



ONAFHANKELIJK PAPENDRECHT

Motie Informatiecampagne schadelijke effecten PFAS op menselijke gezondheid

De gemeenteraad van Papendrecht, in openbare vergadering bijeen op 07 juli 2022;

Overwegende dat:

- Poly- en Perfluoralkylstoffen (PFAS) in het Papendrechtse kraanwater zitten;
- Het Europees Agentschap voor Chemische stoffen in 2019 GenX, net als eerder PFOA, heeft aangewezen als 'zeer zorgwekkende stof';
- Het Chemisch-Toxicologisch Laboratorium van de Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam in 2020 heeft vastgesteld dat in het Papendrechtse kraanwater 21,3 nanogram PFAS per liter teveel zit;
- De Europese Autoriteit voor Voedselveiligheid vorig jaar een nieuwe gezondheidskundige grenswaarde heeft bepaald, die lager is en dus strenger uitvalt;
- De Europese Autoriteit voor Voedselveiligheid een nieuwe gezondheidskundige grenswaarde heeft afgeleid voor de sominname van vier PFAS, te weten PFOA, PFOS (perfluorocetaan-sulfonzuur), PFNA (perfluormonaanzuur) en PFHxS (perfluorhexaansulfonzuur);
- Het Rijksinstituut voor Volksgezondheid en Milieu in opdracht van de gemeente Dordrecht het rapport 'Herziening van de risicobeoordeling van GenX en PFOA in moestuin-gewassen in Dordrecht, Papendrecht en Sliedrecht' heeft opgeleverd;

Spreekt uit dat:

- De Europese Autoriteit voor Voedselveiligheid een maximale sominname van de vier PFAS componenten adviseert van tezamen 4.4 nanogram per kilo lichaamsgewicht per week;
- De meeste inwoners van Papendrecht boven de aanbevolen maximum sominname van PFAS uit zullen komen (Bijlage bij motie), zeker als de gehalten van de vier PFAS componenten uit andere voedingsmiddelen zoals groenten/vlees/eieren hierbij opgeteld worden;

Verzoekt het College:

- De inwoners van Papendrecht hierover te informeren en de potentiële gevaren van de inname van PFAS stoffen voor de menselijke gezondheid uit te leggen;

En gaat over tot de orde van de dag.

De fractie van Onafhankelijk Papendrecht.



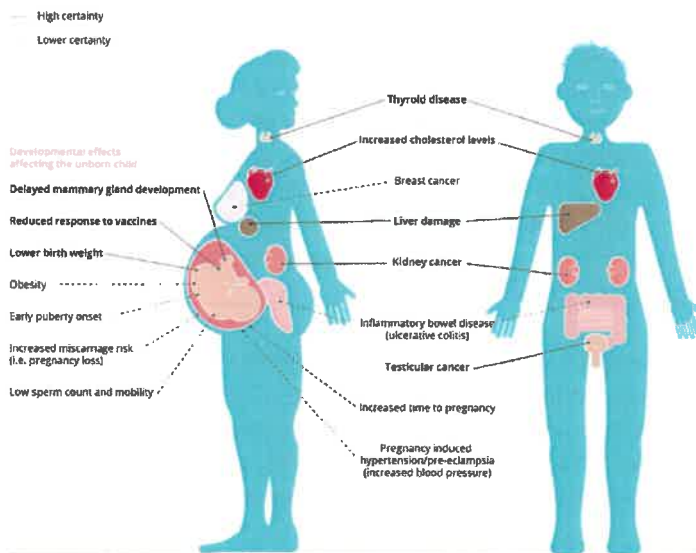
ONAFHANKELIJK PAPENDRECHT

Onderlegger bij de motie Informatiecampagne schadelijke effecten PFAS op menselijke gezondheid

De meeste inwoners van Papendrecht via het kraanwater – uitgaande van een dagelijkse consumptie van 2 liter – op een wekelijkse PFAS inname van 294 nanogram (7 dagen x 2 liter x 21 ng/liter) uit kunnen komen;

Een persoon met een lichaamsgewicht van bijvoorbeeld 60 kilo maximaal 264 nanogram PFAS per week mag innemen (60 kilo x 4.4 nanogram per kilo lichaamsgewicht = 264 nanogram);

Effecten PFAS inname op de menselijke gezondheid zijn weergegeven in onderstaande afbeelding.



