Development of a new framework advancing the integration of New Approach Methodologies in Environmental Risk Assessment

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Safety science: what can we do better?

Ensuring that the use of ingredients in our products is **Safe**

for the receiving environment **YET...**



NGRA 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**







New approach methodologies (NAMs)



NAMs are NOT 1:1 replacement to animal tests

Instead 1 NAM = 1 block different combination can address different endpoints





modified from Amelie Ott, ICCS

- NAMs provide mechanistic information on the mode of action, potency, and variability of chemical effects
- > NAMs reduce ethical concerns associated with animal testing



Next Generation Environmental Risk Assessment

Establishing enhanced environmental protection through NexGen, mechanistic based environmental risk assessment paradigm shift





Objectives

> To develop an operating framework integrating all available information within environmental safety assessment

> To conduct case-studies to test the framework and the suitability of mechanistic-based information to support and strengthen current Environmental risk assessment practice





Development and data gathering of an environmental safety assessment





Conclusions

This framework aims to create a tailored, integrated use of NAMs and accelerate their adoption,

building confidence in their validity and utility for ERA and regulatory decision-making.

Exposure assessment

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Effect assessment



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Exposure assessment

Effect assessment





Data source

OECD Toolbox

ChemProp

EnviroTox

Sapounidou-Firmin scheme

DrugBank

ChemSpider

ChEBI

PubChem

EcoDrug

SeqAPASS

G2P-SCAN

AOP-WIki

EpiSUite

ToxCast / Tox21

EnviroTOX

ECOTOX db

NORMAN EMPODAT db



MOA profilers:

- *reactive* OASIS (Kienzler et al., 2019)
- specifically acting Verhaar (Verhaar et al., 1992)
- related to acetylcholinesterase inhibitions ASTER (Russom et al., 1991), Russom (Russom et al., 1997), and TEST (Barron et al., 2015)
- specifically acting (confidence score 3/3) consensus MOA from EnviroTox (Kienzler et al., 2019).

MechOA profilers:

- AChE inhibitor (organophosphate)" MIE tool (Firman et al., 2022; Sapounidou et al., 2021)
- "acetylcholinesterase inhibition for animals" and probable "other esterases inhibition for all species" MechoA classification scheme (Bauer et al., 2018)

acetylcholinesterase inhibitor



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A total of 10131 bioactivity data points were extracted from available sources





✓ A total of 10131 bioactivity data points were extracted from available sources

Reference Lines

Chemical Monitoring



Algae



✓ Phylogenetic target conservation analysis







LaLone et al., 2016 Rivetti et al., 2023 Verbruggen et al., 2018



Take-home messages

Overall, we demonstrated that:

- © evolutionary conservation of targets and toxicological responses are aligned, identifying the biological space at risk;
- ③ a WOE approach combining conventional data with NAMs-based mechanistic information can be protective for environmental safety;
- © there is potential for harmonizing human health and environmental safety, encouraging synergies and cross-development of NAMs for chemical assessment and regulatory decisions.





ensure the relevance and applicability of NAMs to ecological endpoints and species

validate and standardize NAMs for regulatory acceptance and harmonization

integrate and interpret NAMs data in a weight-of-evidence approach



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Thank You

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