

*Human Biomonitoring for science and chemical policy*  
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# From HBM4EU to PARC: Building the Bridge – CHEM Trust Perspective

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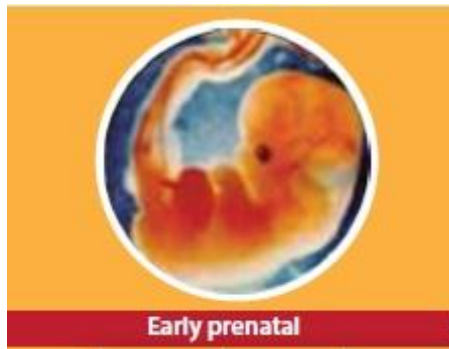
# HBM4EU - important contributions

- (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

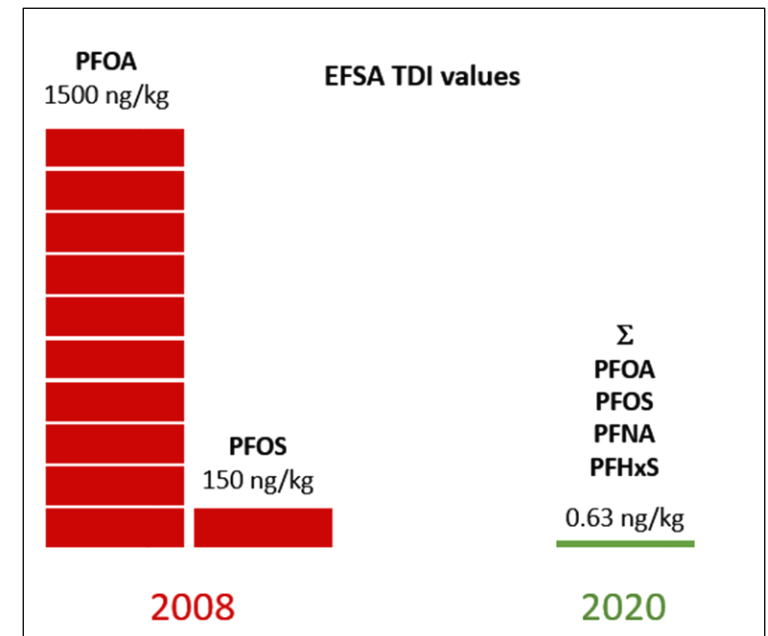


CHEM Trust report

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# 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

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# CHEM Trust's 10 Points for PARC

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