results obtained by this method.

### INITIAL CONSIDERATIONS

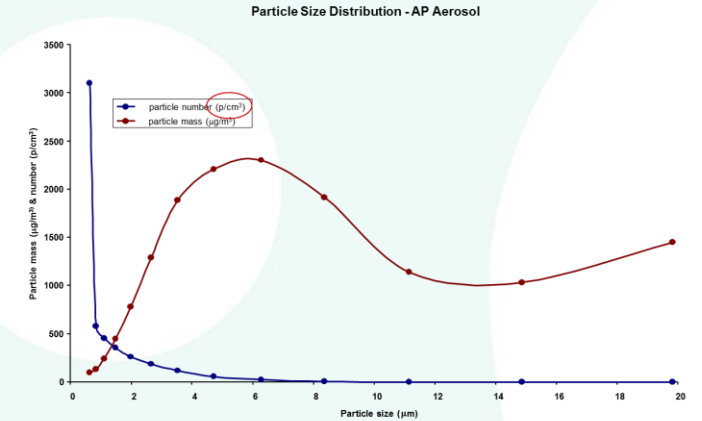
2. The methods for measuring skin absorption and dermal delivery can be divided into two categories: *in vivo* and *in vitro*. *In vivo* methods on skin absorption are well established and provide pharmacokinetic information in a range of animal species. An *in vivo* method is separately described in another OECD guideline (1). *In vitro* methods have also been used for many years to measure skin absorption. Although formal validation studies of the *in vitro* methods covered by this Test Guideline have not been performed, OECD experts agreed in 1999 that there was sufficient data evaluated to support the *in vitro* Test Guideline (3). Further details that substantiate this support, including a significant number of

# Inhalation Exposure



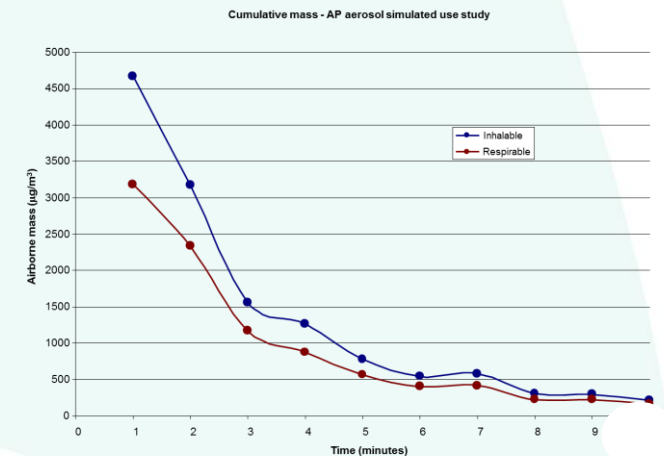
- Simulated use studies can be conducted to measure lung exposure
- Usually concerned with aerosol or pump spray products. Other products can be tested under simulated use conditions
- Can measure inhalation of volatile and non-volatile components using aerodynamic particle sizer

## Simulated use study output



11

## Breathing zone aerosol



16

# Maximising use of existing information

- All available safety data (of suitable quality)
  - public domain, historical in-house data, supplier data etc
  - chemistry data, *in vitro* data, clinical data, epidemiological data, animal toxicology data etc
- Exposure-based waiving approaches
- History of safe use
- Read across
- Use of existing *in vitro* data and approaches

# Exposure-based waiving approaches

- If no data are available then in some instances exposure based waiving approaches such as the Toxicological Threshold of Concern (TTC) can be employed
- TTC – a pragmatic approach to derive an exposure level at which there is no appreciable risk to human health
- The TTC levels were determined applying a 100-fold extrapolation factor to the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile NOAEL for chemicals in each Cramer class derived from chronic studies.



Available online at [www.sciencedirect.com](http://www.sciencedirect.com)



Food and Chemical Toxicology 45 (2007) 2533–2562



[www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)

Application of the threshold of toxicological concern (TTC) to the safety evaluation of cosmetic ingredients ☆☆☆

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R.H. Guy <sup>g</sup>, J.C. Lhuguenot <sup>h</sup>, J.J.M. van de Sandt <sup>i</sup>

Food and Chemical Toxicology 109 (2017) 170–193



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](http://ScienceDirect)

Food and Chemical Toxicology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)

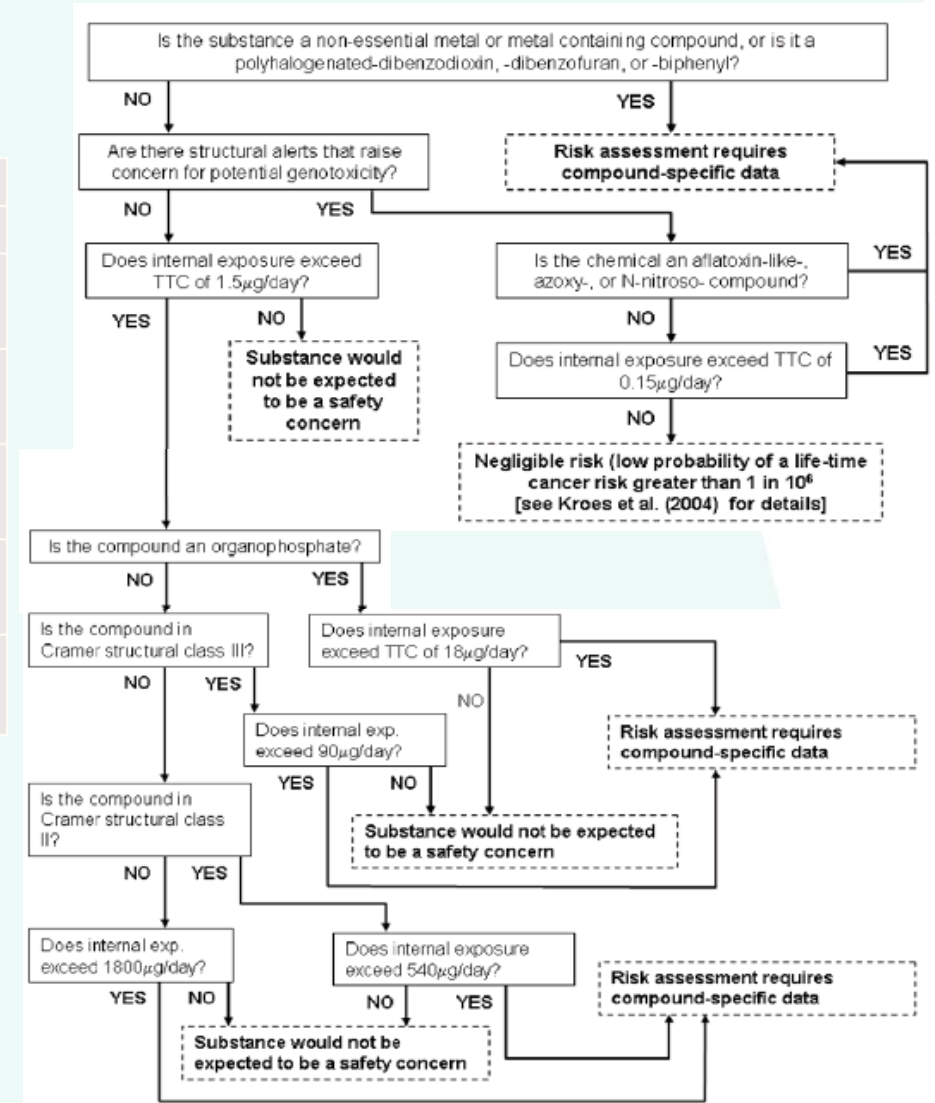


Thresholds of Toxicological Concern for cosmetics-related substances  
New database, thresholds, and enrichment of chemical space

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Alan R. Boobis <sup>f</sup>, Susan P. Felter <sup>g</sup>, Kirk B. Arvidson <sup>d</sup>, Detlef Keller <sup>h</sup>, Mark T.D. Cronin <sup>i</sup>,  
Steven Enoch <sup>1</sup>, Andrew Worth <sup>j</sup>, Heli M. Hollnagel <sup>k,\*</sup>

# Toxicological Threshold of Concern (TTC)

Dataset (number of chemicals)	Human Exposure threshold values (number of chemicals)					
	ug/day			ug/kg bw/day		
	Cramer Class I	Cramer Class II	Cramer Class III	Cramer Class I	Cramer Class II	Cramer Class III
Cosmos (552)	2500 (219)	- (40)	470 (293)	42 (219)	- (40)	7.9 (293)
Munro - 1996 (613)	1800 (137)	540 (28)	90 (448)	30 (137)	9 (28)	1.5 (448)
Munro - 2016 (606)	2900 (141)	640 (30)	90 (435)	49 (141)	11 (30)	1.5 (435)
Federated (963)	2700 (243)	370 (49)	140 (671)	46 (243)	6.2 (49)	2.3 (671)



# Other types of exposure-based waving

Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology 51 (2008) 195–200



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/yrtph](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/yrtph)



## The Dermal Sensitisation Threshold—A TTC approach for allergic contact dermatitis

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### ARTICLE INFO

**Article history:**

Received 14 December 2007  
Available online 18 March 2008

**Keywords:**

Threshold  
Threshold of toxicological concern  
TTC  
Contact sensitisation  
Allergic contact dermatitis

### ABSTRACT

The Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) is a useful concept that is becoming of increasing an addition to the arsenal of tools used for characterising the toxicological risk of human chemicals. Traditionally used for low level indirect additives, flavours and contaminants in TTC obviates the need for toxicological testing of chemicals where human exposure is low. Progress recently been made for the use of the TTC for low level ingredients in cosmetic and personal products. However, use of the TTC is only protective for systemic toxicity endpoints, and cannot be used for local endpoints such as contact sensitisation. In this paper a probabilistic analysis of available inhalation data, similar to that used in the development of the TTC, is presented. The incidence of sensitisation in the world of chemicals was estimated using the EUNCS (European List of Notified Chemical Substances) data set, and a distribution for sensitisation potency was established using a recently published data set of Local Lymph Node Assay data. From the analysis of these data sets it is concluded that a Sensitisation Threshold (DST) can be established below which there is no appreciable risk of sensitisation even for an untested ingredient. Use of a DST would preclude the need for sensitisation testing in ingredients where dermal exposure is sufficiently low.

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Food and Chemical Toxicology 47 (2009) 1287–1295



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Food and Chemical Toxicology

journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/foodchemtox)



## Exposure based waiving: The application of the toxicological threshold of concern (TTC) to inhalation exposure for aerosol ingredients in consumer products

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### ARTICLE INFO

**Article history:**

Received 19 December 2008  
Accepted 27 February 2009

**Keywords:**

Exposure based waiving  
Inhalation  
Respiratory tract  
Threshold of toxicological concern  
Intelligent testing strategy  
REACH

### ABSTRACT

The inhalation toxicology studies available in the public domain have been reviewed to establish a database for inhalation toxicology and derive thresholds of toxicological concern (TTC) for effects in the respiratory tract and systemically for Cramer class 1 and 3 chemicals. These TTCs can be used as the basis for developing an exposure based waiving (EBW) approach to evaluating the potential for adverse effects from exposure to ingredients in aerosol products, used by consumers. The measurement of consumer exposure in simulated product use is key to the application of an exposure based waiving approach to evaluating potential consumer risk. The detailed exposure evaluation for aerosol ingredients with defined use scenarios, in conjunction with an evaluation of the potential structure activity relationship for toxicity and the TTCs for inhalation exposure could be used to waive undertaking inhalation toxicology studies under REACH. Not all classes of chemicals are suitable for such an approach, but for chemicals with a predictable low potential toxicity, and very low levels of exposure, this approach, could reduce the amount of inhalation toxicology studies required for the implementation of the European REACH legislation. Such an approach is consistent with the concept of developing 'intelligent testing strategies' for REACH.

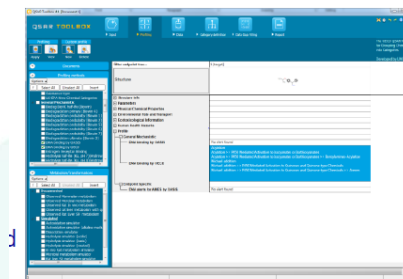
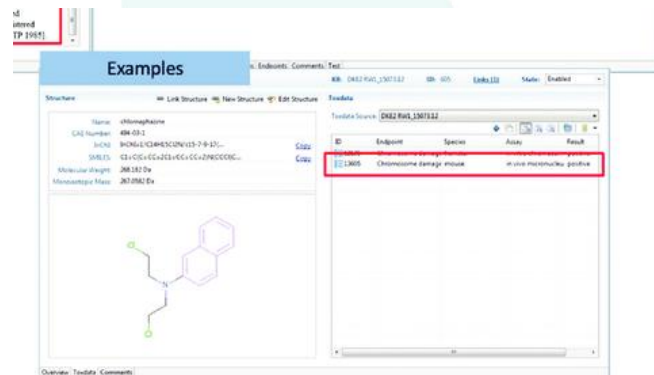
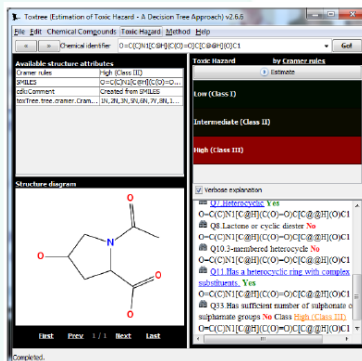
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# Computational approaches

## In silico tools



### ToxTree



## In silico models to predict Molecular initiating events (MIEs)



SOT | Society of Toxicology  
www.toxsci.oxfordjournals.org

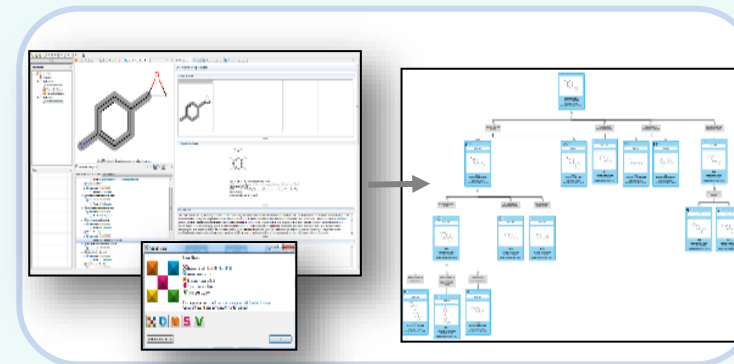


TOXICOLOGICAL SCIENCES, 165(1), 2018, 213-223

doi: 10.1093/toxsci/kfy144  
Advance Access Publication Date: July 18, 2018  
Research Article

### Using 2D Structural Alerts to Define Chemical Categories for Molecular Initiating Events

Timothy E. H. Allen,\* Jonathan M. Goodman,\*<sup>1</sup> Steve Gutsell,<sup>†</sup> and Paul J. Russell<sup>†</sup>



### Metabolic fate predictions

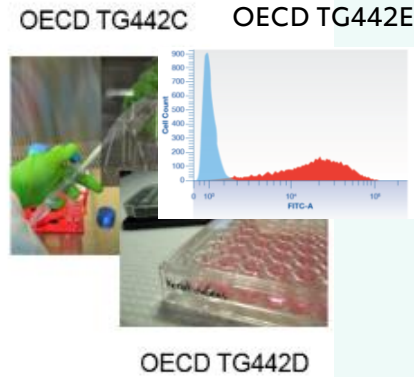


# In vitro approaches

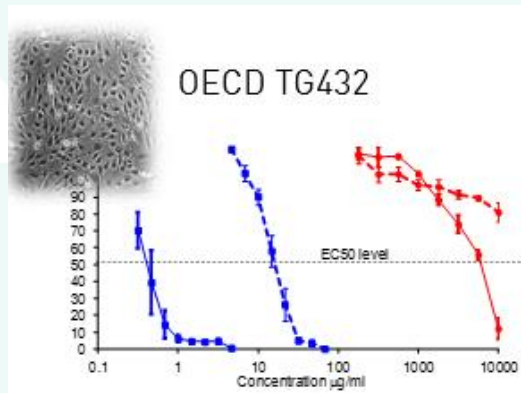
## OECD test methods



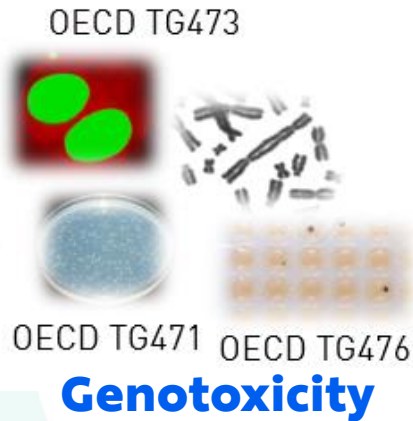
### Skin and eye irritation



### Skin sensitisation



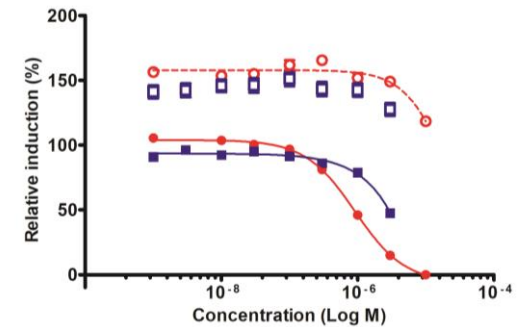
### Phototoxicity



### Genotoxicity

## Receptor-binding assays

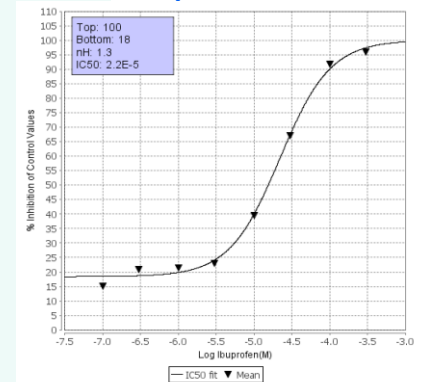
e.g. AR-CALUX<sup>®</sup> assay to measure androgen receptor activity



- Flutamide (DHT EC50)
- Flutamide (DHT 100xEC50)
- Test Substance (DHT EC50)
- Test Substance (DHT 100xEC50)

Dent et al (2019), Toxicological Science, 167, 375-384

### Ibuprofen – Cox-1.



**PERSPECTIVES**

**A GUIDE TO DRUG DISCOVERY – OPINION**

**Reducing safety-related drug attrition: the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling**

*Joanne Bowes, Andrew J. Brown, Jacques Hamon, Wolfgang Joralek, Arun Srinivas, Corbett Waldron and Steven Whitbread*

**Abstract:** *In vitro* pharmacological profiling is increasingly being used earlier in the drug discovery process to identify undesirable off-target activity profiles that could hinder or halt the development of candidate drugs or even lead to market withdrawal if discovered after a drug is approved. Here, for the first time, the rationale, strategies and methodologies for *in vitro* pharmacological profiling at four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZenca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) are presented and illustrated with examples of their impact on the drug discovery process. We hope that this will enable other companies and academic institutions to benefit from this knowledge and consider joining in our collaborative knowledge sharing.