VU Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam
 Afdeling Milieu en Gezondheid
 De Boelelaan 1105 1061HZ Amsterdam
 www.vu.nl/milieu-en-gezondheid

ANALYSECERTIFICAAT PFAS 2020-52 Tabel 1 van 1

Opdrachtgever: Onafhankelijk Papendrecht
 J.W. A.F. de Bovenin, Ledenlaan 8
 3354 AS Papendrecht
 Drienvoer Papendrecht

Analyselocatie: W-PFAS-100 en 103

Kenmerk opdrachtgever: 5 maart 2020

Ontvangstdatum opdracht: 8 juni 2020

Opdrachtgever: 8 juni 2020

Keuring: 19 juni 2020

Het adres is aangegeven door onafhankelijk Papendrecht en de berekening is door de afdeling Milieu en Gezondheid uitgevoerd op 4 juni 2020

EH code	Naam	Concentratie (µg/l)	Concentratie (µg/l)
PFAS	Papendrecht	12	12
PF2A	Perfluoroacetic acid	0.4	0.4
PF2FA	Perfluorobutanoic acid	1.4	1.4
PF3FA	Perfluoropentanoic acid	1.1	1.1
PF4FA	Perfluorohexanoic acid	4.3	4.3
PF5FA	Perfluorheptanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF6FA	Perfluoroctanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF7FA	Perfluornonoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF8FA	Perfluordecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF9FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF10FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF11FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF12FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF13FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF14FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF15FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF16FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF17FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF18FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF19FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF20FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF21FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF22FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF23FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF24FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF25FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF26FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF27FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF28FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF29FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF30FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF31FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF32FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF33FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF34FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF35FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF36FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF37FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF38FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF39FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF40FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF41FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF42FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF43FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF44FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF45FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF46FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF47FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF48FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF49FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF50FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF51FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF52FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF53FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF54FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF55FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF56FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF57FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF58FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF59FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF60FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF61FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF62FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF63FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF64FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF65FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF66FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF67FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF68FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF69FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF70FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF71FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF72FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF73FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF74FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF75FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF76FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF77FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF78FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF79FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF80FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF81FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF82FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF83FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF84FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF85FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF86FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF87FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF88FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF89FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF90FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF91FA	Perfluortridecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF92FA	Perfluortetradecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF93FA	Perfluorpentadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF94FA	Perfluorhexadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF95FA	Perfluorheptadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF96FA	Perfluoroctadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF97FA	Perfluornonadecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF98FA	Perfluoricosanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF99FA	Perfluorundecanoic acid	0.5	0.5
PF100FA	Perfluorododecanoic acid	0.5	0.5

Datum: 19 juni 2020
 Naam: Jacco Koelhaas
 Functie: Analist

De resultaten hebben uitsluitend betrekking op de monsters die door de opdrachtgever ter beschikking zijn gesteld.
 Dit analysecertificaat mag niet worden afgevoerd zonder het originele monster.

Lagere gezondheidkundige grenswaarde voor PFAS

Het RIVM gaat een lagere gezondheidkundige grenswaarde gebruiken voor 4 PFAS-stoffen, waaronder PFOA. Die waarde is verlaagd, omdat deze stoffen schadelijker lijken te zijn dan tot nu toe bekend was. De gemeenten Dordrecht, Papendrecht, Sliedrecht en Molenlanden hebben het RIVM gevraagd wat de nieuwe waarde betekent voor de onderzoeken naar PFOA die in onze regio zijn uitgevoerd.

Het besluit van het RIVM volgt op een studie van de Europese Autoriteit voor Voedselveiligheid (EFSA). Volgens EFSA tonen nieuwe wetenschappelijke inzichten aan dat 4 PFAS-stoffen mogelijk bij lagere hoeveelheden al negatieve gezondheidseffecten geven, bijvoorbeeld op het immuunsysteem van mensen. Daarom kwam EFSA tot een lagere gezondheidkundige grenswaarde voor PFAS in voedsel. Het RIVM heeft deze waarde overgenomen en gebruikt deze vanaf nu bij hun berekeningen.

