Beyond Science and Decision Workshop XIV

Workshop XIV Purpose & Agenda

To advance the recommendations in the NAS (2009) report concerning issue identification (problem formulation) and all aspects of risk assessment and management, through selection of illustrative research case studies for further development.

PFAS Limits: How Did We Get So Far Apart?
Public Health and Policy Implications
Leavey Conference Center
Georgetown University, Washington DC

International agencies have developed divergent risk positions on several well studied chemical classes, for example with perfluorinated alkyl acid carboxylates and sulfonates (PFAS). Representatives from several countries will present their rationales. A panel of experts will discuss processes and strength of the data. Various stakeholders will speak on legal perspectives and policy and economic implications.

Day 1: Tuesday, October 17, 2023

Chair: Mark S. Johnson, US Defense Health Agency

Welcome: (12:30 to 12:45)
- David Sarvadi, International Society for Regulatory Toxicology and Pharmacology
- Susan Fitzpatrick, Member of the ARA Advisory Panel
- TBA, Member of the science panel

Keynote Talk: The State of Risk Assessment, Regulation, and Peer Review at EPA: A Case Study of EPA’s Priority Actions on PFAS (12:45 to 1:30)
- Nancy Beck, Hunton Andrews Kurth

Session 1. Selection Criteria for the Critical Effect and Safe Dose: A Case Study with PFOA (1:30 to 2:30)
- Nick Fletcher, Food Safety Australia/New Zealand

Afternoon Break (2:30 to 3:00)

Session 1 continued (3:00 to 5:00)
- Michael Dourson, PFOA: A North American Perspective
- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers
- Chair’s Summary
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Social open to all attendees (5:30 to 6:30)

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Day 2: Wednesday, October 18

Chair: Wally Hayes, University of South Florida College of Public Health

Session 1. Selection Criteria for the Critical Effect and Safe Dose: A Case Study with PFOA… continued (8:00 to 10:00)

- Daniel Dietrich & Helmut Greim, World Health Organization and European Food Safety Authority Risk evaluations
- Tamar Berman, Israeli Ministry of Health

Morning Break (10:00 to 10:30)

Session 1 continued (10:30 to 12:30)

- Harvey Clewell, Alliance for Risk Assessment
- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers
- Chair’s Summary

Lunch (12:30 to 1:30)

Session 2. Legal/Policy Aspects of Differing Science Judgments (1:30 to 3:00)

- Title: TBA
  - Eric Gotting, Keller and Heckman
- The Decline and Fall of Checks and Balances on Pseudo-Science in the Administrative State
  - E. Donald Elliott, Adjunct Professor, Yale and Scalia Law Schools and former EPA General Counsel
- “Best Available Science” and EPA Decision-Making
  - Susan Bodine, Earth & Water Law LLC

Afternoon Break (3:00 to 3:30)

Session 2 continued: (3:30 to 5:00)

- Potential Impact of Science and Policy Decisions on the Scope of Tort Claims
  - Charlie Mullin, Bates White
- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers
- Chair’s Summary
Day 3: Thursday, October 19

Chair: Pamela Williams, E Risk Sciences, LLP

Session 3. Policy/Economic Implications of Differing Science (8:30 to 10:00)
- PFAS Risk Implications in the General Food Supply: Is Commercial Food “Safe”?
  - Usha Vedagiri, WSP
- Impact of Current MCL Draft on US Water Purveyors
  - Steve Via, American Water Works Association
- Does Regulating PFAS in Drinking Water Represent a Meaningful Opportunity for Public Health Risk Reduction?
  - Chad Seidel, Corona Environmental Consulting

Morning Break (10:00 to 10:30)

Session 3 continued (10:30 to noon)
- Cost and Impacts of the PFAS Regulations
  - Chuck Chaitovitz, US Chamber of Commerce
- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers
- Chair’s Summary

Lunch (noon to 1:00)

Session 4: Updates on Risk Assessment Methods (Updates are independent from the PFAS session topics” (1:00 to 2:30)
- International Developments in the Advancement of the Application of Mechanistic Data in Hazard Characterization
  - Bette Meek, University of Ottawa
- Revisiting the Basis for Nitrate Drinking Water and Groundwater Standards
  - David Belluck and Sally Benjamin, Lost Science
- The Dioxins and PFAS: How Are They Similar and Different?
  - Dennis Paustenbach, David Brew and Careen Khachatourian, Paustenbach and Associates

Afternoon Break (2:30 to 3:00)

Session 4 continued (3:00 to 4:30)
- Perspectives of Key Characteristics of Carcinogens
  - Rick Becker, American Chemical Council
- Deriving Comparison Values for In-motion Air Monitoring: An Update
  - Tracie Philips, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
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- The History Behind the Linear Low Dose Extrapolation Procedure
  - Edward Calabrese, University of Massachusetts

Open Discussion: All Participants (4:30 to 5:00)

Summary of the Workshop: (5:00 to 5:30)
- Chairs of the Workshop