Feedback from the experts commenting

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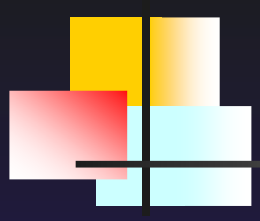
Expert Meeting to Reach Scientific Consensus on Endocrine Disruptors

11-12 April, 2016
Berlin, DE



Commenting procedure

- Draft manuscript distributed to all invited participants for comment
- All comments received were tabulated and reviewed by each member of the drafting group
- Where there was consensus on comments, the text was revised accordingly
- Areas in which there was a lack of consensus were identified and flagged for discussion and possible resolution at the meeting

Definitions

- The document should provide explicit definitions for the key terms used, e.g.
  - Scope
    - Human health
    - Which chemicals should be designated as EDCs
  - ‘Best available science’
  - ‘Chemicals’
  - ‘Endocrine system’

Criteria for designation of a compound as an EDC

- In addition to the considerations listed in para 28
  - Role of potency?
  - Role of lead toxicity?
  - Other?

Distinction between outcome of biological processes and chemical effects

- In places the text discusses the biological consequences of changes in the endocrine system, *per se*
- Testing whether a chemical can induce such changes in a separate question
- Is the text sufficiently clear on the distinction (e.g. para 14, 16)

Nature of the dose-response relationship

- Shape of dose-response curve?
- Existence of a biological threshold?
- Existence of a population threshold?
- Does this issue need to be resolved before recommendations can be made on criteria for designating a compound as an EDC?

MOA/AOP

- Is endocrine disruption an adverse outcome per se, or part of a mode of action/adverse outcome pathway?
- Which mechanisms should be considered when designating a chemical as an EDC?
  - Direct cf indirect (how indirect?)
- How apical an effect is needed before designating a chemical as an EDC?
  - EAS v EDC

Specificity of text

- Need to distinguish between generic issues in assessing the potential adverse health effects of chemicals from those specific to potential effects on the endocrine system
  - To what extent should the text reflect the former, to emphasise that some problems are broader than EDCs (e.g. para 18)?

Research needs

- What do we know and what do we not know?
- What do we need to know, in the context of categorising chemicals as EDCs?
- How best can we obtain this knowledge?