1. Wat betekent deze nieuwe grenswaarde voor onze regio?

Eén van de PFAS-stoffen uit de EFSA-studie is PFOA. DuPont in Dordrecht heeft deze stof tot 2012 gebruikt, uitgestoten en geloosd. Maar omdat de stof heel langzaam afbreekt, vinden we PFOA nog altijd terug in de omgeving. PFOA is met name terecht gekomen in bodem en water in de omgeving. En ook in het bloed bij omwonenden en bijvoorbeeld in moestuinen. Daar zijn de afgelopen jaren onderzoeken naar gedaan. De gemeenten Dordrecht, Papendrecht, Sliedrecht en Molenlanden geven, in overleg met het ministerie en de provincie, het RIVM opdracht deze onderzoeken opnieuw te beoordelen met de nieuwste inzichten. Wij willen dat voor onze inwoners zo snel mogelijk duidelijk is of het RIVM tot andere conclusies en adviezen komt.

2. Nog geen aanpassing adviezen

Het RIVM past haar adviezen nu nog niet aan. Het RIVM onderzoekt eerst wat de nieuwe grenswaarde betekent voor hun eerdere berekeningen. Op basis daarvan beoordeelt het RIVM of het nodig is om adviezen aan te passen, bijvoorbeeld voor het eten uit eigen tuin. Voor moestuinieren binnen een straal van 1 kilometer rond Chemours en DuPont blijft het advies nu nog onveranderd: eet met mate uit eigen tuin, niet te veel, niet te vaak. Het RIVM vindt het verantwoord om de tijd te nemen die nodig is om nieuwe adviezen op te stellen. De adviezen zijn namelijk gebaseerd op levenslange blootstelling. Wij vertrouwen op de expertise van de wetenschappers, maar we vinden ook dat de periode van onzekerheid zo kort mogelijk moet duren.

3. Normen

Een lagere gezondheidkundige grenswaarde kan ook gevolgen hebben op regels (normen) voor PFAS in het milieu, zoals voor bodem, oppervlaktewater en drinkwater. Ook hiervoor gaat het RIVM nieuwe berekeningen doen. Daarna besluit het ministerie of het de normen aanpast. Het RIVM werkt ook aan een doorvertaling van de nieuwste inzichten naar andere PFAS, zoals GenX. GenX is ook een PFAS en wordt door Chemours (afsplitsing van DuPont) gebruikt als vervanger van PFOA.

4. Gezonde leefomgeving

Dordrecht, Papendrecht, Sliedrecht en Molenlanden vinden dat stoffen als PFOA en GenX niet in het milieu thuishoren. De problemen door de vroegere uitstoot van PFOA laten zien hoe cruciaal het is om dit soort situaties te voorkomen. De landelijke overheid erkent deze zorgen en werkt samen met andere landen in Europa om het gebruik en de productie van PFAS aan banden te leggen. Onze inzet als gemeenten is een gezonde leefomgeving voor onze inwoners. We hebben er bij het ministerie daarom op aangedrongen dat zo snel mogelijk duidelijk wordt wat de nieuwe inzichten betekenen voor onze inwoners.

Website <https://www.onafhankelijkpapendrecht.nl/2021/01/18/lagere-gezondheidskundige-grenswaarde-voor-pfas/>



science and policy
for a healthy future



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 733032.

HBM4EU

POLICY BRIEF

JUNE 2022



European Human Biomonitoring Initiative

PFAS

This policy brief summarizes the adverse human health effects of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs), their main exposure pathways for humans, and how human biomonitoring of PFASs could be of value in the development of EU policy.

PFASs are a large group of man-made chemicals extensively used in a wide number of industrial and consumer applications. PFASs are persistent in the environment and tend to bioaccumulate in food chains. Many PFASs are shown to be toxic to human health.

