



CHEMTrust

Protecting humans and wildlife
from harmful chemicals

 @CHEMTrust

chemtrust.org

Human Biomonitoring for science and chemical policy
2 June 2022

From HBM4EU to PARC: Building the Bridge – CHEM Trust Perspective

Ninja Reineke (PhD)

ninja.reineke@chemtrust.org

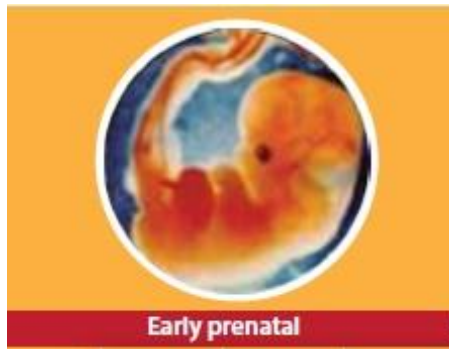
HBM4EU - important contributions

- (1) HBM Platform: Harmonisation, capacity building, new HBM methods, quality control
- (2) New data on occurrence and trends of chemicals in the population across Europe
- (3) Essential input to ongoing policy discussions, e.g. data on combined exposures and mixture effects
- (4) Public awareness raising (new materials)



HBM results call for policy action

- Already the unborn child is exposed; children partly with worryingly high concentrations (e.g. PFAS, plasticisers)
- Unfair pollution burden for current and next generation
- Mixture effects from combined exposure have to be addressed
- HBM findings mean exposure has already taken place --> risk assessment and management failed



CHEMICAL COCKTAILS



The neglected threat of toxic mixtures
and how to fix it

A CHEM Trust report
March 2022

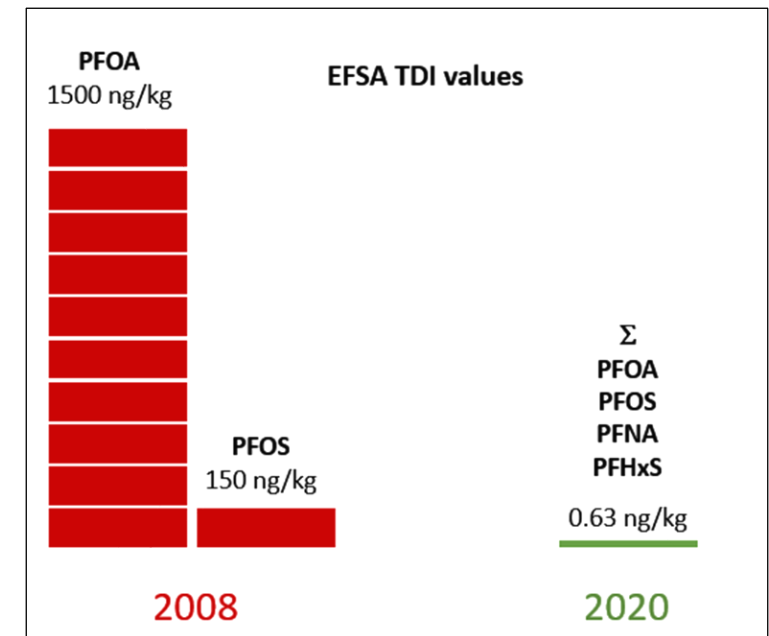


CHEM Trust report

Download [here](#)

HBM guidance values: A word of caution

- The mere presence of hazardous chemicals in human bodies is of concern: a 'safe level' may turn out 'not safe'
- Previously assumed 'safe levels' are lowered over time (e.g. PFAS, BPA)
- Many chemicals are non-threshold substances
- Combined effects so far mostly not considered
- Uncertainties and limitations have to be communicated



Priorities for PARC: more forward looking!

- Research should aim to support better protection of human health
- HBM part: Less focus on regulated chemicals, more on those where data gaps prevent action
- Trigger for response, e.g. Commission plan to decide follow-up measures to act on HBM findings
- Support tools for generic assessments instead of deriving more data on individual 'safe levels'



Conclusion

Results from HBM4EU studies clearly call for:

- Regulatory measures to prevent wide exposure of the general population
- Priorities on flagging new trends to enable precautionary action
- Addressing the mixture risks from combined body burden
- PARC needs to avoid pitfalls of increasing complexity and run for more data
- Instead: develop tools to better predict exposures and act earlier!

Europe needs a sustainable HBM system building on achievements of HBM4EU but policy action should not depend on the availability of HBM data!

Aim is to protect current and
future generations

CHEM Trust's 10 Points for PARC

Download [here](#)