Considering worker and consumer safety

Carl Westmoreland

17th March 2022



Unilever's products must be safe for the people who use and make them











74 Cosmetic products are not permitted on the GB market if the product's ingredients, combination of ingredients or final formulation have been the subject of animal testing used to prove their safety for the purposes of this Regulation. However, historic animal testing data from animal testing that took place before such testing was banned at EU level may still be used in order to meet the requirements of the Population.



Assuring consumer safety without animal testing: Maximising use of existing information and non-animal approaches

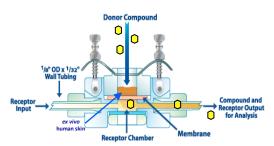
All our risk assessments are exposure-led





Product type	Estimated daily amount applied	Relative amount applied (mg/kg bw/d)	Retention factor ¹	Calculated daily exposure (g/d)	Calculated relative daily exposure (mg/kg bw/d
Bathing, showering	ng				
Shower gel	18.67 g	279.20	0.01	0.19	2.79
Hand wash soap ²	20.00 g	-	0.01	0.20 ³	3.33
Hair care					
Shampoo	10.46 g	150.49	0.01	0.11	1.51
Hair conditioner 2	3.92 g		0.01	0.04	0.60
Hair styling products	4.00 g	57.40	0.1	0.40	5.74



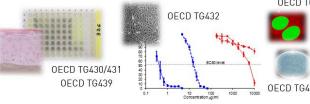


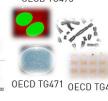
- Use all available safety data on the ingredient
 - Clinical, epidemiological, animal (if dates permit), in vitro etc
- Exposure-based waiving approaches (e.g. TTC, DST, Inhalation TTC)
- in silico predictions
- History of safe use
- Read across
- Use of existing OECD in vitro approaches
- Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA)







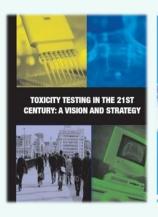






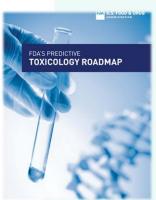
Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA)

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

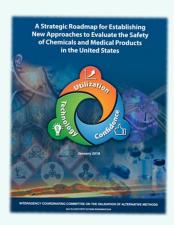






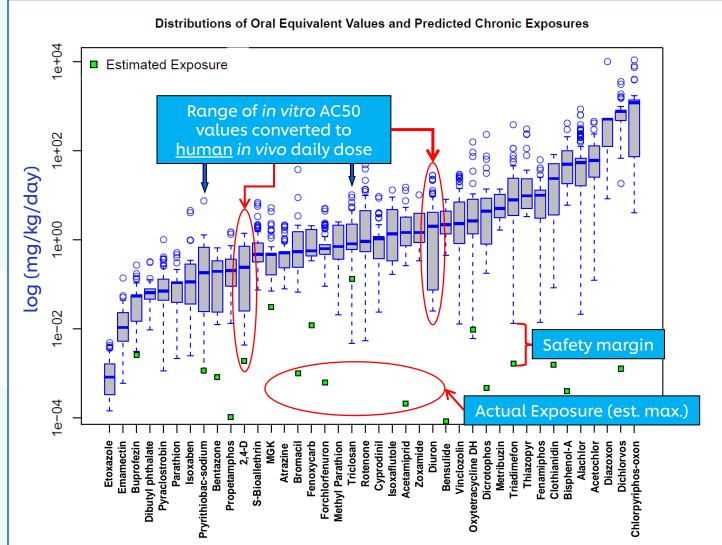








NGRA: Protection not prediction



The hypothesis underpinning this NGRA is that if no bioactivity is observed at consumerrelevant concentrations, there can be no adverse health effects.

At no point does NGRA attempt to predict the results of high dose toxicology studies in animals

NGRA uses new exposure science and understanding of human biology



Recognition of Next Generation Risk Assessment (NGRA) in cosmetic safety assessment

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Principles underpinning the use of new methodologies in the risk assessment



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ARTICLE INFO

Next Generation Risk Assessment

bring safe products to market without animal testing, which requires a new approach to consumer safety, 'Next Generation Risk Assessment' (NGRA), defined as an exposure-led, hypothesis driven risk assessment approach that integrates in silico, in chemico and in vitro approaches, provides such an opportunity. The customized nature of each NGRA means that the development of a prescriptive list of tests to assure safety is not possible, or appropriate. The International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR) therefore tasked a group of scientists from regulatory authorities and the Cosmetic Industry to agree on and outline the principles for incorporating these new approaches into risk assessments for cosmetic ingredients. This ICCR group determined the overall goals of NGRA (to be human-relevant, exposure-led, hypothesis-driven and designed to prevent harm): how an NGRA should be conducted (using a tiered and iterative approach, following an appropriate literature search and evaluation of the available data, and using robust and relevant methods and strategies); and how the assessment should be documented (transparent and explicit about the logic of the approach and sources of uncertainty). Those working on the risk assessment of cosmetics have a unique opportunity to lead progress in the application of novel approaches, and cosmetic risk assessors are encouraged to consider these key principles





Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety

THE SCCS NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR THE TESTING OF

COSMETIC INGREDIENTS AND THEIR SAFETY

FVALUATION

11TH REVISION



The SCCS adopted this guidance document at its plenary meeting on 30-31 March 2021

3-4 RELEVANT TOXICOLOGICAL TOOLS FOR THE SAFETY EVALUATION OF

The SCCS has been closely following the progress made with regard to the development and validation of alternative methods and updated its NoG on a regular basis taking progress into

Besides validated alternatives, the SCCS may also accept, on a case-by-case basis, methods that are scientifically valid as new tools (e.a., "-omics" technology) for the safety evaluation of cosmetic substances. Such valid methods may not have necessarily gone through the complete validation process, but the Committee may consider them acceptable when there is a sufficient amount of experimental data proving relevance and reliability and including positive and negative controls.

According to the Cosmetics Regulation, the experimental studies have to be carried out in accordance with the principles of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP)laid down in Council Directive 87/18/EEC. All possible deviations from this set of rules should be explained and scientifically justified (SCCNFP/0633/02)

NEW APPROACH METHODOLOGY (NAM) AND NEXT-GENERATION RISK

Whereas the terminology of "Alternative Test Methods (ATMs)" does not cover all available tools e.g., in silico methodology, the more general term, New Approach Methodology (NAM) has been introduced. As for cosmetics and their ingredients, testing and marketing bans apply with respect to animal use and also the obligation exists to only use validated replacement alternatives, the need for validated non-animal alternative methods for chemical hazard assessment is much more important in Europe for compliance with the Cosmetics Regulation than for other regulatory frameworks. NAMs may include in vitro, ex vivo, in chemico and in silico methods, read-across, as well as combinations thereof. Therefore, before any testing is carried out for safety evaluation, all information on the substance under consideration should be gathered from different available means. A set of criteria, universal across initiatives, to evaluate NAMs fit-for-purpose was developed by a multi-stakeholder group and may support greater consistency across different initiatives (Parish et al., 2020).

Many efforts are ongoing to modernise toxicological safety evaluation and to look for nonmany errors are ongoing to modernise toxicological safety evaluation and to look for non-animal methodology that can be used for the risk assessment of compounds that after long-term exposure could be at the origin of systemic toxicity. One of these approaches is referred to as NGRA (USEPA, 2014). The principles underpinning the application of an NGRA to cosmetics have been defined by the International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR), a platform of regulators and cosmetics industry from the EU, the US, Japan, Canada and Brazil (Dent et al., 2018). NGRA is a human-relevant, exposure-led, hypothesis-driven risk assessment designed to prevent harm. It integrates several NAMs to deliver safety decisions relevant to human health without the use of experimental animals. An NGRA should be conducted using a tiered and iterative approach, following an appropriate literature search and evaluation of the available data, and using robust and relevant methods and strategies Given the novelty of NGRA and the current lack of regulatory guidance on the use of a variety of NAMs in decision-making, it is important that the assessment should be transparent documented and explicit about the logic of the approach and sources of uncertainty (Dent et al., 2018). A general NGRA workflow is described in **Figure 5** (Berggren et al., 2017). The cools useful for safety evaluation of cosmetic ingredients, which could also be used in case NGRA would be taken as a possible workflow in the future, are described in chapters 3-4.2 to 3-4.14. Treshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) and internal TTC (iTTC) approaches as a risk assessment tools are described in 3-5.2.