KEY MESSAGES

- **HBM4EU aligned studies¹ (2014-2021) have generated baseline levels of internal exposure to 12 PFASs for European teenagers (1957 samples; age: 12-18 years).**
 - **14.26 % of the European teenagers tested exceed the internal serum level of 6.9 µg/L PFASs, EFSA's² guideline value for a tolerable weekly intake of 4.4 ng/kg. The maximum exceedance from individual studies was 23.8 %. Highest median values are observed in studies conducted in Northern and Western Europe.**
 - **PFASs data from 17 HBM-studies can already be consulted in the online [European HBM dashboard](#).**
- **Current exposure exceeds the EFSA Guidance values for PFASs in some parts of the EU population.**
 - **PFASs concentrations are in general higher in men with a trend on participants with higher educational level having higher exposure levels. In some studies, higher levels of PFASs were observed with increasing age.**
 - **From the HBM4EU data collections, a decreasing trend for PFOA and PFOS concentrations can be derived, while this is not the case for other PFASs.**

BACKGROUND: HBM4EU

The European Human Biomonitoring Initiative, HBM4EU, running from 2017 to June 2022, is a joint effort of 28 countries, the European Environment Agency and the European Commission, and co-funded under Horizon 2020. The main aim of the initiative is to coordinate and advance human biomonitoring in Europe. HBM4EU has provided a wealth of improved evidence of the actual exposure to chemicals by measuring either the substances

themselves, their metabolites or markers of subsequent health effects in body fluids or tissues. Information on human exposure can be linked to data on sources and epidemiological surveys to inform research, prevention, and policy with the objective of addressing knowledge gaps and promoting innovative approaches. If you would like to read more about the project itself, please visit the HBM4EU [website](#).

¹ The HBM4EU Aligned Studies are a survey aimed at collecting HBM samples and data as harmonised as possible from (national) studies to derive current internal exposure data representative for the European population/citizens across a geographic spread.

² EFSA: [European Food Safety Authority](#)

HBM4EU RESULTS

HBM4EU laid the foundations for a European HBM **platform to monitor human exposure to priority chemicals (including PFASs) and related health effects in a harmonised and quality-controlled way**. A Quality Assurance/Quality Control Programme was implemented in order to establish a European [database of candidate laboratories](#) that are equally qualified for exposure biomarker analysis.

As part of the HBM4EU aligned studies, biomarkers of exposure to 12 PFASs were measured in teenagers (12-18 years). Around **14 % of the European teenagers tested exceed** the internal serum level of 6.9 µg/l PFASs, which corresponds to the EFSA guideline value for a tolerable weekly intake of 4.4 ng/kg. The maximum exceedance from individual studies has been 23.8 %. Highest median values are observed in studies conducted in Northern and Western Europe.

To further support current and future HBM studies, HBM4EU has produced **a variety of publicly available groundwork materials** for a harmonised approach, to study planning and conduct in Europe, available in the [HBM4EU online library](#). **Different research protocols have been developed to further analyse the PFASs data**, including European exposure levels, exposure distributions, geographical comparisons, exposure determinants, exposure-effect associations (BMI

and metabolism, sexual maturation, asthma and allergy), and exposure-effect biomarker – health effect path analysis (sexual maturation and metabolism) ([D10.10 Statistical analysis plan for the co-funded studies of WP8](#)). More results are expected to be published in the course of 2022.

An inventory of available effect biomarkers for PFASs and novel biomarkers was created including cholesterol and adiponectin for metabolic disturbances, thyroid hormones for endocrine disturbances, reproductive hormones and kisspeptin for infertility and sexual maturation, and immune and inflammatory markers for asthma. Relevant mechanistic and adverse outcome pathway (AOP) information related to effects on metabolism, birth outcomes and immune system were provided to cover knowledge gaps.

The **mixture risk assessment of PFASs** takes three approaches for comparison, the Relative Potency Factor (RPF) approach, the Hazard Index (HI) approach, and the sum value approach of the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA). The risk assessment of mixtures goes beyond the single substance assessment, which is usually applied and reflects more the actual exposure of people. All three approaches confirmed the conclusion drawn in the recent EFSA scientific opinion which postulates a risk at current exposure concentrations.