Decreasing the high attrition rate in the drug discovery and development process is a primary goal of the pharmaceutical industry. One of the main challenges in achieving this goal is making an appropriate balance between drug efficacy and potential adverse effects. Early on, possible to reduce safety-related attrition, particularly in the more expensive late stages of clinical development. Gaining a better understanding of the safety profile of drug candidates early in the process is also crucial for reducing the likelihood of safety issues limiting the use of approved drugs, or even leading to their market withdrawal, having to recall the drug, or even leading to their withdrawal.

target (or targets), whereas secondary effects are due to interactions with targets other than the primary target (or targets) (that is, off-target interactions). Off-target interactions are often the cause of ADRs in animal models or clinical studies, and so careful characterisation and identification of secondary pharmacology profiles of drug candidates early in the drug discovery process might help to reduce the incidence of type A ADRs.

*In vitro* pharmacological profiling involves the screening of compounds against a broad range of targets (receptors, ion channels, enzymes and transporters) that are distinct from the primary

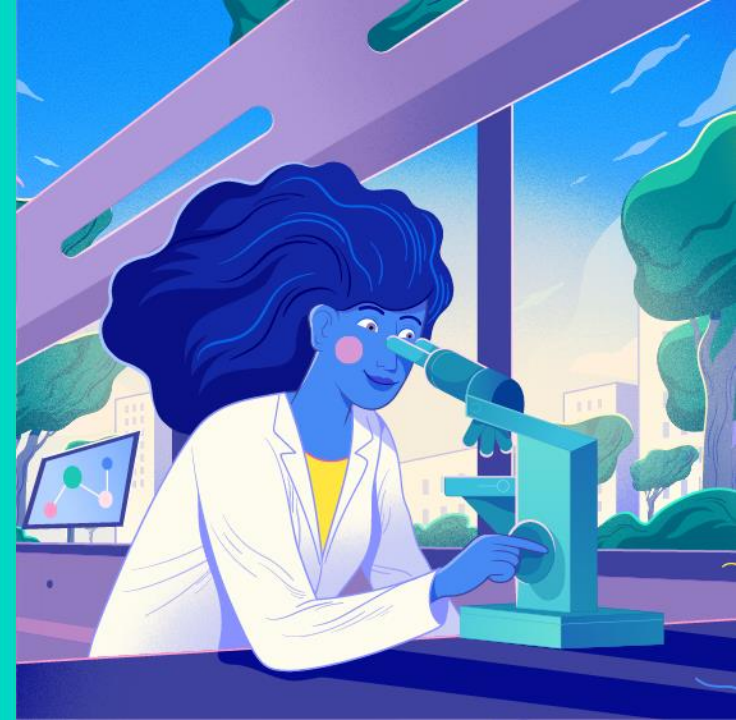
safety testing of drug candidates and are designed to prevent severe ADRs from occurring in clinical studies.

The only *in vitro* pharmacology assay that is routinely required by regulatory authorities to cover the mechanisms of effects of new chemical entities on the ionic current of human *Ca<sub>v</sub>1* (heterologously expressed human voltage-gated potassium channel subunit 1) or hERG2 (hERG2, also known as hK1). The mechanism by which block of hERG2 can lead potentially fatal cardiac arrhythmias (torsades de pointes) following a prolongation of the QT interval is well characterised<sup>1</sup>, and this assay is a mandatory regulatory requirement. Receptor binding studies are also recommended as the first-tier approach for the assessment of the degree of potential of novel chemical entities.

However, current regulatory guidance does not describe which targets should constitute an *in vitro* pharmacological profiling panel and does not include the stage of the discovery process in which *in vitro* pharmacological profiling should occur. Nevertheless, the present review for most pharmaceutical companies is to perform this testing early in drug discovery to reduce attrition and to facilitate better prediction of ADRs in the later stages of drug discovery and development.

Here, for the first time, four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZenca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) share their knowledge and experiences of the innovative application of systematic screening technologies to detect off-target interactions of compounds. The objective of this article is to describe the rationale and main advantages for the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling to reduce drug attrition and to

# History of Safe Use (HoSU)



Unilever

# Do you have a favourite?

'Everything is poison, there is poison in everything. Only the dose makes a thing not a poison.' Paracelsus



Amygdalin  
(0.6g/kg seeds)



1.1 kg apple  
seeds



Formaldehyde  
(0.06g/kg)



116 kg  
pears



Solanine  
(0.2g/kg)



79 kg  
potatoes



Cucurbitacin E  
(0.25-7 g/kg,  
high in bitter courgettes)



119 kg  
courgettes

# Naturally challenging

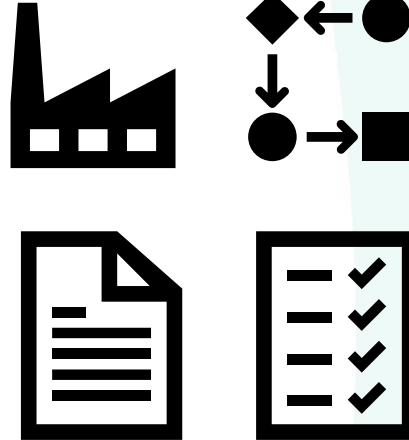
## Raw Material Identification

e.g. Which Ginseng?  
American, Korean,  
Chinese, Indian....



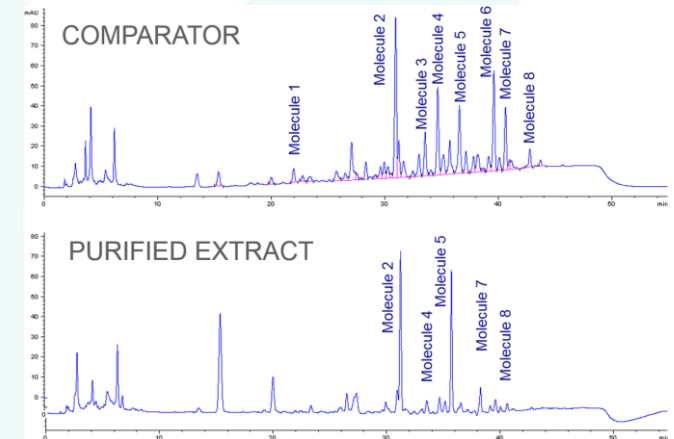
## Specification control

- Processing
- Marker compounds
- Mass balance?



## Chemical analysis

- Fingerprinting
- Targeted quantitation



**Control of sample variation:** Natural plant variation, geographical, seasonal, age...

# 'History of Safe Use' Risk Assessment

- Risk assessment of botanical materials (herbals, traditional Chinese medicines, Ayurvedics etc) which have a long history of use in certain parts of world.
- 'History of Safe Use' (HoSU) is widely used for safety assessment of food ingredients (e.g. novel foods and foods derived from genetically modified organisms) and the principles can be extended for cosmetic products.
- History of safe use assessments need to be robust, transparent and evidence based.
  - Identification of suitable comparator with a history of prior use
  - Evidence for toxicological concern (and lack of concern) of the comparator.
  - The similarity of the botanical of interest with the comparator.

## *Useful references:*

*History of safe use as applied to the safety assessment of novel foods and foods derived from genetically modified organisms; Constable, A et al, Food and Chemical Toxicology; 45 (12) (2007); 2513-2525.*

*A multi-criteria decision analysis model to assess the safety of botanicals utilizing data on history of use; Neely, T et al; Toxicology International; 18 (2011); 20-29.*

# Evidence of History of Use (Exposure)

- Origin of ingredient
- Similarity of ingredient specification
- Preparation and processing similarity
- Similarity of population to be exposed especially products aimed at babies/children - comparator should have similar history of exposure
- Number of people exposed
- Pattern of use/frequency of application
- Bioavailability/Skin penetration

# Evidence for Concern (Hazard)

## Toxicology data

- High Concern: Reproductive or developmental toxicity, mutagenicity, neurotoxicity or any organ toxicity, data showing skin sensitization (type IV allergy), type I allergy, skin carcinogenicity, phototoxicity effects

## Chemical components of concern

- High concern: known skin sensitisers, photoallergens, proteins....
- Biological effects/mechanism of action
- Evidence of adverse effects in man (Information from literature review or existing clinical data)

# Useful Data Sources

- Food Standards Agency: <https://www.food.gov.uk/>
- European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) - <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/> , <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/topics/topic/dietary-reference-values>
- World Health Organization - [https://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas\\_work/nutrition/en/](https://www.who.int/foodsafety/areas_work/nutrition/en/)
- Health Canada - [http://recherche-search.gc.ca/rGs/s\\_r?st=s&langs=eng&st1rt=0&num=10&cdn=health](http://recherche-search.gc.ca/rGs/s_r?st=s&langs=eng&st1rt=0&num=10&cdn=health)
- JECFA - Monographs & Evaluations - <https://www.who.int/foodsafety/publications/monographs/en/>
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration - <https://www.fda.gov/food>
- Natural Medicines Comprehensive Database - [www.NaturalMedicines.com/login](http://www.NaturalMedicines.com/login)
- European Medicines Agency - <https://www.ema.europa.eu/en/committees/committee-herbal-medicinal-products-hmpc>
- PubMed - <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed?tool=cdl&otool=cdlotool>
- Toxicology Data Network (TOXNET) - <https://toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/>
- Personal Care Products Council - <http://online.personalcarecouncil.org/jsp/Home.jsp>
- Chemical Safety Information from Intergovernmental Organizations - <http://www.inchem.org/>



# Case Study: Green tea in skin cream

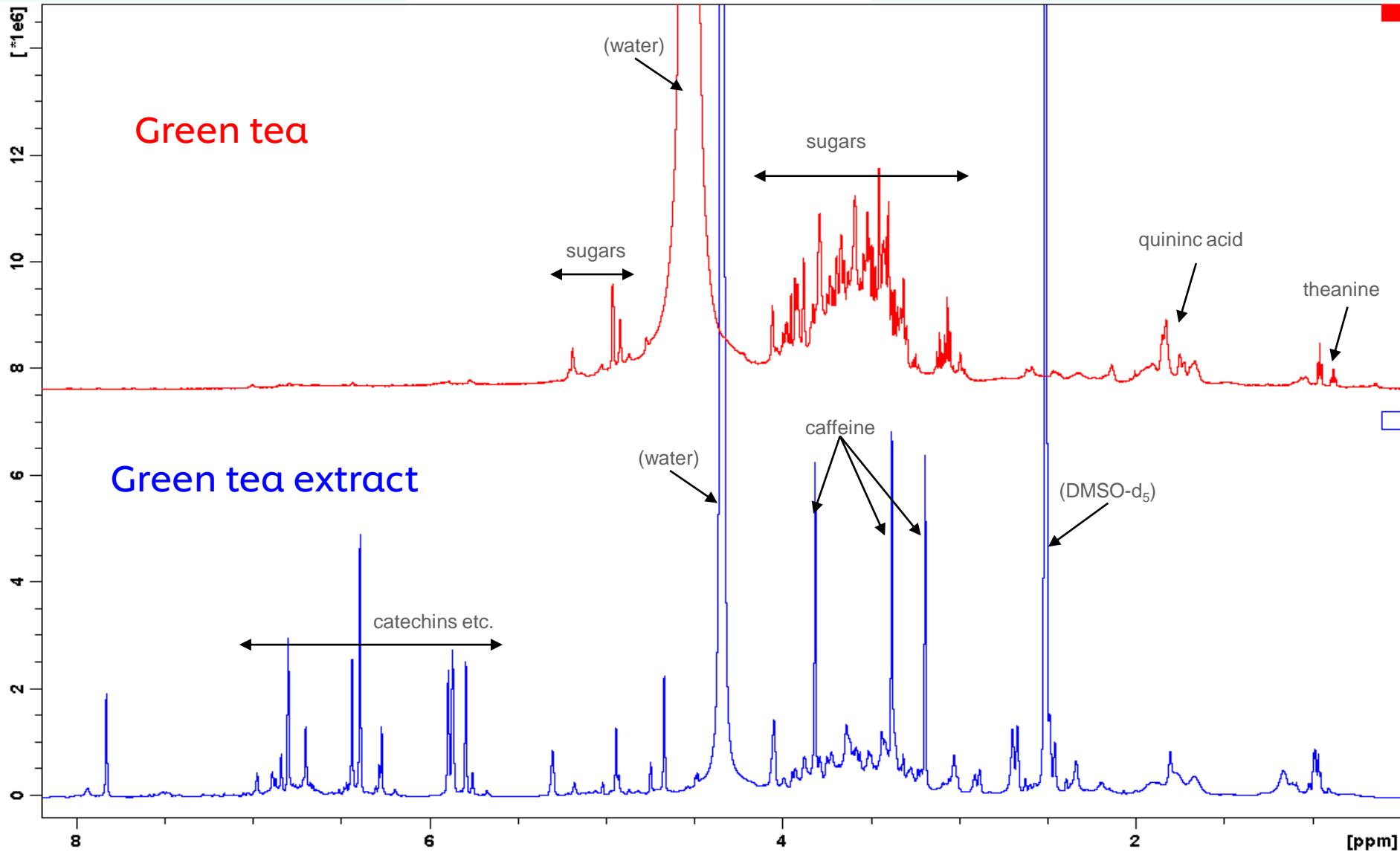
- Green tea (*Camelia sinensis*)
- Traditionally drunk as a hot beverage – some history of topical use
- Large amount of historical oral consumption information
- The primary chemical components are polyphenols
- Safety assessment was needed for inclusion of green tea extract in a leave-on skin product
- History of Safe Use (HoSU) approach used



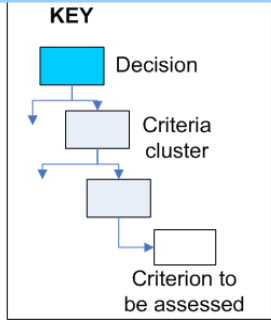
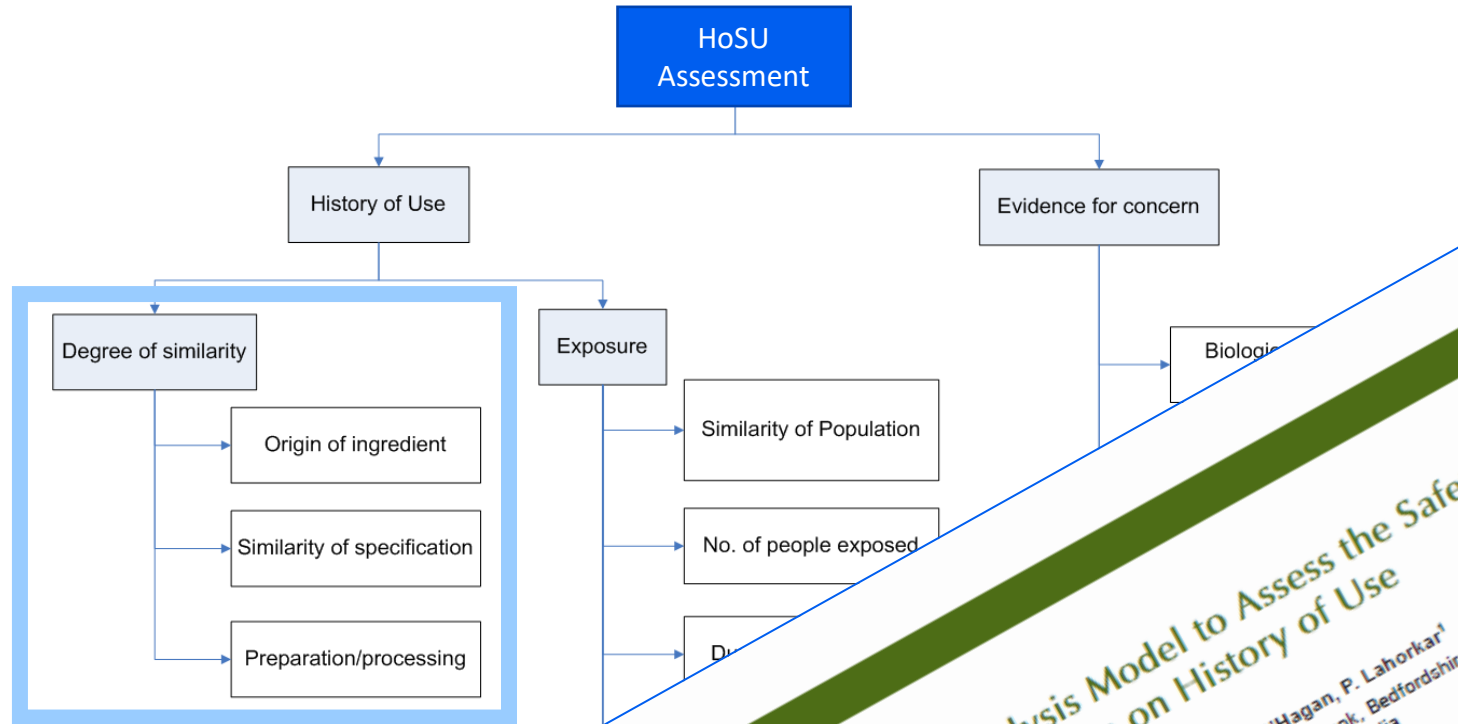
# Information Gathering