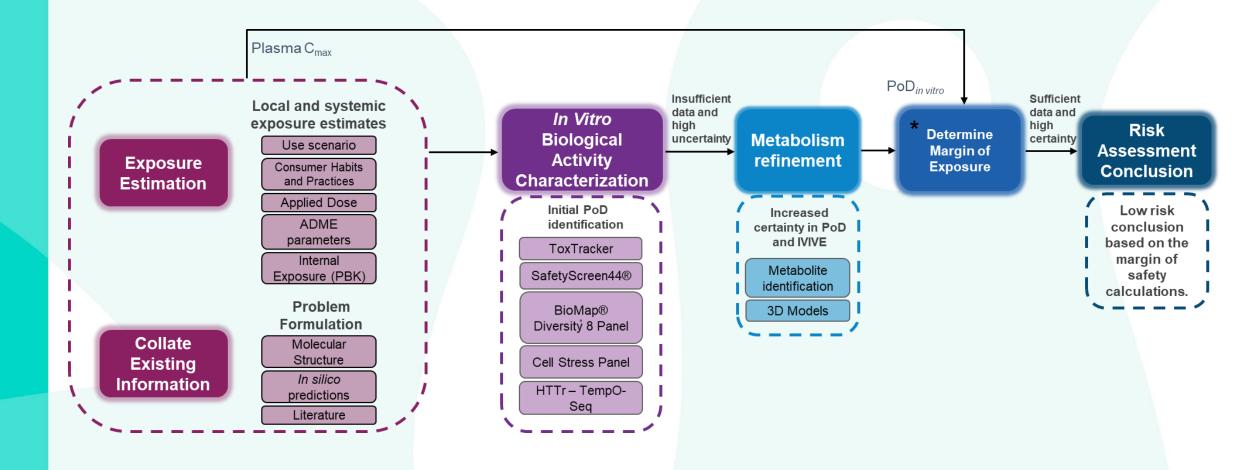


International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (2018)



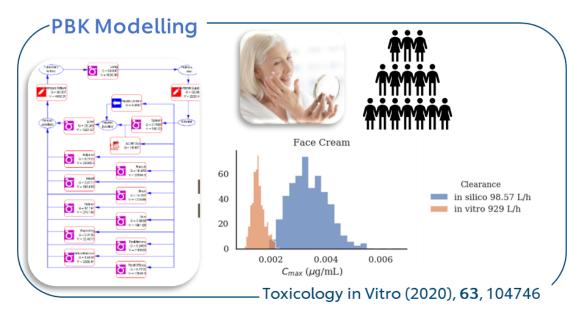
European Commission: Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (2021)

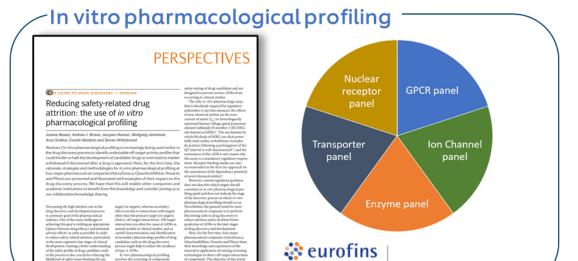
NGRA: case study workflow for systemic effects





Key tools in our NGRA approach for systemic effects

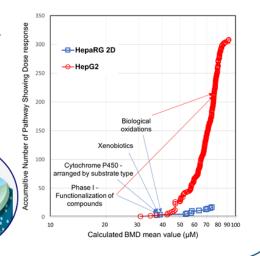




Transcriptomics

- Use of full human gene panel
 ~ 21k
- 24 hrs exposure
- 7 concentrations
- 3 cell lines HepG2/ HepaRG/ MCF7
- 3D HepaRG spheroid