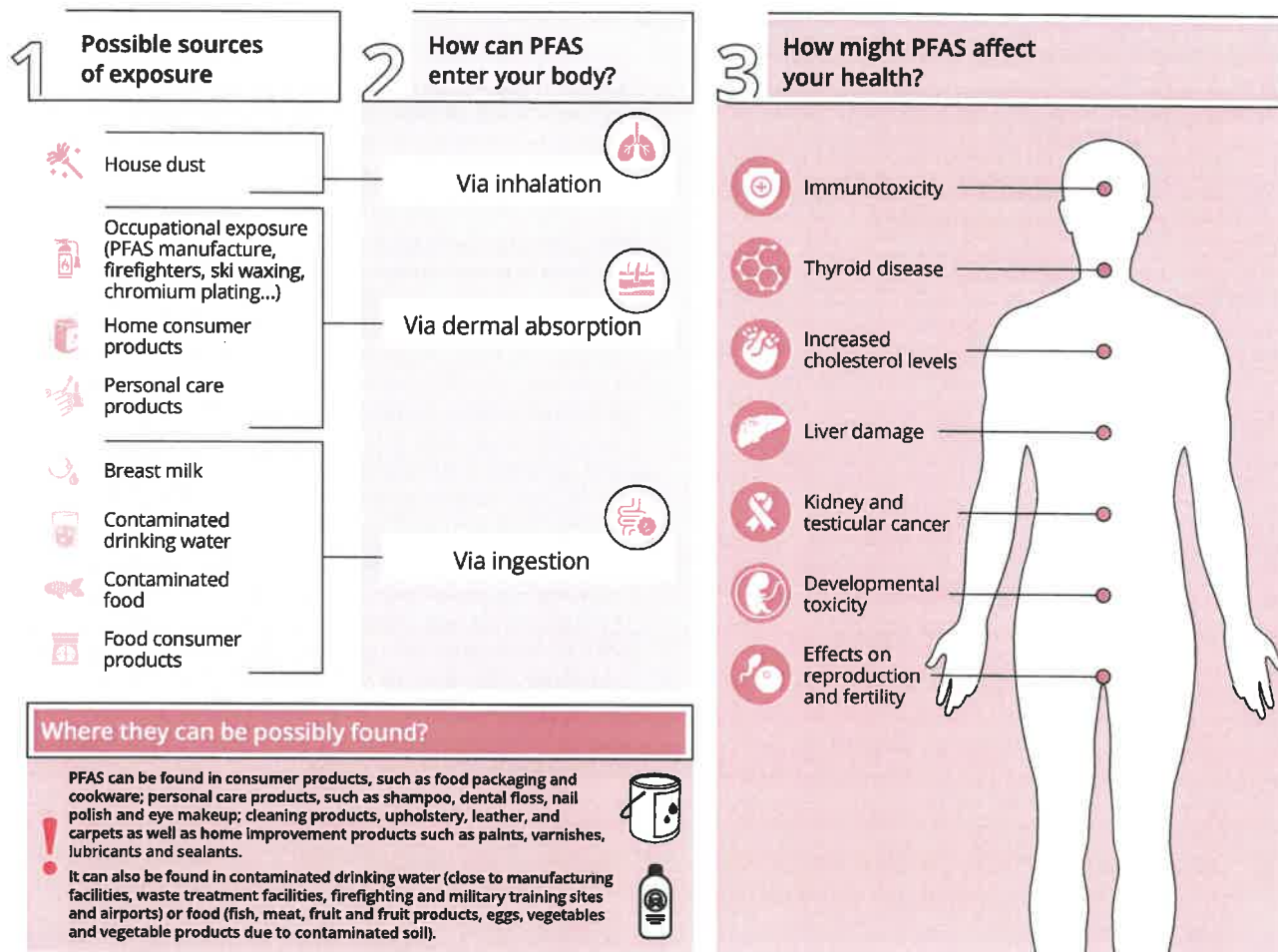
EXPOSURE & HEALTH EFFECTS

For the general population, the main route of exposure to PFASs is through food and the consumption of contaminated drinking water. Within the HBM4EU data collections, diet was found to be an important exposure determinant of PFASs. Higher serum levels of PFNA and PFOS were associated with higher consumption of fish and seafood (increase in serum levels by 20 and 21 %, respectively) and higher consumption of eggs (increase in serum levels by 14 and 11 %, respectively). Additionally, higher exposure to PFOS was linked to higher consumption of offal (increase in exposure by 14%) and

consumption of local food (increase in exposure by 40 %). For other food items (meat, fast food, drinking water, milk), no or weak associations with individual PFASs were found. Other main exposure determinants in HBM4EU data collections were attribution to a certain cohort as well as sex and education.