Criteria	Response for green tea	Evidence
Origin of ingredient	Identical to traditional/comparator	<i>Camelia sinensis</i> leaves used. Harvested in SA Asia for tea production
Similarity of specification	Almost the same	Fingerprint and quantitative assessment of components confirms similar specification
Preparation and processing	Almost the same	Aqueous extract – prepared by boiling dried leaves
Populations	Use encompasses population intended to expose e.g. healthy adult females	Evidence of topical use of green and black tea
No. of people exposed	Thousands	Evidence of topical use reported in open literature
Duration of exposure	20 years +	Evidence of topical use reported in open literature
Pattern/frequency of use	Ingested and topically applied on a daily basis	Evidence from Natural Medicines Database
Bioavailability	Not known	-
Toxicological data	Some data showing green tea extracts to cause skin sensitisation when applied topically	Literature search (numerous references)
Chemical components of concern	Catechins	Literature search (numerous references)
Biological effects/mechanism of action	Catechins may have anti-inflammatory activity	Evidence from Natural Medicines Database
Evidence of adverse effects in man	Some evidence of irritation when used at high concentrations in topical applications	Literature search (numerous references)

# Green Tea - Composition analysis



# History of Safe Use (HoSU)



**Research Article**

## A Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis Model to Assess the Safety of Botanicals Utilizing Data on History of Use

T. Neely, B. Walsh-Mason, P. Russell, A. Van Der Horst, S. O'Hagan, P. Lahorkar<sup>1</sup>  
 Safety and Environmental Assurance Center, Unilever, Colworth Science Park, Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ, UK.  
<sup>1</sup>Unilever R&D, 64 Main Road, Whitefield, Bangalore 560066, India

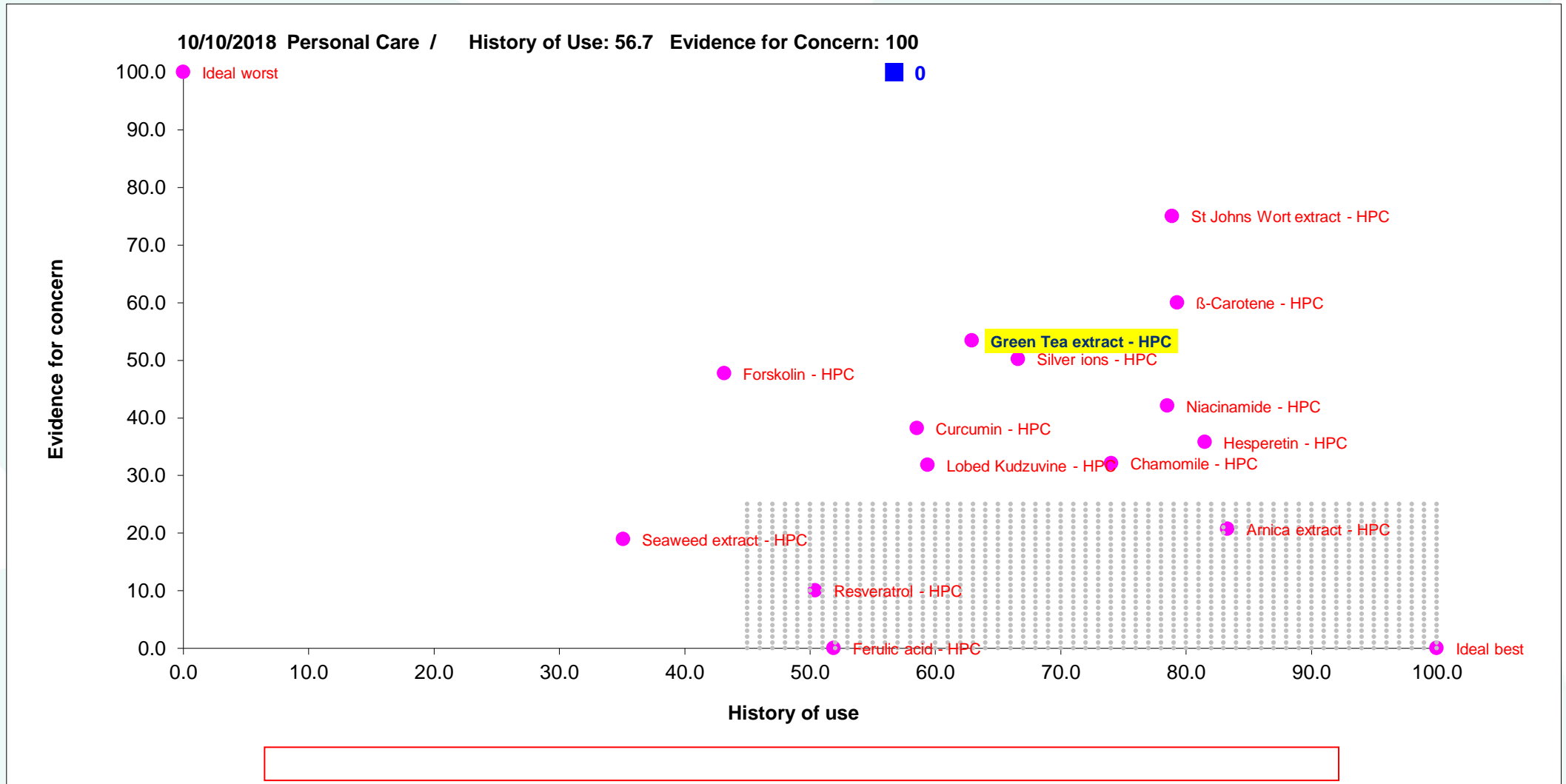
DOI: 10.4103/0971-6580.65882

**ABSTRACT**

Botanicals and extracts are widely used in traditional medicines throughout the world. Many have been used for safe use over several hundreds of years. There is now a growing consumer interest in food products that contain botanicals. There are many publications describing the safety assessment of botanicals, but the history of safe use. However, they do not define what constitutes a history of safe use. The multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA), is a model for the safety of botanical ingredients using a history of use approach. The objective of interest to its historic counterpart – the comparator, the history of use. In order to establish compositional similarity scoring' approach has been developed. The approach is transparent, and transferable safety assessment.



# Benchmarking the output – Unilever HoSU model



# Risk assessment outcome – Green Tea Extract

- Not supported for the desired use scenario based on high evidence of concern
  - High catechin levels associated with skin sensitisation
- Further hazard and exposure data would be required to refine the assessment
  - In vitro assays to assess sensitisation hazard
  - Skin penetration measurement/prediction



# PART TWO

## Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA): concepts and tools



Unilever

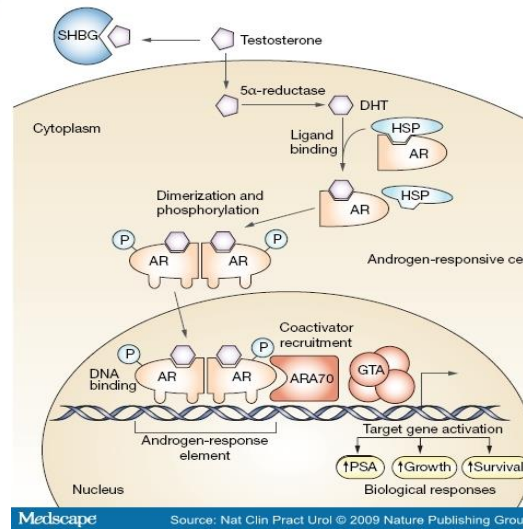
# Next Generation Risk assessment (NGRA)

## What is NGRA?

- Using new tools and approaches (NAMs – New Approach Methods) to build a risk assessment to enable decisions to be made
- An exposure-led risk assessment solution to biological pathway-indicated hazard concerns

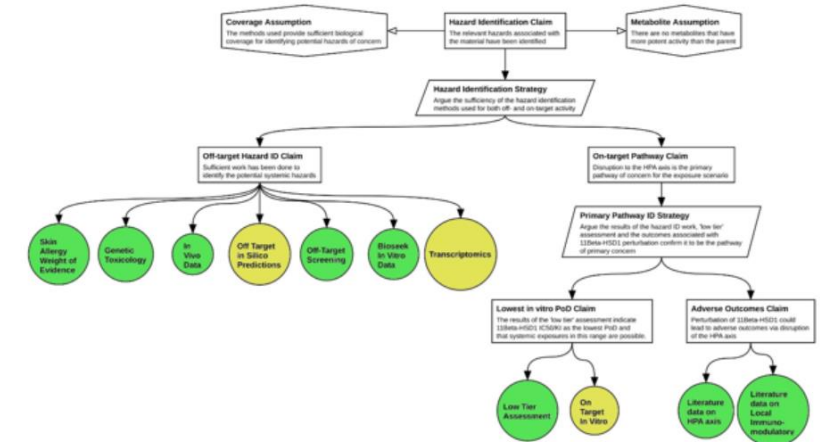


Exposure led



Mechanistic

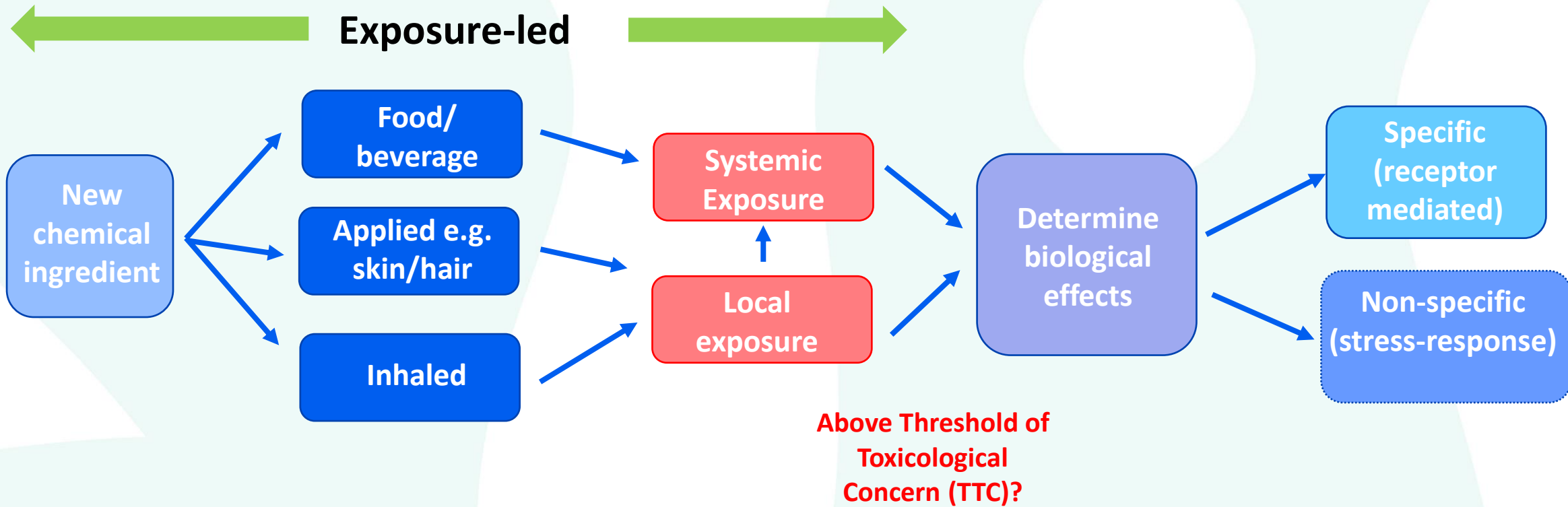
### Hazard Identification



Hypothesis driven

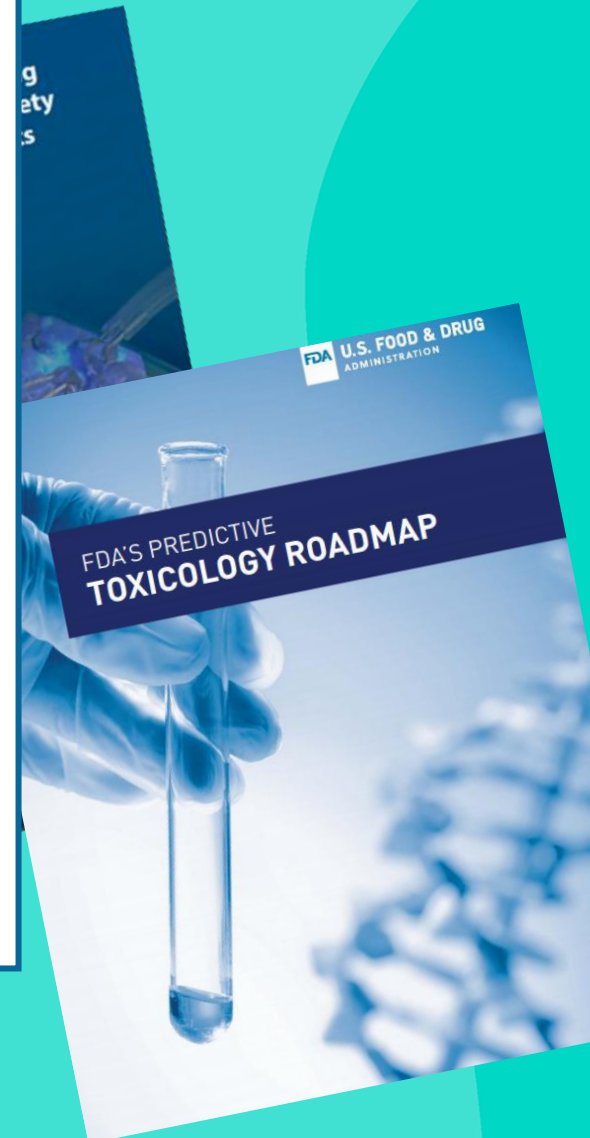


# NGRA is an Exposure-led approach



2007 →

“Advances in toxicogenomics, bioinformatics, systems biology, and computational toxicology could transform toxicity testing from a system based on whole-animal testing to one founded primarily on *in vitro* methods that evaluate changes in biologic processes using cells, cell lines, or cellular components, preferably of human origin.”



# ICCR Nine principles of NGRA



4

## Main overriding principles:

- The overall goal is a human safety risk assessment
- The assessment is exposure led
- The assessment is hypothesis driven
- The assessment is designed to prevent harm

3

## Principles describe how a NGRA should be conducted:

- Following an appropriate appraisal of existing information
- Using a tiered and iterative approach
- Using robust and relevant methods and strategies

2

## Principles for documenting NGRA:

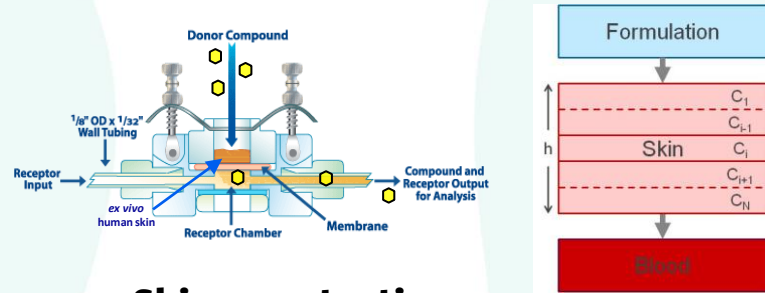
- Sources of uncertainty should be characterized and documented
- The logic of the approach should be transparent and documented

# NGRA: The assessment is exposure-led

- **Route of exposure**
- **Consumer use (Habits & Practices)**
- **Applied dose (external concentration)**

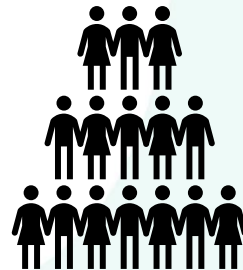


## ADME parameters

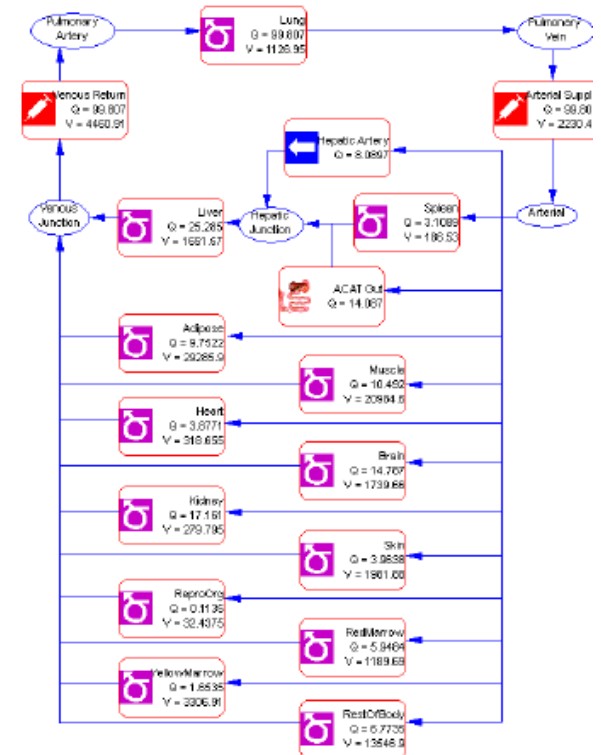


- **Skin penetration**
- **Phys-chem properties**
- **Hepatic clearance**
- **Fraction unbound**
- **blood:plasma ratio**

## Uncertainty analysis- Population simulation

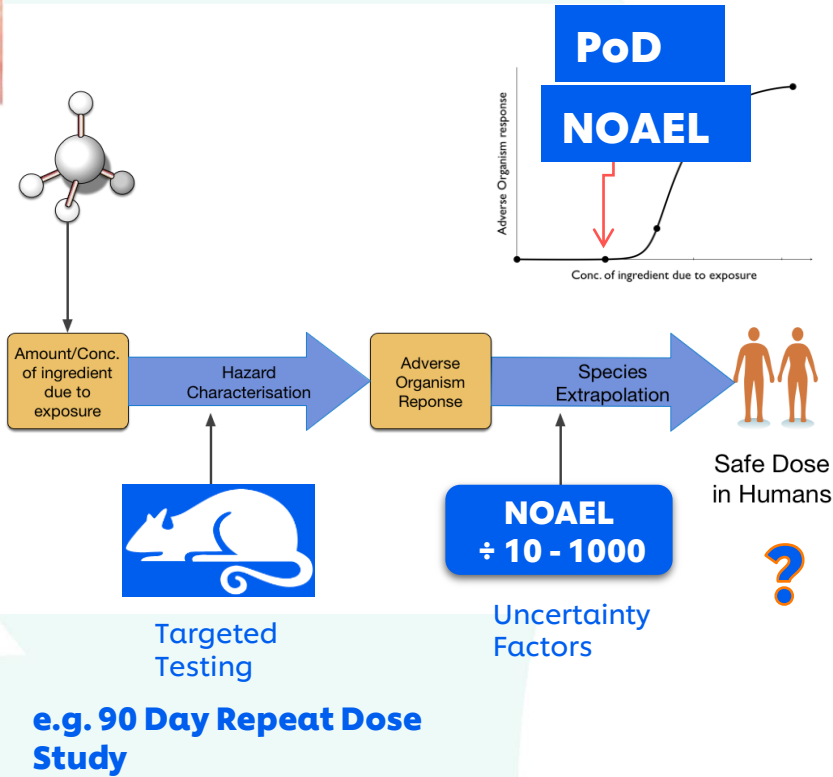
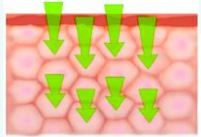


## Physiologically-based kinetic (PBK) modelling - Internal concentration (plasma, urine, organ-level)



# NGRA: the margin of safety (MoS) approach and decision making

Is it safe?