BMDexpress 2

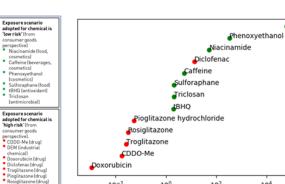


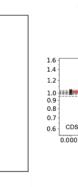
Cellular Stress Pathways

13 chemicals, 36 Biomarkers; 3 Timepoints; 8 Concentrations; ~10 Stress Pathways

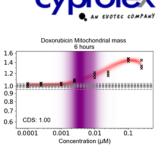
Margin of safety

∠oumarin



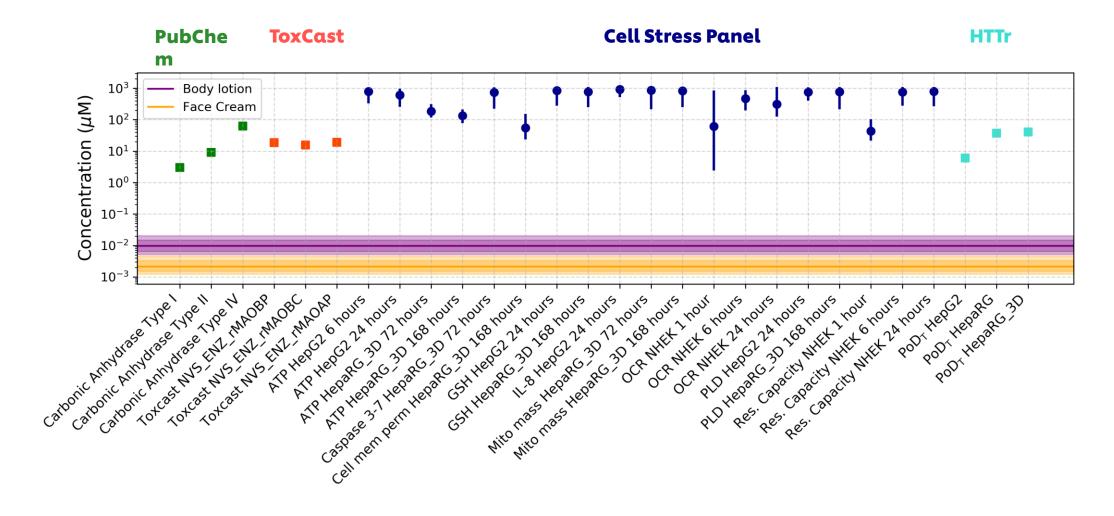


Cerep





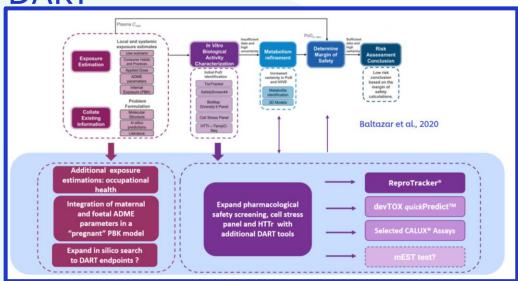
Exposure and PoD are plotted and used to derive a Bioactivity-Exposure Ratio (BER)



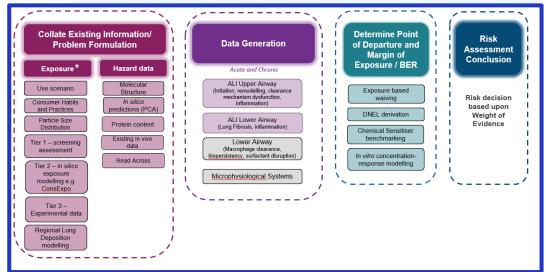


Other NGRA approaches for human health

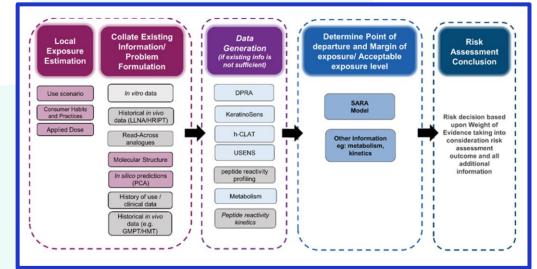
DART



Inhalation



Skin Sensitisation

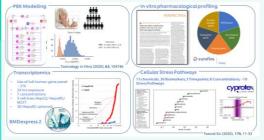




Why can non-animal science be accepted for consumer safety, but not for worker safety?*

- Understanding worker exposure
 - Routes
 - Levels of exposure
 - Factory automation procedures, containment measures, local extract ventilation, PPE
- NGRA for worker safety
 - BER approach for worker exposure
 - Potentially different PBK models for worker exposure
 - Same biological data on ingredients

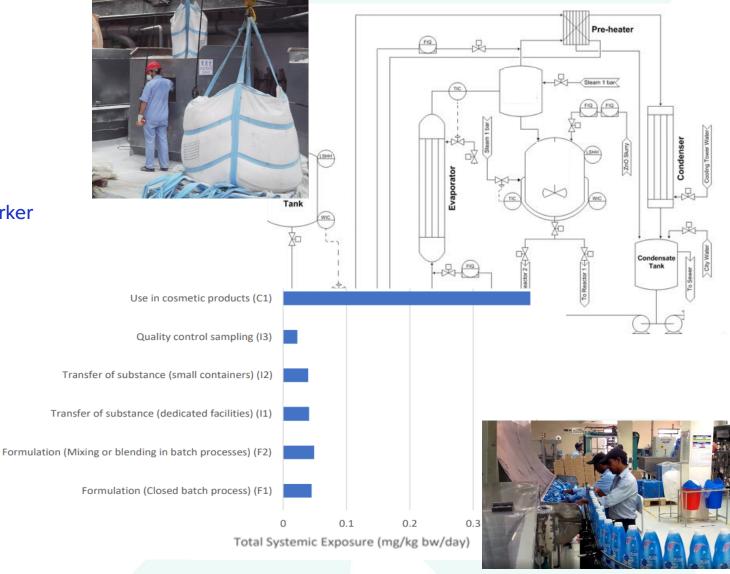
Cosmetic-Only Ingredients













Recognising NAMs in Chemical Registration: What needs to happen?



Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (2021)



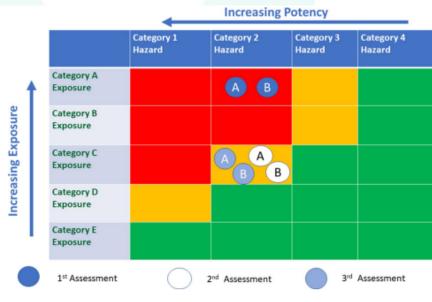
Tiered, iterative approach for hazard and exposure

Hazard In silico In vitro In vivo

Exposure TTC

Limit doses





(animal testing is transparently 'a last resort')



Acknowledgements

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