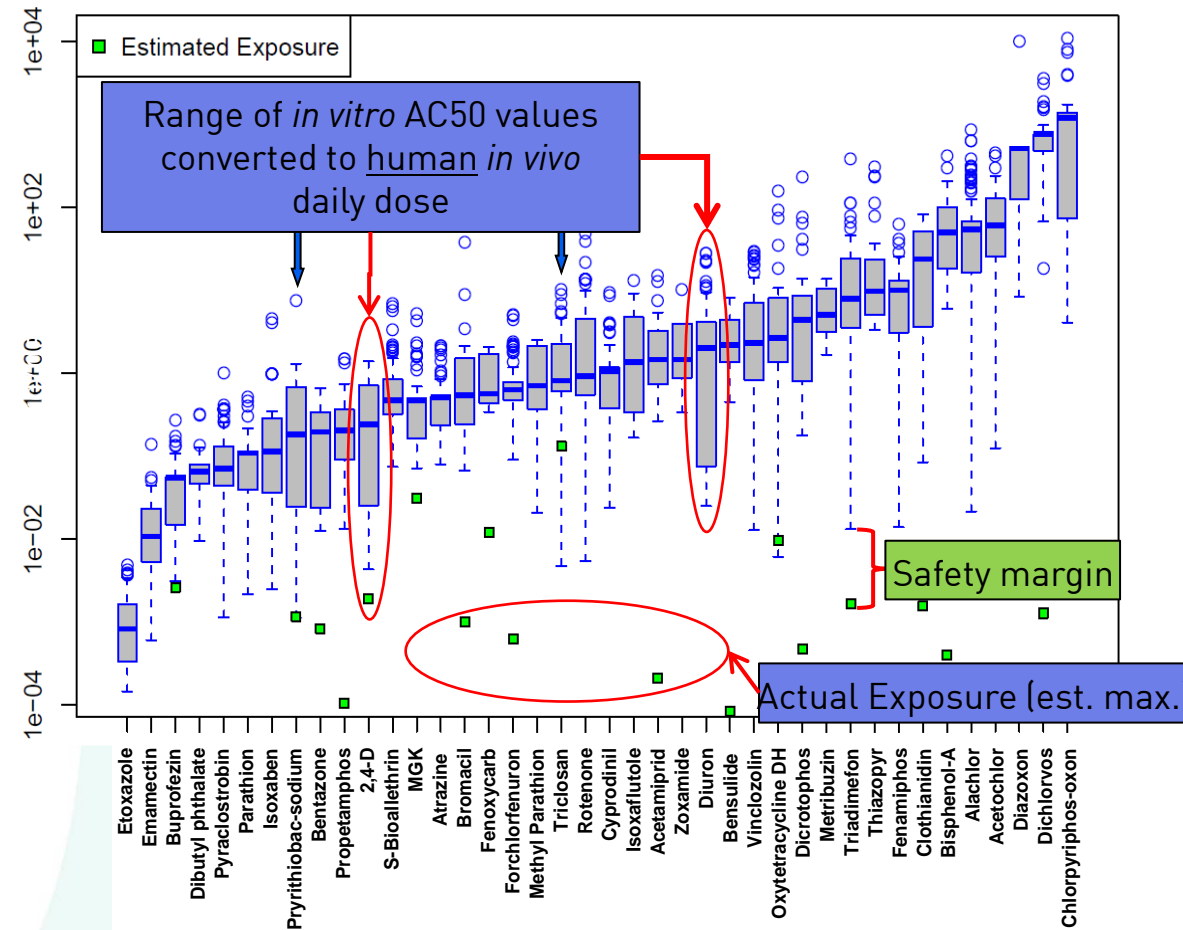


e.g. 90 Day Repeat Dose Study

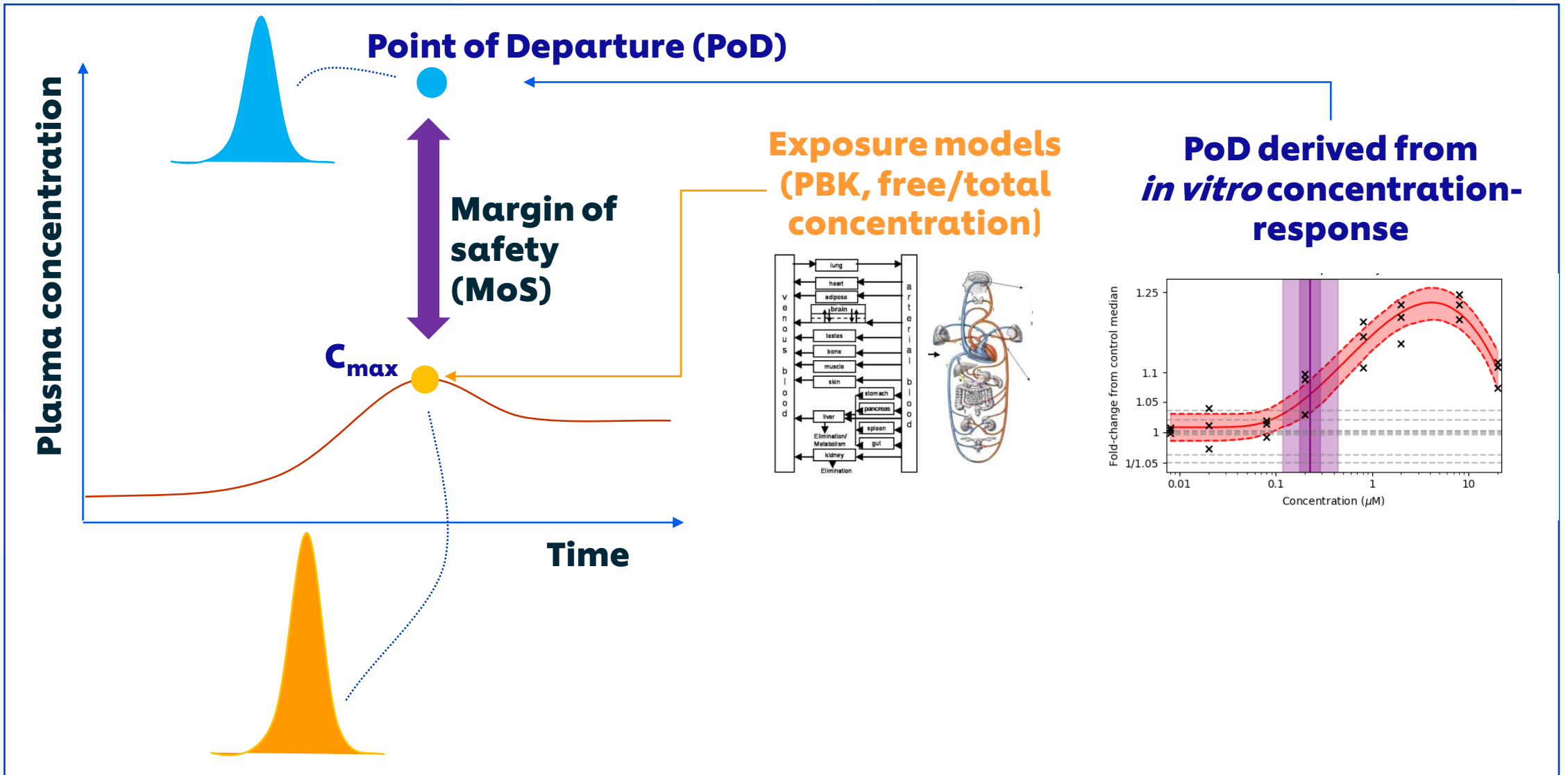
PoD – Point of Departure

NOAEL – No Observed Adverse Effect Level

Distributions of Oral Equivalent Values and Predicted Chronic Exposures

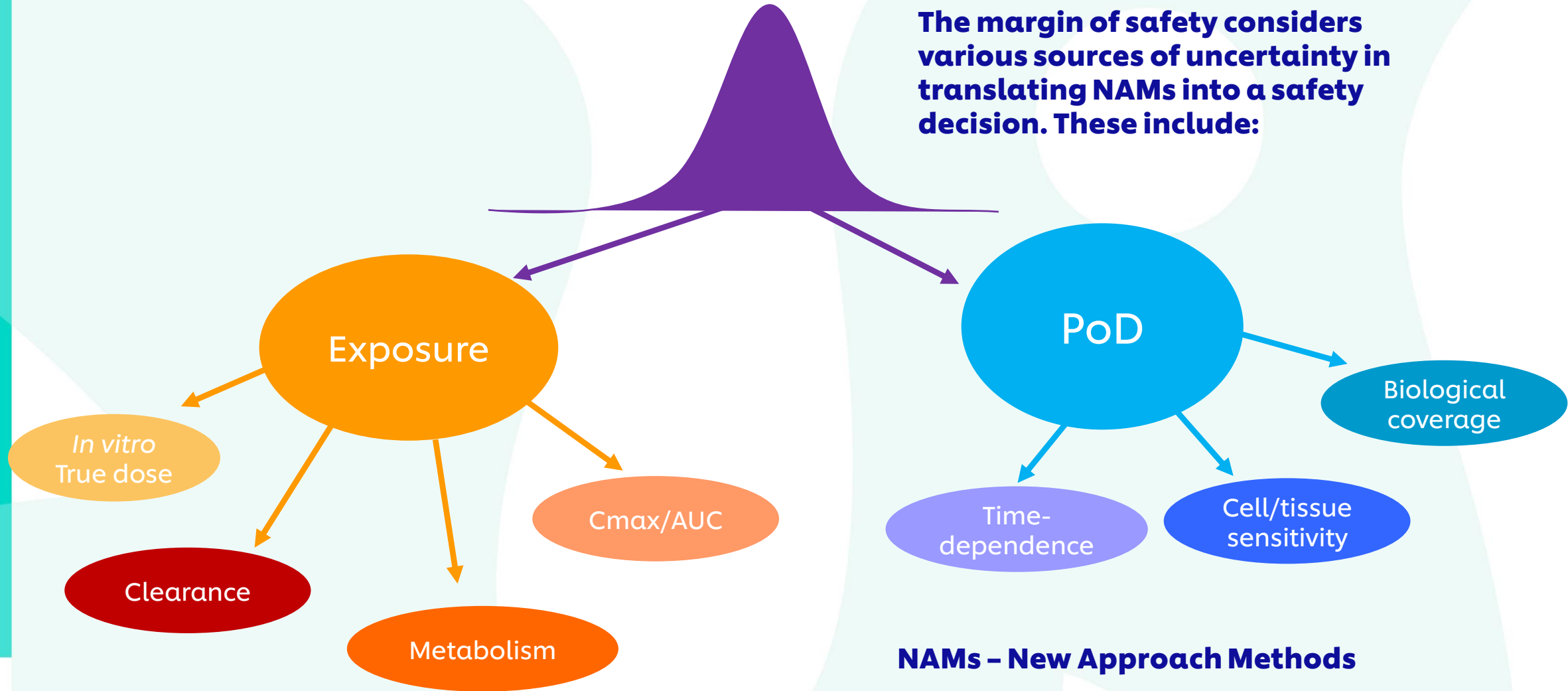


# Margin of Safety



# NGRA: Sources of uncertainty should be characterized and documented

The margin of safety considers various sources of uncertainty in translating NAMs into a safety decision. These include:



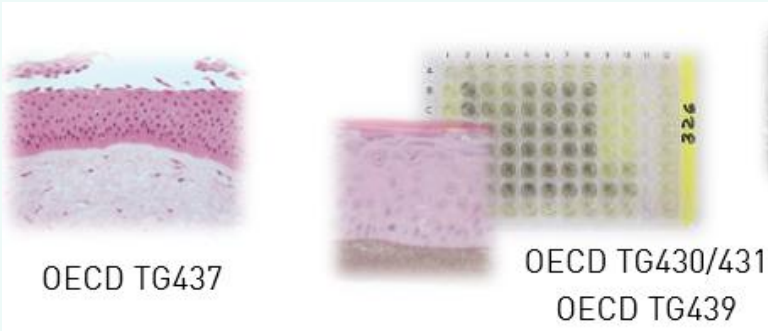
**NAMs – New Approach Methods**

# NGRA: Using relevant methods to test hypotheses

Established Methods

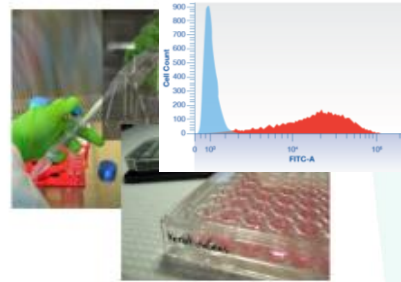
New Approach Methods (NAMs)

## OECD test methods



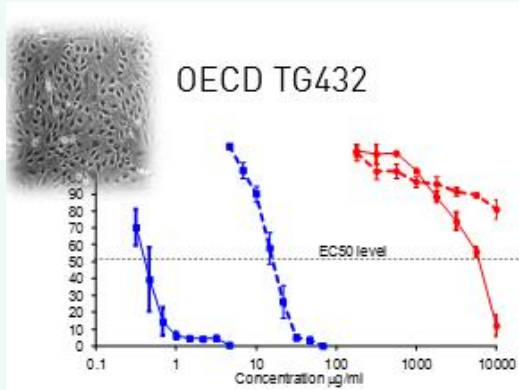
### Skin and eye irritation

OECD TG442C OECD TG442E



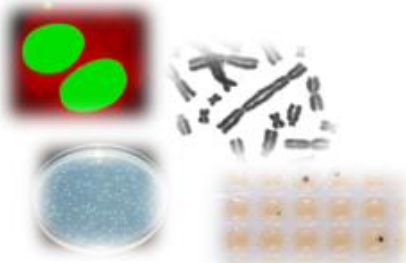
OECD TG442D

### Skin sensitisation



### Phototoxicity

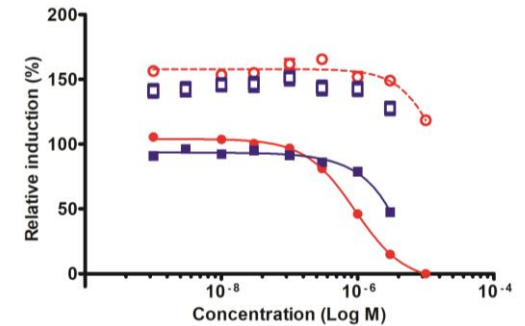
OECD TG473



### Genotoxicity

## Receptor-binding assays

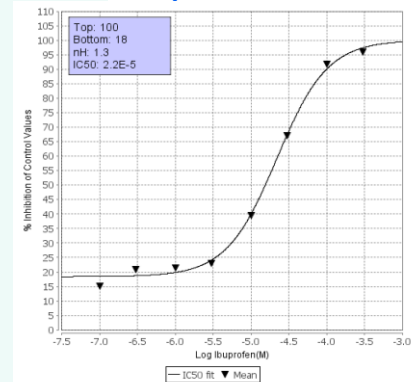
e.g. AR-CALUX<sup>®</sup> assay to measure androgen receptor activity



- Flutamide (DHT EC50)
- Flutamide (DHT 100xEC50)
- Test Substance (DHT EC50)
- Test Substance (DHT 100xEC50)

Dent et al (2019), Toxicological Science, 167, 375-384

Ibuprofen - Cox-1.



**PERSPECTIVES**

**A GUIDE TO DRUG DISCOVERY — OPINION**

**Reducing safety-related drug attrition: the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling**

*Joanne Bowes, Andrew J. Brown, Jacques Hamon, Wolfgang Joralek, Arun Sridhar, Corbett Wallron and Steven Whitbread*

**Abstract:** *In vitro* pharmacological profiling is increasingly being used earlier in the drug discovery process to identify undesirable off-target activity profiles that could hinder or halt the development of candidate drugs or even lead to market withdrawal if discovered after a drug is approved. Here, for the first time, the rationale, strategies and methodologies for *in vitro* pharmacological profiling for four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZenca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) are presented and illustrated with examples of its impact on the drug discovery process. We hope that this will enable other companies and academic institutions to benefit from this knowledge and consider joining in our collaborative knowledge sharing.

Decreasing the high attrition rate in the drug discovery and development process is a primary goal of the pharmaceutical industry. One of the main challenges in achieving this goal is making an appropriate balance between drug efficacy and potential adverse effects. It is not possible to reduce safety-related attrition, particularly in the more expensive late stages of clinical development. Gaining a better understanding of the safety profile of drug candidates early in the process is also crucial for reducing the likelihood of safety issues leading to the use of approved drugs, or even leading to their market withdrawal, having to recall the drug, or even leading to the loss of the drug's patent and commercial viability.

target (or targets), whereas secondary effects are due to interactions with targets other than the primary target (or targets) (that is, off-target interactions). Off-target interactions are often the cause of ADRs in animal models or clinical studies, and so careful characterisation and identification of secondary pharmacological profiles of drug candidates early in the drug discovery process might help to reduce the incidence of type A ADRs.

*In vitro* pharmacological profiling involves the screening of compounds against a broad range of targets (receptors, ion channels, enzymes and transporters) that are distinct from the primary

safety testing of drug candidates and are designed to prevent serious ADRs from occurring in clinical studies.

The only *in vitro* pharmacology assay that is routinely required by regulatory authorities to cover the measures the effects of new chemical entities on the main current of action (C<sub>1</sub>) is heterologously expressed human wild-type guinea pig potassium channel subunit 2 (hKv2.2) (EC50), also known as hERG. The mechanism by which block of hERG can lead potentially fatal cardiac arrhythmias (torsades de pointes) following a prolonged QT interval is well characterised<sup>1</sup>, and this assay is a mandatory regulatory requirement. Receptor binding studies are also recommended as the first-tier approach for the assessment of the degree of potential of novel chemical entities.

However, current regulatory guidance does not describe which targets should constitute an *in vitro* pharmacological profiling panel and does not include the stage of the discovery process in which *in vitro* pharmacological profiling should occur. Nevertheless, the present trend for most pharmaceutical companies is to perform this testing early in drug discovery to reduce attrition and to facilitate better prediction of ADRs in the later stages of drug discovery and development.

Here, for the first time, four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZenca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) share their knowledge and experience of the innovative application of systematic screening to biologists to detect off-target interactions of compounds. The objective of this article is to describe the rationale and main advantages for the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling to detect both predicted and un-



# Biological activity characterisation using NAMs

## Cellular stress

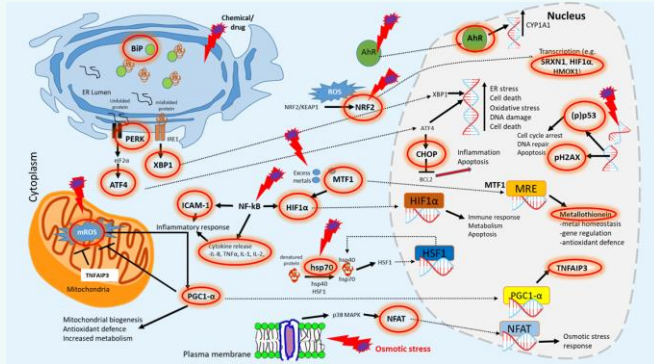


Image kindly provided by Paul Walker (Cyprotex)

**36 biomarkers identified that were representative of key stress pathways, mitochondrial toxicity and cell health.**

Hatherell et al (2020), Toxicological Sciences, 176, 11-33

## Receptor-binding assays

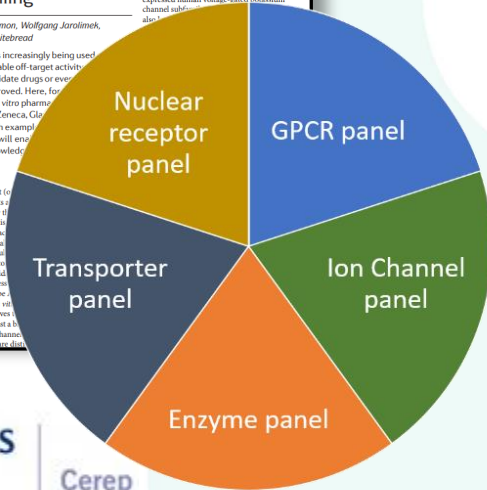
**PERSPECTIVES**

**REDA GUIDE TO DRUG DISCOVERY — OPINION**

**Reducing safety-related drug attrition: the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling**

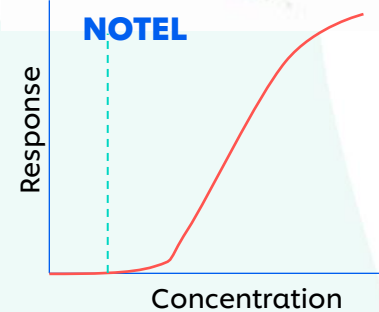
Joanne Bowes, Andrew J. Brown, Jacques Hamon, Wolfgang Jarolimsek, Aram Sridhar, Gareth Waldron and Steven Whitehead

Abstract | *In vitro* pharmacological profiling is increasingly being used in the drug discovery process to identify undesirable off-target activities that could hinder or halt the development of candidate drugs or even lead to withdrawal if discovered after a drug is approved. Here, four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) are presented and illustrated with examples of how *in vitro* pharmacological profiling can be used to reduce safety-related attrition, particularly in the more expensive late stages of clinical development. Gaining a better understanding of the safety profile of drug candidates early in the process is also crucial for reducing the likelihood of safety issues limiting the use of approved drugs, or even leading to their market withdrawal, bearing in mind the revenue societal and regulatory implications that are associated with such outcomes.



euofins | Cerep

## High throughput transcriptomics

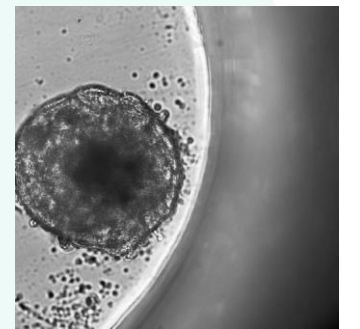
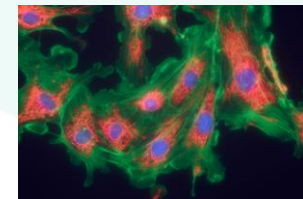


## Mechanism based genotoxic assessment



**DNA Damage  
P53 Binding  
Oxidative Stress  
Protein Damage**

## Advanced cell systems and microtissues



# PART THREE

## Case Study Examples

### 1) SYSTEMIC EFFECTS



Unilever

# Case study example

## Baltazar *et al.* (2020) A Next-Generation Risk Assessment Case Study for Coumarin in Cosmetic Products. *Toxicological Sciences*, 176, 236-252



SOT | Society of Toxicology  
academic.oup.com/toxsci

TOXICOLOGICAL SCIENCES, 176(1), 2020, 236–252

doi: 10.1093/toxsci/lfaa048  
Advance Access Publication Date: April 10, 2020  
Research article

### A Next-Generation Risk Assessment Case Study for Coumarin in Cosmetic Products

Maria T. Baltazar,<sup>1</sup> Sophie Cable, Paul L. Carmichael, Richard Cubberley, Tom Cull, Mona Delagrange, Matthew P. Dent, Sarah Hatherell, Jade Houghton, Predrag Kukic, Hequn Li, Mi-Young Lee, Sophie Malcomber, Alistair M. Middleton, Thomas E. Moxon , Alexis V. Nathanail, Beate Nicol, Ruth Pendlington, Georgia Reynolds, Joe Reynolds, Andrew White, and Carl Westmoreland

Unilever Safety and Environmental Assurance Centre, Colworth Science Park, Sharnbrook, Bedfordshire MK44 1LQ, UK

<sup>1</sup>To whom correspondence should be addressed. Fax: +44(0)1234 264 744. E-mail: maria.baltazar@unilever.com.

#### ABSTRACT

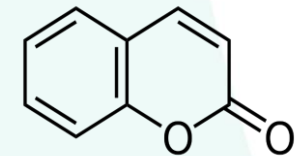
Next-Generation Risk Assessment is defined as an exposure-led, hypothesis-driven risk assessment approach that integrates new approach methodologies (NAMs) to assure safety without the use of animal testing. These principles were applied to a hypothetical safety assessment of 0.1% coumarin in face cream and body lotion. For the purpose of evaluating the use of NAMs, existing animal and human data on coumarin were excluded. Internal concentrations (plasma  $C_{max}$ ) were estimated using a physiologically based kinetic model for dermally applied coumarin. Systemic toxicity was assessed using a battery of *in vitro* NAMs to identify points of departure (PoDs) for a variety of biological effects such as receptor-mediated and immunomodulatory effects (Eurofins SafetyScreen44 and BioMap Diversity 8 Panel, respectively), and general bioactivity (ToxCast data, an *in vitro* cell stress panel and high-throughput transcriptomics). In addition, *in silico* alerts for genotoxicity were followed up with the ToxTracker tool. The PoDs from the *in vitro* assays were plotted against the calculated *in vivo* exposure to calculate a margin of safety with associated uncertainty. The predicted  $C_{max}$  values for face cream and body lotion were lower than all PoDs with margin of safety higher than 100. Furthermore, coumarin was not genotoxic, did not bind to any of the 44 receptors tested and did not show any immunomodulatory effects at consumer-

## 0.1% COUMARIN IN FACE CREAM (NEW FRAGRANCE)

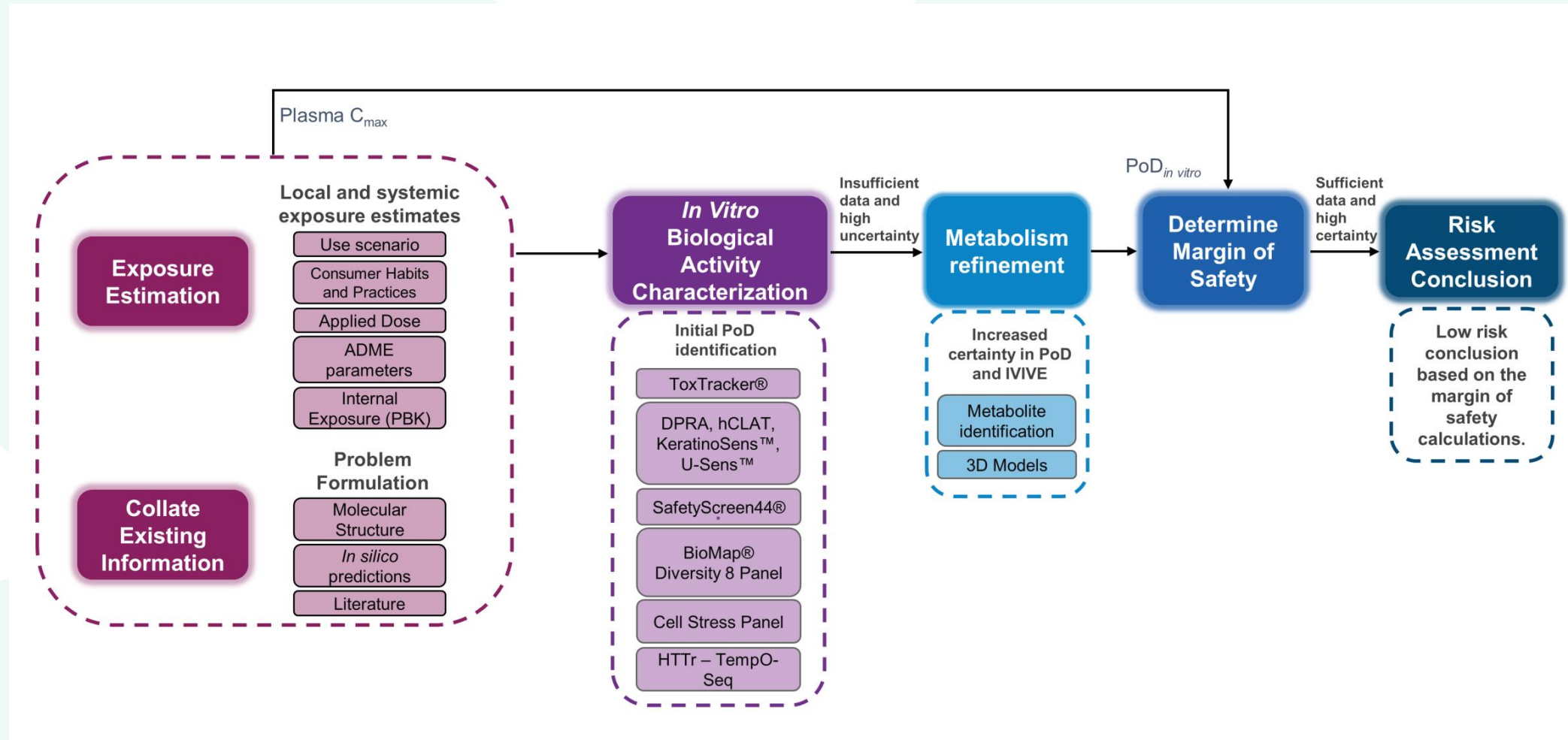


#### Assumptions:

- EU Market
- 100% purity
- no *in vivo* data was available such as animal data, History of Safe Use (HoSU) or Clinical data
- no use of animal data in Read Across
- *In silico* alerts known to be based on animal or *in vivo* data or on the structure of Coumarin itself were excluded



# Next-Generation Risk Assessment case study workflow for 0.1% coumarin in face cream



Baltazar et al., *Toxicological Sciences*, Volume 176, Issue 1, July 2020, Pages 236–252  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/toxsci/kfaa048>

# STEP ONE

## Exposure information and collation of existing information

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: exposure estimation



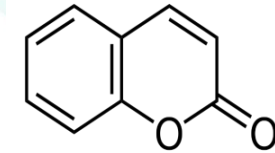
**Table 2:** Estimated daily exposure levels for different cosmetic product types according to Cosmetics Europe data (SCCNFP/0321/00; Hall et al., 2007, 2011).

Product type	Estimated daily amount applied	Relative amount applied (mg/kg bw/d)	Retention factor <sup>1</sup>	Calculated daily exposure (g/d)	Calculated relative daily exposure (mg/kg bw/d)
<b>Bathing, showering</b>					
Shower gel	18.67 g	279.20	0.01	0.19	2.79
Hand wash soap <sup>2</sup>	20.00 g	-	0.01	0.20 <sup>3</sup>	3.33
<b>Hair care</b>					
Shampoo	10.46 g	-	0.01	0.11	1.51
Hair conditioner	-	-	-	0.04	0.60



B. Hall et al./Food and Chemical Toxicology 49 (2011) 408–422

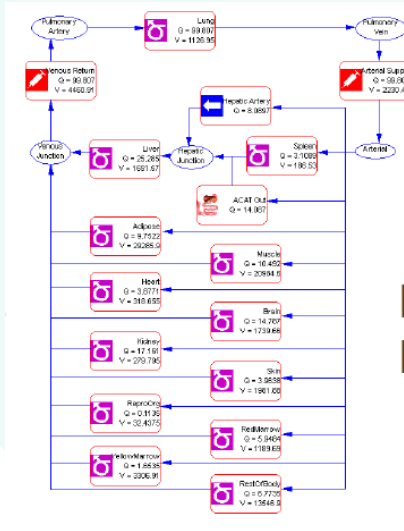
**Assessment is exposure-led and uses available habits and practices data**



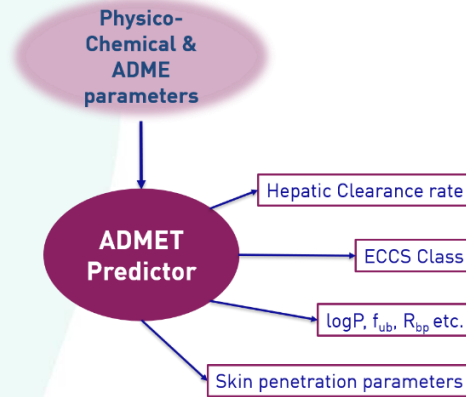
Parameter	Face cream
<b>Amount of product used per day (g/day) using 90th percentile</b>	1.54
<b>Frequency of use</b>	2 times/day
<b>Amount of product in contact with skin per occasion (mg)</b>	770
<b>Ingredient inclusion level</b>	0.1%
<b>Skin surface area (cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	565
<b>Exposure duration per occasion</b>	12 hours
<b>Amount of ingredient in contact with skin per occasion (mg)</b>	0.77
<b>Local dermal exposure per occasion (µg/cm<sup>2</sup>)</b>	1.36
<b>Systemic exposure per day (mg/kg)</b>	<b>0.02</b>

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: exposure estimation- Internal concentration using PBK modelling - Model Inputs

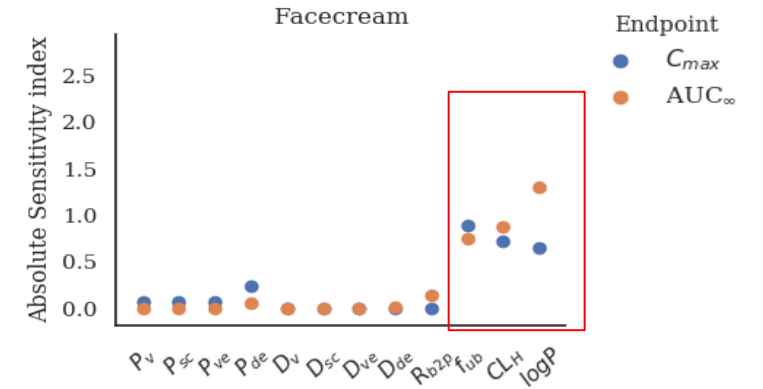
## GastroPlus® (Simulations Plus)



## Use *in silico* parameters for modelling

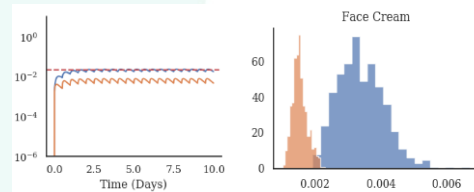


## Sensitivity analysis

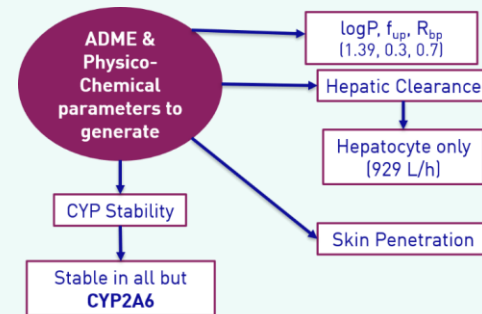


## Experimental Refinement

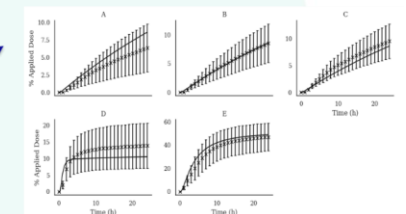
## Exposure distribution



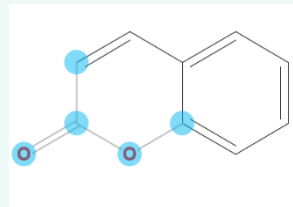
Total Plasma $C_{max}$ ( $\mu M$ )	Mean	Median	90th percentile	95th percentile	97.5th percentile	99th percentile
Face Cream	0.0022	0.0021	0.004	0.0043	0.0046	0.005



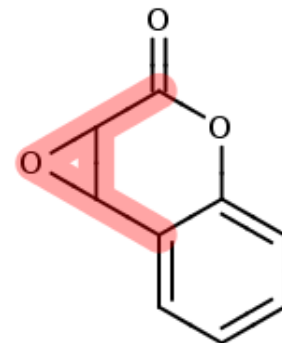
## Skin absorption study



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: in silico predictions



Generation of hypothesis for potential Molecular Initiating events – **ToxTree, MIE ATLAS\*, OECD toolbox**



## Initial Hypothesis

Next case study

- **Coumarin** might **bind to proteins- MIE for induction of skin sensitisation**
- **DNA binding alert + epoxide formation MIE for genotoxicity**
- **Reactive metabolites might be formed with alerts for both genotoxicity and skin sensitisation**
- **No binding alerts for the 39 targets in MIE atlas**



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: *in vitro* existing information

Identification of potential biological targets – **PubChem and ToxCast**



Only few active assays among multiple assays ( $\approx 5000$ )  
Coumarin inhibited both Monoamine oxidases and Carbonic anhydrases at concentrations between  $3 \mu\text{M}$ -  $40 \mu\text{M}$



The AC50 from dose-response curves was used as a PoD for MoS calculation

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: exposure estimation

## Exposure Estimation

- Total plasma C<sub>max</sub> values obtained from PBK model: 0.002  $\mu$ M (mean), 0.005  $\mu$ M (99<sup>th</sup> percentile)
- Stability assays indicated coumarin rapidly metabolized mainly via CYP2A6

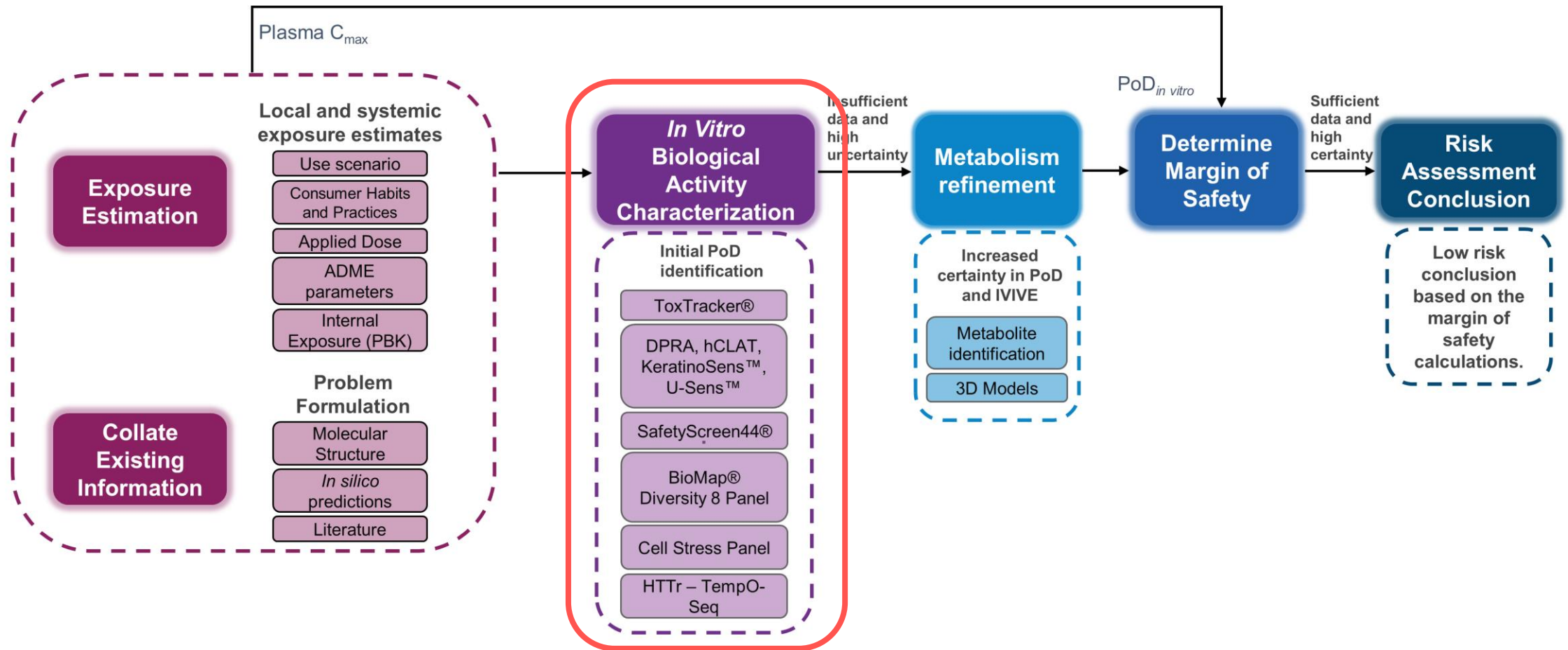
## Collate Existing Information

- *Genotoxicity and skin sensitisation alerts for parent compound*
- Hydroxylation predicted as main route of biotransformation
- Reactive metabolites (e.g. epoxides) predicted.
- Low bioactivity in ToxCast and Pubchem: binding to Carbonic Anhydrases and MAO-A/B reported
- Lowest PoD was 3  $\mu$ M for carbonic anhydrase I (Figure 7)

## ***STEP TWO***

# ***In vitro* biological activity characterisation**

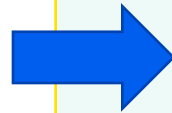
# Next-Generation Risk Assessment case study workflow for 0.1% coumarin in face cream



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: In vitro biological activity characterisation: Genotoxicity assessment: ToxTracker

## Initial hypothesis:

- DNA binding alerts for coumarin and metabolites



Standard ToxTracker assay +S9					
DNA damage		p53	Ox. stress		UPR
Bsc12	Rtkn	Btg2	Srxn1	Blvrb	Ddit3
Green	Orange	Orange	Red	Red	Green

Standard ToxTracker assay -S9					
DNA damage		p53	Ox. stress		UPR
Bsc12	Rtkn	Btg2	Srxn1	Blvrb	Ddit3
Green	Green	Green	Red	Green	Orange

Red: Positive (>2-fold induction)  
Orange: Weak activation (1.5 to 2-fold induction)  
Green: Negative (<1.5-fold induction)



## Results:

- ToxTracker negative
- Reactive coumarin metabolite(s) could induce DNA lesions secondary to oxidative stress

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* binding and enzymatic assays – Eurofins SafetyScreen44

To investigate possible interactions between coumarin and the 44 key targets involved in drug attrition

### PERSPECTIVES

A GUIDE TO DRUG DISCOVERY — OPINION

#### Reducing safety-related drug attrition: the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling

Joanne Bowes, Andrew J. Brown, Jacques Hamon, Wolfgang Jarolimek, Arun Sridhar, Gareth Waldron and Steven Whitebread

**Abstract** | *In vitro* pharmacological profiling is increasingly being used earlier in the drug discovery process to identify undesirable off-target activity profiles that could hinder or halt the development of candidate drugs or even lead to market withdrawal if discovered after a drug is approved. Here, for the first time, the rationale, strategies and methodologies for *in vitro* pharmacological profiling at four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) are presented and illustrated with examples of their impact on the drug discovery process. We hope that this will enable other companies and academic institutions to benefit from this knowledge and consider joining us in our collaborative knowledge sharing.

Decreasing the high attrition rate in the drug discovery and development process is a primary goal of the pharmaceutical industry. One of the main challenges in achieving this goal is striking an appropriate balance between drug efficacy and potential adverse effects<sup>1</sup> as early as possible in order to reduce safety-related attrition, particularly in the more expensive late stages of clinical development. Gaining a better understanding of the safety profile of drug candidates early in the process is also crucial for reducing the likelihood of safety issues limiting the use of approved drugs, or even leading to their market withdrawal, bearing in mind the growing societal and regulatory emphasis

target (or targets), whereas secondary effects are due to interactions with targets other than the primary target (or targets) (that is, off-target interactions). Off-target interactions are often the cause of ADRs in animal models or clinical studies, and so careful characterization and identification of secondary pharmacology profiles of drug candidates early in the drug discovery process might help to reduce the incidence of type A ADRs.

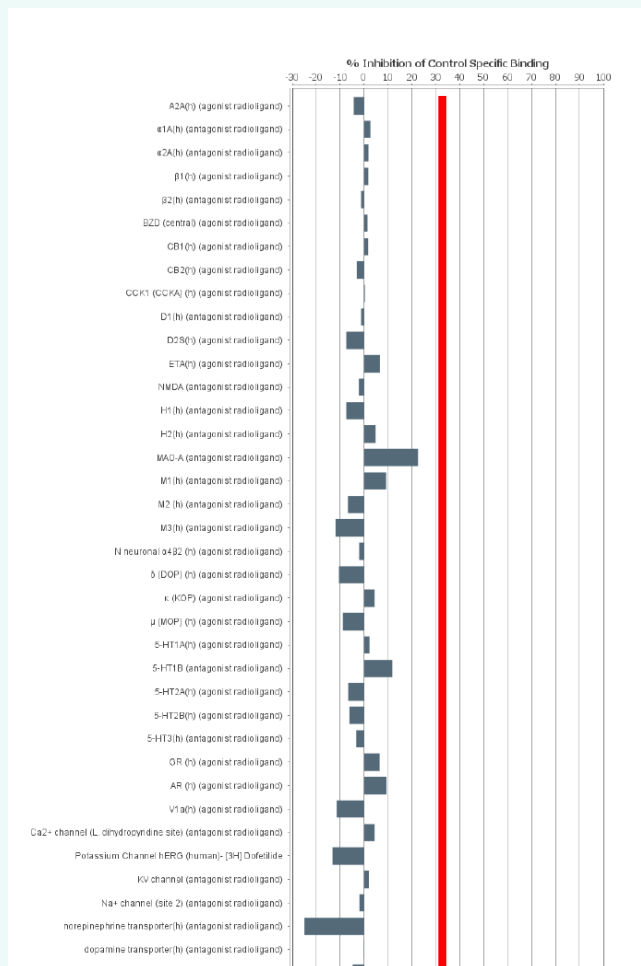
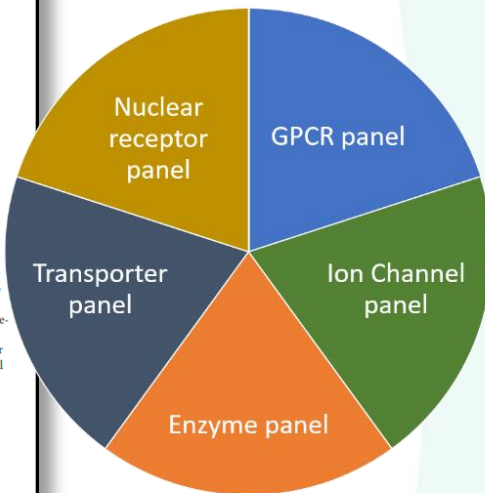
*In vitro* pharmacological profiling involves the screening of compounds against a broad range of targets (receptors, ion channels, enzymes and transporters) that are distinct from the intended

safety testing of drug candidates and are designed to prevent serious ADRs from occurring in clinical studies.

The only *in vitro* pharmacology assay that is absolutely required by regulatory authorities is one that measures the effects of new chemical entities on the ionic current of native ( $I_{h}$ ) or heterologously expressed human voltage-gated potassium channel subfamily H member 2 (KCNH2; also known as hERG)<sup>2</sup>. The mechanism by which blockade of hERG can elicit potentially fatal cardiac arrhythmias (torsades de pointes) following a prolongation of the QT interval is well characterized<sup>3</sup>, and the seriousness of this ADR is one reason why this assay is a mandatory regulatory requirement. Receptor binding studies are also recommended as the first-tier approach for the assessment of the dependence potential of novel chemical entities<sup>4</sup>.

However, current regulatory guidance does not describe which targets should constitute an *in vitro* pharmacological profiling panel and does not indicate the stage of the discovery process at which *in vitro* pharmacological profiling should occur. Nevertheless, the general trend for most pharmaceutical companies is to perform this testing early in drug discovery to reduce attrition and to facilitate better prediction of ADRs in the later stages of drug discovery and development.

Here, for the first time, four major pharmaceutical companies (AstraZeneca, GlaxoSmithKline, Novartis and Pfizer) share their knowledge and experiences of the innovative application of existing screening technologies to detect off-target interactions of compounds. The objective of this article is to describe the rationale and main advantages for the use of *in vitro* pharmacological profiling, to discuss best practices and to

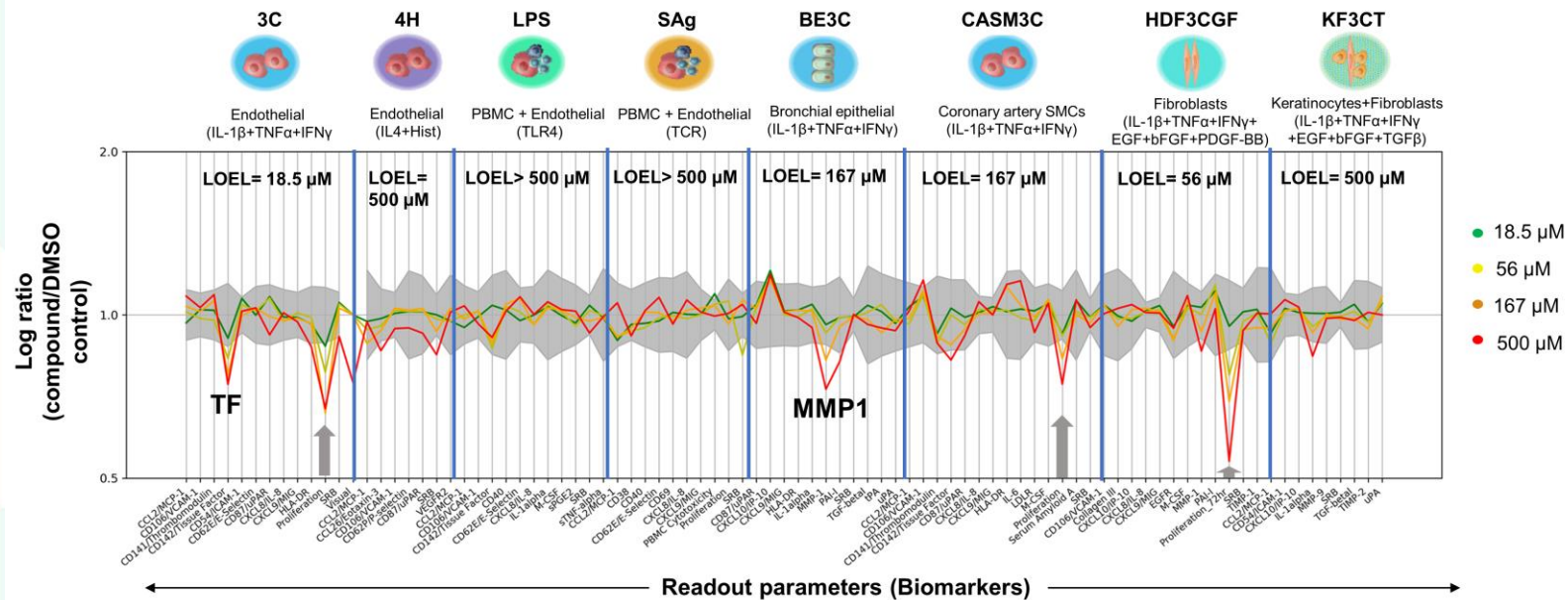


**Results:**  
All binding and enzymatic assay results were negative at 10 μM



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation: Immunomodulatory screening assay - BioMap Diversity 8 Panel

To investigate possible effects on vascular inflammation, immune activation and tissue remodelling

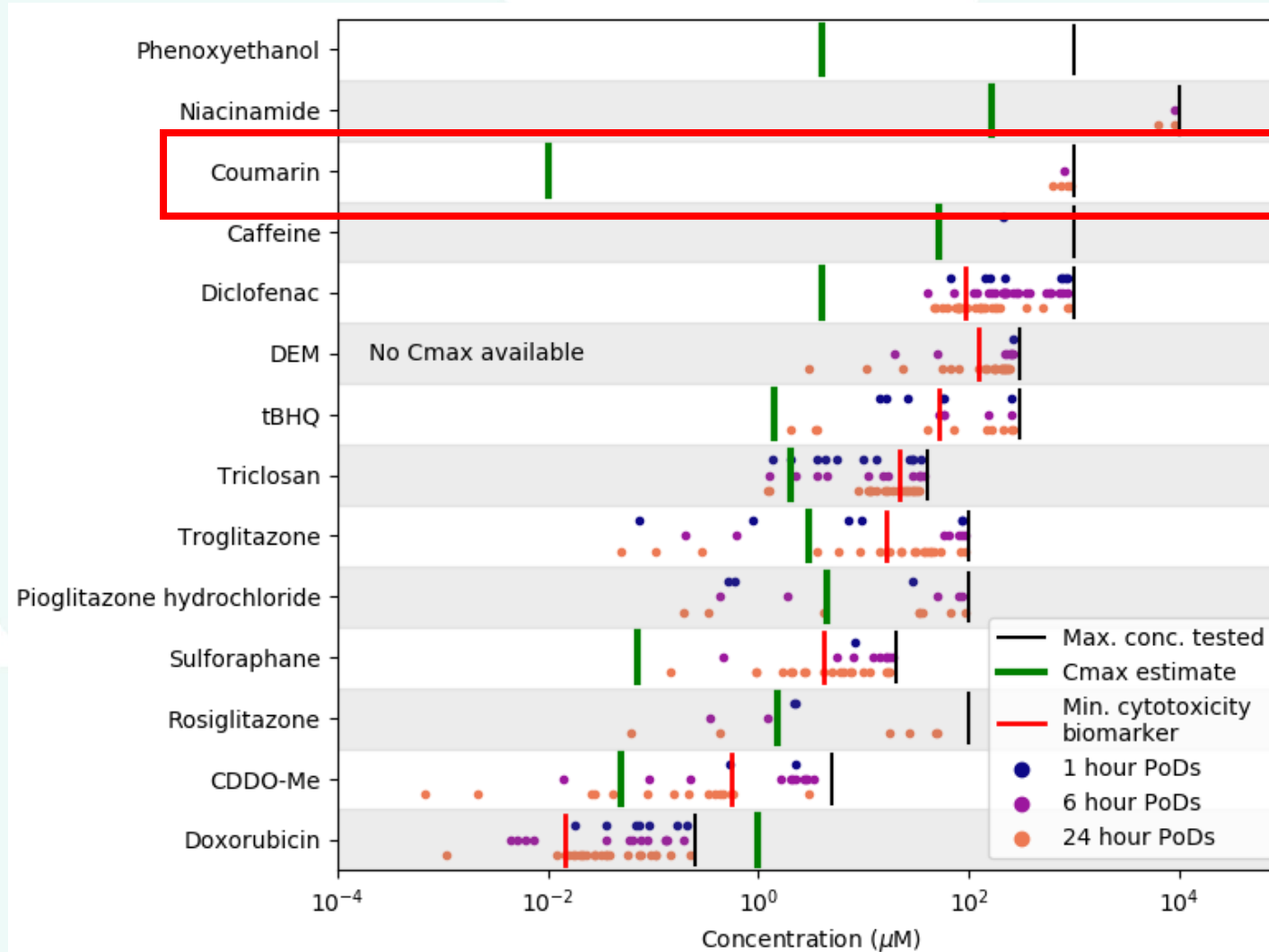


Data suggested that coumarin has no immunomodulatory effects at relevant concentrations and is not an anti-inflammatory compound



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* cell stress panel



### Results:

Coumarin not very active in comparison to known “high risk compounds” like doxorubicin

- PoDs shown for HepG2 only

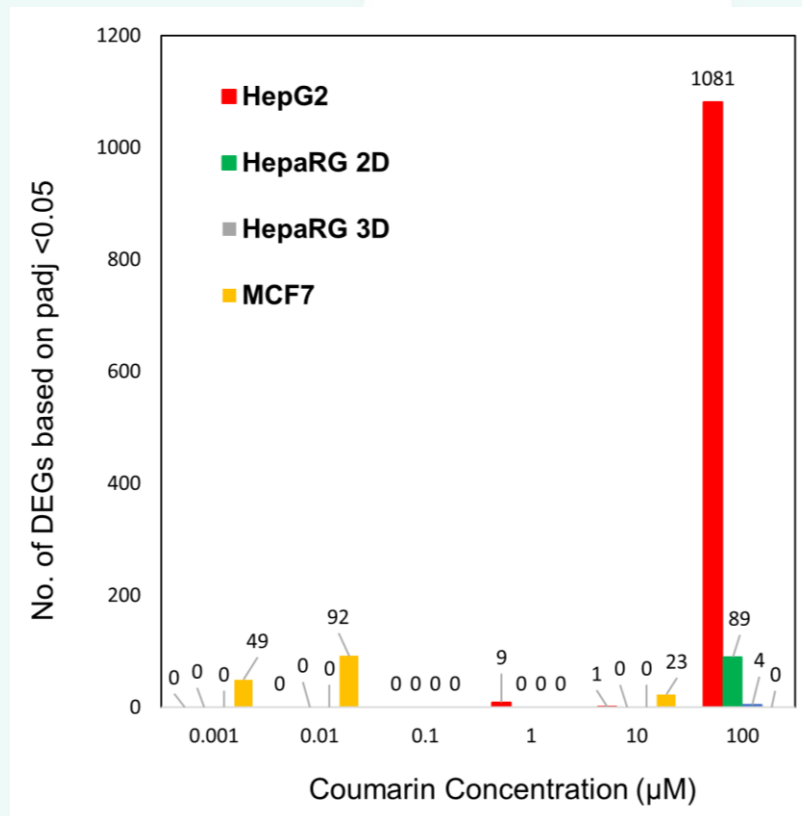


# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: *In vitro* biological activity characterisation:

High-Throughput Transcriptomics (HTTr) using TempO-SEQ technology

Transcriptomics was applied as a broad non-targeted biological screen

## Differential expression analysis using DESeq2 analysis



## Results:

Across the cell lines, treatment with coumarin resulted in limited gene-expression changes at concentrations below 100 µM, suggesting limited cellular effects at lower concentrations

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Key results

## Exposure Estimation

- Total plasma Cmax values obtained from PBK model: 0.002  $\mu\text{M}$  (mean), 0.005  $\mu\text{M}$  (99th percentile)
- Stability assays indicated coumarin rapidly metabolized mainly via CYP2A6

## Collate Existing Information

- Genotoxicity and protein binding alerts for parent compound
- Hydroxylation predicted as main route of biotransformation
- Reactive metabolites (e.g. epoxides) predicted.
- Low bioactivity in ToxCast and Pubchem: binding to Carbonic Anhydrases and MAO-A/B reported
- Lowest PoD was 3  $\mu\text{M}$  for carbonic anhydrase I (Figure 7)

## In Vitro Biological Activity Characterisation

- ToxTracker negative; weak activation of DNA damage reporters (only +S9)
- No immunomodulation potential
- Low bioactivity confirmed by binding/enzymatic assays, HTR and cell stress panel.
- PoD range: 6-912  $\mu\text{M}$

# STEP THREE

## Margin of Safety

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Preliminary Margin of Safety

Technology	Cell line/ Enzyme/Biomarker	Face cream Min. 5th percentile MoS	PoD provided as distribution?
Cell stress panel	HepG2 (ATP, 24h)	96738	Yes
Cell stress panel	NHEK (OCR 1h)	1330	Yes
HTTr	HepG2 (24h)	7223	No
HTTr	HepaRG (24h)	8864	No
Toxcast	MAO B (rat brain)	3711	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type I	<b>706</b>	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type II	2140	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type VI	14652	No

Based on total concentrations for both  $C_{max}$  and PoDs

- **The lowest MoS across all assays was derived using the PoD (represented by  $K_i$ ) for the inhibition of carbonic anhydrase I**
- **All PoD are higher than predicted exposure**

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Key results

## Exposure Estimation

- Total plasma Cmax values obtained from PBK model: 0.002  $\mu\text{M}$  (mean), 0.005  $\mu\text{M}$  (99th percentile)
- Stability assays indicated coumarin rapidly metabolized mainly via CYP2A6

## Collate Existing Information

- Genotoxicity and protein binding alerts for parent compound
- Hydroxylation predicted as main route of biotransformation
- Reactive metabolites (e.g. epoxides) predicted.
- 90-100% coumarin predicted to be freely available *in vitro*
- Low bioactivity in ToxCast and Pubchem: binding to Carbonic Anhydrases and MAO-A/B reported
- Lowest PoD was 3  $\mu\text{M}$  for carbonic anhydrase I (Figure 7)

## In Vitro Biological Activity Characterisation

- ToxTracker negative; weak activation of DNA damage reporters (only +S9)
- No immunomodulation potential
- Low bioactivity confirmed by binding/enzymatic assays, HTTr and cell stress panel.
- PoD range: 6-912  $\mu\text{M}$
- **Potential metabolite-driven bioactivity not addressed**

## Determine Margin of Safety

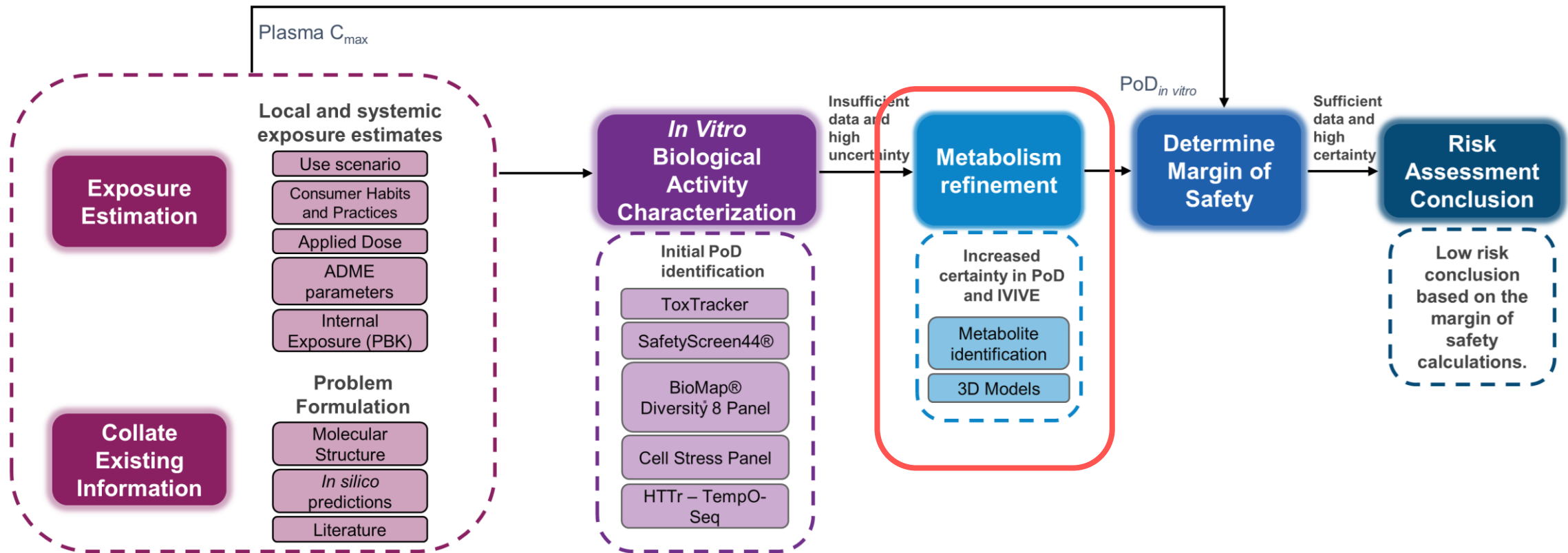
## Preliminary MoS

**706 - 96738**

## **NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Next steps for refinement**

- 1. Coumarin metabolism in primary human hepatocytes - investigation of metabolites formed in human *in vitro* liver models**
- 2. Short and long-term exposure in 3D tissues - longer exposure durations in a 3D HepaRG model with potentially higher metabolic capacity and in vivo-like physiology than HepG2 cells**

# Next-Generation Risk Assessment case study workflow for 0.1% coumarin in face cream

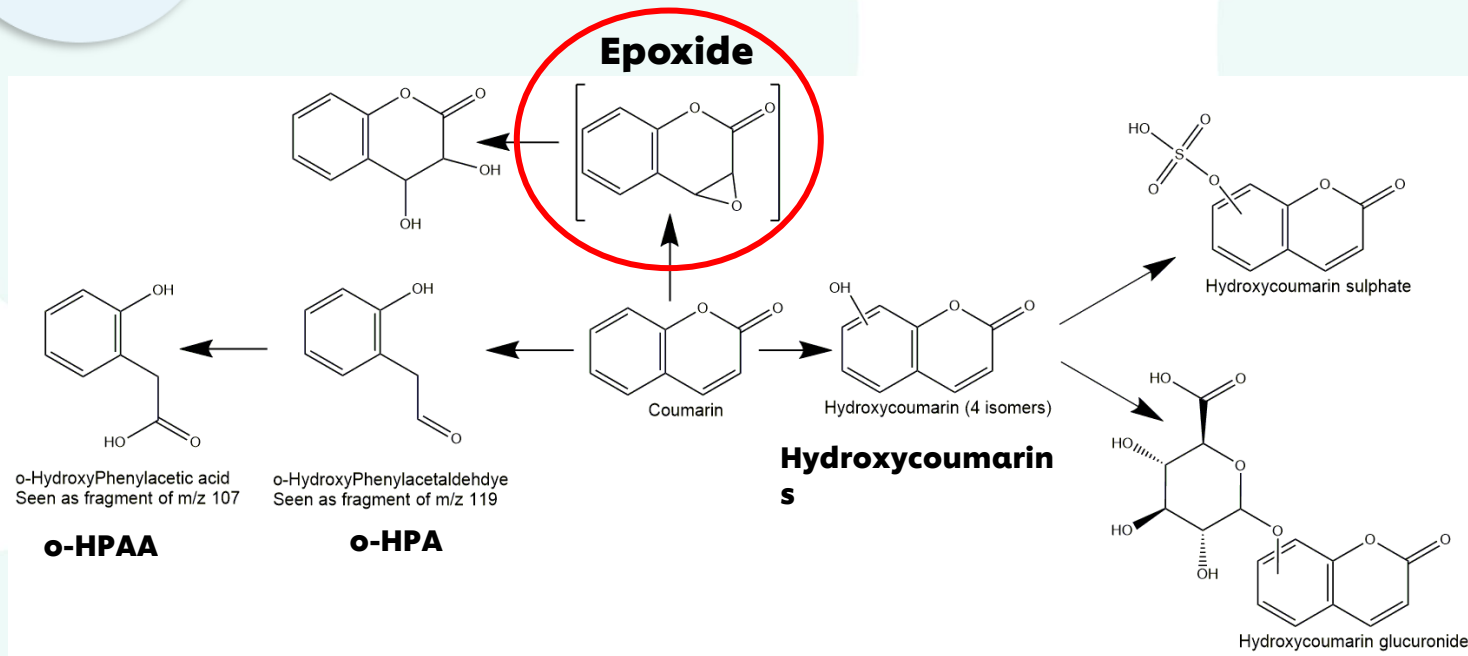


# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Coumarin metabolism in primary human hepatocytes



Human *In vitro* metabolism

Metabolism study to investigate if reactive metabolites are likely to be formed at consumer relevant concentrations



Coumarin's proposed metabolic pathway based on the *in vitro* experiments.

Results:

- **Coumarin is preferentially detoxified** to hydroxycoumarins and respective glucuronides
- **Reactive metabolites** such as the epoxide, o-HPAA and o-HPA **were only detected at the highest concentration (1mM)**
- **Not expected to be formed in vivo** for our consumer exposure scenario

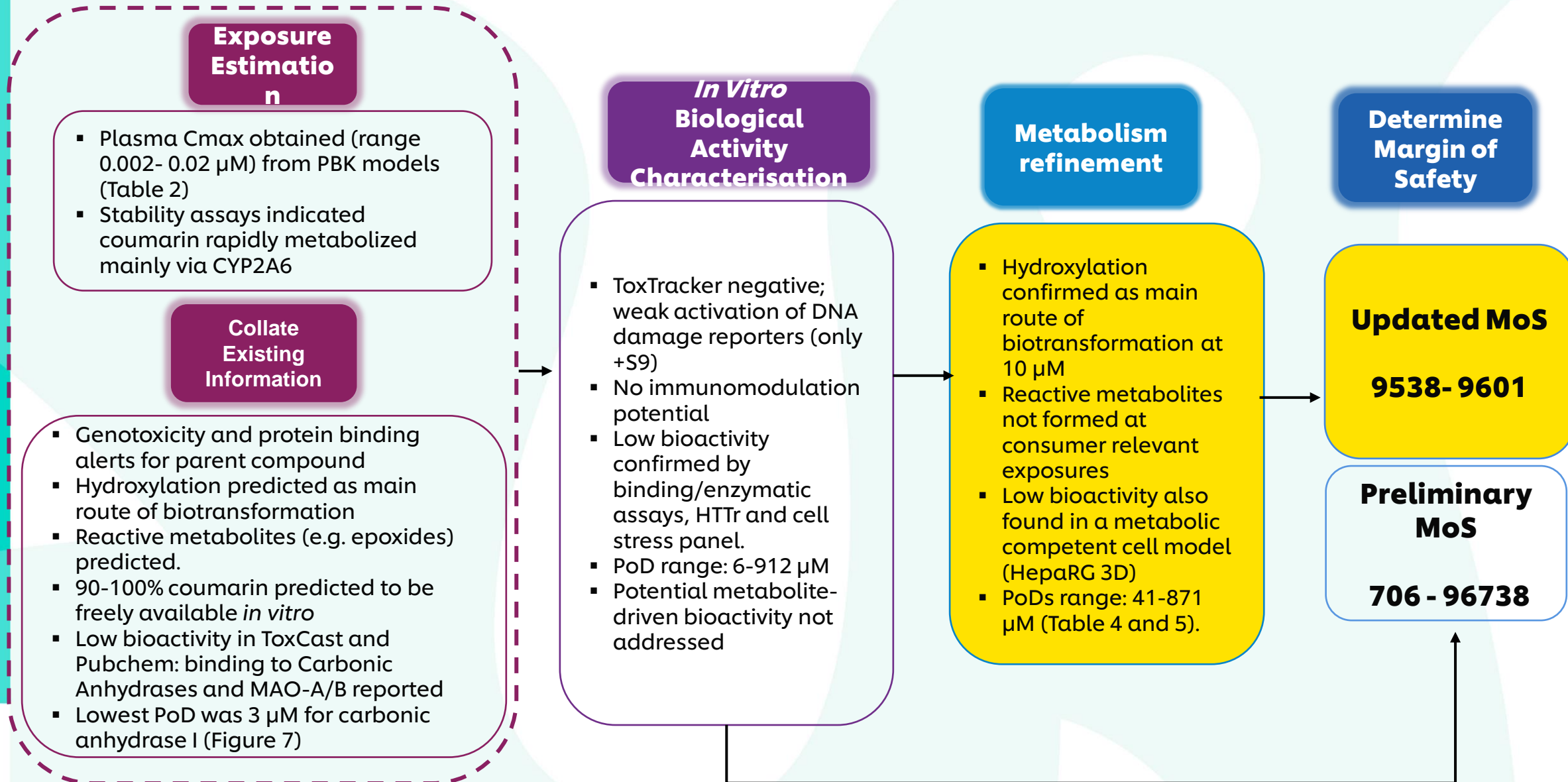


# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Short and long-term exposure in 3D tissues

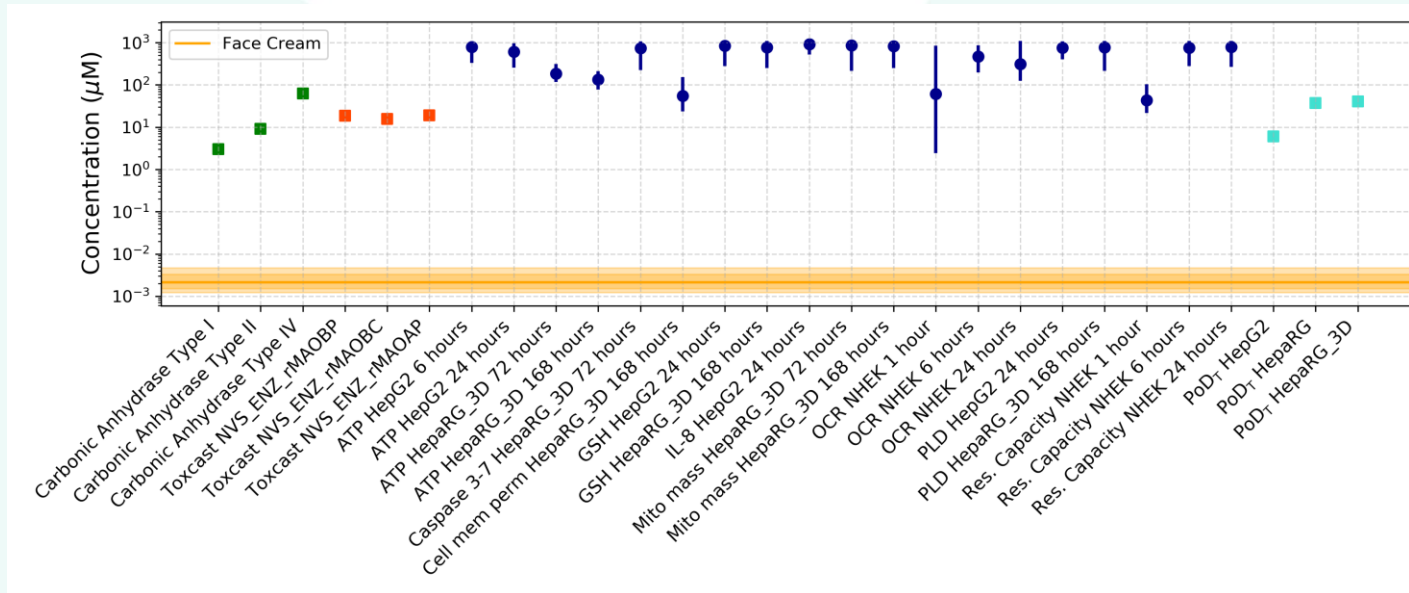
To increase our confidence in the initial PoDs from the 2D cell models

Technology	Cell line/ Enzyme/Biomarker	Face cream Min. 5th percentile MoS	PoD provided as distribution?
Cell stress panel	HepG2 (ATP, 24h)	96738	Yes
Cell stress panel	NHEK (OCR 1h)	1330	Yes
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HTTr	HepaRG (24h)	8864	No
Toxcast	MAO B (rat brain)	3711	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type I	<b>706</b>	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type II	2140	No
PubChem	Carbonic Anhydrase Type VI	14652	No
Cell stress panel	HepaRG_3D (cell mem perm 168h)	9601	Yes
HTTr	HepaRG_3D_24h	9538	No

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Key results



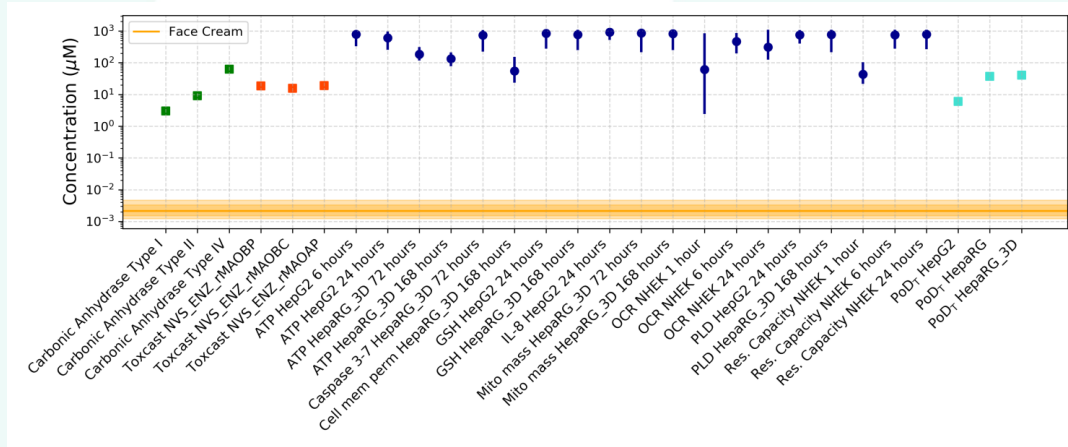
# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Risk assessment conclusion



- The predicted  $C_{\max}$  values for face cream were lower than all PoDs with a MoS (the 5<sup>th</sup> percentile) higher than 100
- Coumarin is not genotoxic, does not bind to any of the 44 targets and does not show any immunomodulatory effects at consumer relevant exposures
- **Weight of evidence suggests that the inclusion of 0.1% coumarin in face cream is safe for the consumer**

# Concluding remarks

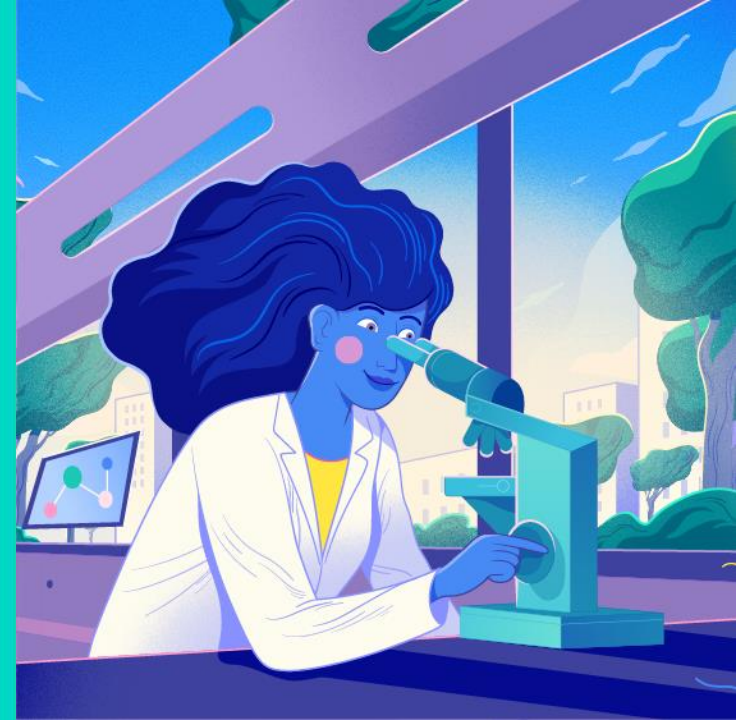
- **NGRA is a framework of non-standard, bespoke data-generation, driven by the risk assessment questions**
  - **Exposure led**
  - **Human relevant**
  - ***in silico***
  - ***in vitro***
  - **weight of evidence**
- **Margin of safety is determined by the ratio of human exposure to the point of departure for the most sensitive assay**
- **NGRA tools are available now and research into more approaches continues**



# PART THREE

Case Study Examples

2) SKIN SENSITISATION



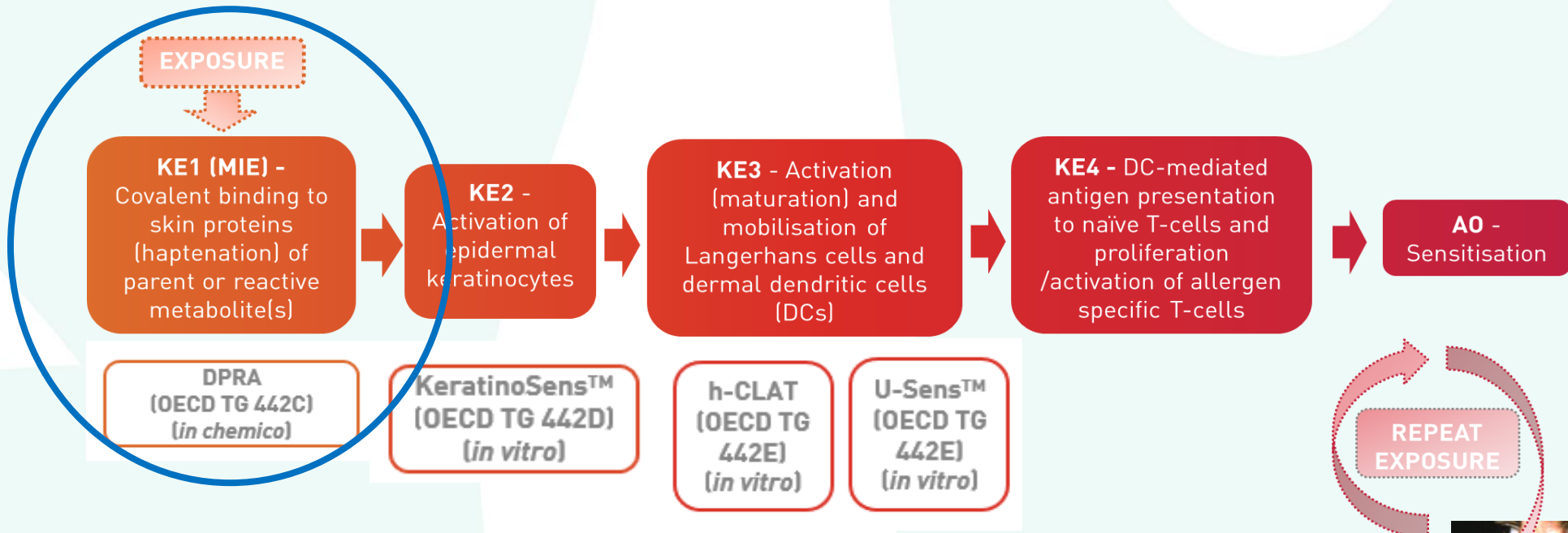
Unilever

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* skin sensitisation assessment

### Initial hypothesis:

- **Protein binding alerts for coumarin and metabolites**



OECD (2014), *The Adverse Outcome Pathway for Skin Sensitisation Initiated by Covalent Binding to Proteins*, OECD Series on Testing and Assessment, No. 168, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264221444-en>.

**Allergic  
contact  
dermatiti**



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* skin sensitisation assessment

### Step 1: Generation of in vitro results for Coumarin

Call	DPRA (TG442C)		KeratiNoSe ns (TG 442D)	h-CLAT (TG 442E)		U-SENS (TG 442E)
	-ve	-ve	+ve	+ve		+ve
Model Input	%cys depletion	%lys depletion	EC1.5 (µM)	CD54 (EC200 µg/mL)	CD86 (EC150 µg/mL)	CD86 (EC150 µg/mL)
RUNs	1.0 0.7 2.2	0 0 0	200 175 NA	>637 <178 <178	>637 >637 >637	95 96 NA

### Initial results:

- Coumarin is a skin sensitiser
- Likely to be due to metabolites (-ve DPRA)

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* skin sensitisation assessment

### Step 2. Generation of PoD for risk assessment- Skin allergy risk assessment (SARA) Defined approach (DA)

- The **SARA DA** is a Bayesian probabilistic model, which **estimates the human sensitiser potency via a prediction of an HRIPT 1% sensitising dose (ED<sub>01</sub>) (i.e PoD) for a selected chemical.**

#### SARA Model Inputs

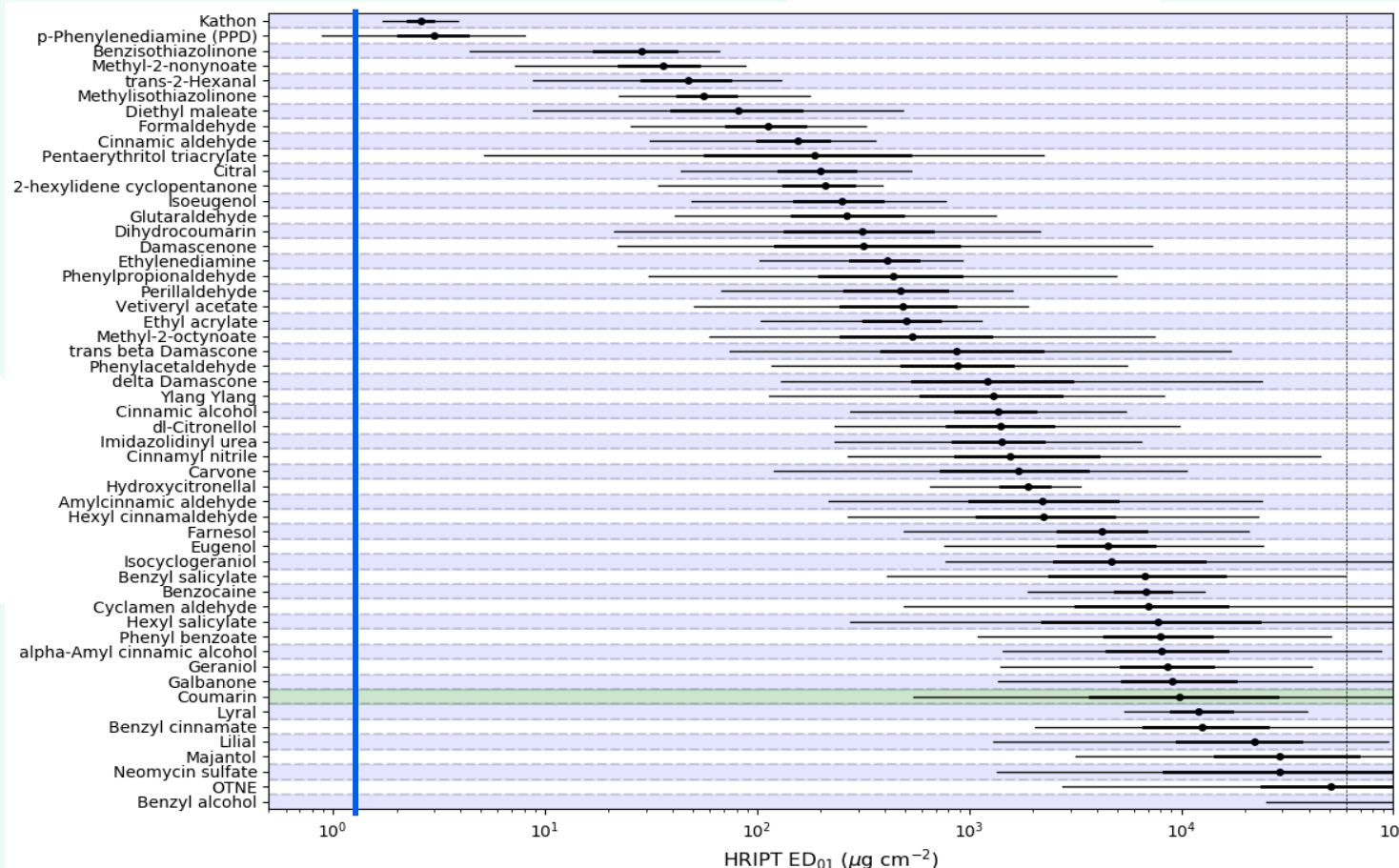
- ❖ Historical Local lymph node assay (LLNA)
- ❖ Historical Human repeated insult patch test (HRIPT)
- ❖ *In vitro* data: DPRA (TG442C), KeratinoSens (TG 442D), h-CLAT (TG 442E), U-SENS (TG 442E)
- ❖ First publication dataset of 30 chemicals – expanded to 53 core + 49 *in vitro* only



# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: biological activity characterisation

## *In vitro* skin sensitisation assessment

### Step 2: PoD for risk assessment



The PoD for coumarin has a central 95% credible interval ranging from **546 - 217,603 µg/cm<sup>2</sup>**



### Results:

- Exposure is much lower than the predicted PoD
- MoS = 400 - 160 000
- Low risk conclusion

# NGRA for 0.1% coumarin in face cream: Skin Sensitisation

## Exposure Estimation

- Total plasma Cmax values obtained from PBK model: 0.002  $\mu\text{M}$  (mean), 0.005  $\mu\text{M}$  (99th percentile)
- Stability assays indicated coumarin rapidly metabolized mainly via CYP2A6

## Collate Existing Information

- Genotoxicity and protein binding alerts for parent compound
- Hydroxylation predicted as main route of biotransformation
- Reactive metabolites (e.g. epoxides) predicted.
- Low bioactivity in ToxCast and Pubchem: binding to Carbonic Anhydrases and MAO-A/B reported
- Lowest PoD was 3  $\mu\text{M}$  for carbonic anhydrase I (Figure 7)

## *In Vitro* Biological Activity Characterisation

- Predicted MoS (400-160,000) suggests that the risk of inducing skin allergy is low at the consumer exposure



[www.afsacollaboration.org](http://www.afsacollaboration.org)

## Developing & disseminating a global training program in next-generation risk assessment (NGRA)

- Support regional capacity-building to achieve long-term acceptance & implementation of legislative measures
- Address the needs of regulatory & regulated communities, CROs & other stakeholders



# Partner Organisations



HUMANE SOCIETY INTERNATIONAL



THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES

AVON

ESTÉE LAUDER COMPANIES

Firmenich



iff



H&M

Exxon



Givaudan



symrise



Unilever



L'ORÉAL



# AFSA

ANIMAL-FREE SAFETY ASSESSMENT COLLABORATION



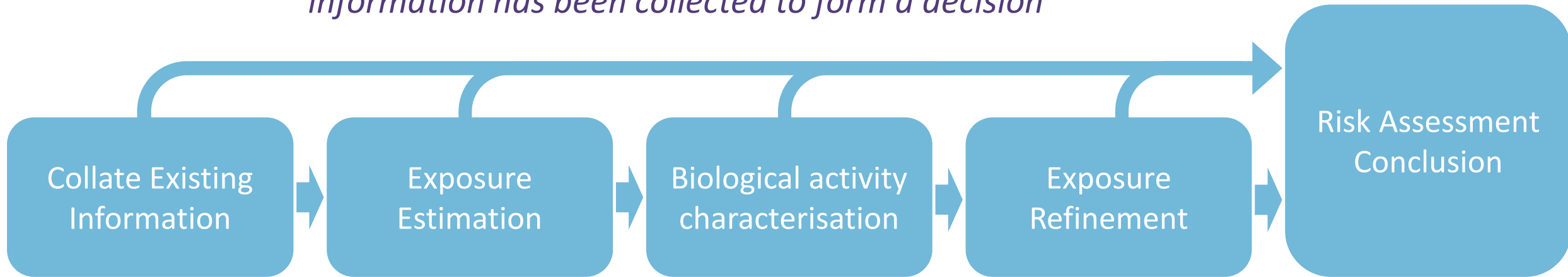
# Scope of the course

## *Using information in decision making*

- Safety assessment of cosmetics and cosmetic ingredients
- All aspects of the NGRA process for internal and regulatory safety decisions
- Covers the spectrum of available tools as well as some tools in development
- Focus on *understanding* the information generated from the tools and *how to use* this information vs. how to perform or build the individual methods
- Address the needs of regulatory & regulated communities, CROs and other stakeholders
- Support regional capacity-building to achieve long-term acceptance and implementation of non-animal approaches to chemical safety assessment

# Risk assessment process

*A tiered and iterative approach is needed until sufficient information has been collected to form a decision*



## Global Regulatory Environment

Problem Formulation

Consumer Exposure

Predictive Chemistry

Internal Exposure

Integration into risk assessment

History of Safe Use

Exposure Based Waiving

*In Vitro* Assay Synthesis



Modules

# Acknowledgements

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Julia Fentem  
Georgia Reynolds  
Joe Reynolds  
Nikol Simicek  
Andy Scott  
Carl Westmoreland  
Andy White



Unilever

# For more information on Unilever's ongoing research to develop non-animal approaches to safety assessment visit [www.tt21c.org](http://www.tt21c.org)



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