Figure 1 gives an overview of the main sources of exposure, exposure pathways and health effects associated with PFASs exposure.

Figure 1: Overview of sources, pathways and health effects associated with PFASs



INPUT TO POLICY PROCESSES AND RELEVANT POLICY MEASURES

HBM4EU results have contributed to consultations for the Chemicals' Strategy for Sustainability, the Zero-Pollution Action Plan, as well as ECHA and EFSA consultations. These are available in the [HBM4EU Science to Policy section](#).

Various PFASs such as PFOA, HFPO-DA, PFBS, PFNA, PFDA, PFTeDA, PFTrDA, PFU(n)DA and PFHxS, are included in the substances of very high concern (SVHC) List under the REACH Regulation, due to their PBT or vPvB³ properties. Some PFASs have a harmonised EU classification and labelling under the CLP regulation, as toxic to reproduction, the liver and as suspected carcinogens.

Due to the serious concerns related to the widespread use and contamination with PFASs a **set of actions to address PFASs with a group approach, under legislation on water,**

sustainable products, food, industrial emissions, and waste has been proposed in the European Chemicals' Strategy for Sustainability and in the accompanying document on PFASs. Specific PFASs are regulated by several legislations and cross-regulation activities. These cover i) implementation of international conventions, actions and agreements, and wider chemicals legislation; ii) consumer products; iii) occupational exposure, and iv) the environment (e.g., emissions to air and water). These regulations are to be adapted and tightened.

A REACH restriction to limit the risks to the environment and human health from the manufacture and use of all per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) for all uses, except those which are deemed as essential is to be expected in 2023.

³ PBT: persistent, bioaccumulative, toxic | vPvB: very persistent, very bioaccumulative

POLICY QUESTIONS

1 What is the current exposure of the EU population to PFASs and do they exceed health-based Guidance Values⁴ (external and internal HBM guidance values), where available?

HBM4EU aligned studies (2014-2021) have generated baseline levels of internal PFASs concentrations for teenagers (12-18 years). Samples were collected in 9 sampling sites (Norway, Sweden, Slovakia, Slovenia, Greece, Spain, Germany, France, Belgium).

The indicator developed under HBM4EU shows that current internal exposure in teenagers exceed the guidance values for the sum of the 4 PFASs. The indicator, based on internal exposure data from European teenagers, shows that combined exposure to PFOS, PFOA, PFNA and PFHxS of teenagers in the EU exceeds the EFSA health-based guidance value in a fraction of the participants. Exceedances in the different studies and locations ranges from 1.34% up to 23.78% of the participants with an extent of exceedance (P95/6.9 µg/L) varying from 0.74 - 1.78. The studies conducted in Western and Northern Europe had the most teenagers exceeding the guidance value.

The median concentrations in the different European studies are within the same range, e.g., P50 values for PFOA range from 0.76 to 4.8 µg/L, PFNA levels from 0.28 to 0.86 µg/L and PFHxS from 0.18 to 1.61 µg/L. **PFOS remains the dominant congener;** P50 values range from 1.67 µg/L to 8.06 µg/L. These levels support the ones reported in the recent EFSA opinion on the risks to human health related to the presence of perfluoroalkyl substances in food.

2 Is exposure driven by diet, consumer exposure, occupation, or environmental contamination?

Regarding exposure determinants in the HBM4EU data collections, besides cohort, sex and education, diet was an important determinant of PFASs. Higher serum levels of PFNA and PFOS were associated with higher consumption of fish and seafood (increase in serum levels by 20 and 21 %, respectively) and higher consumption of eggs (increase in serum levels by 14 and 11 %, respectively). Additionally, higher exposure to PFOS was linked to higher consumption of offal (increase in exposure by 14 %) and consumption of local food (increase in exposure by 40 %). For other food items (meat, fast food, drinking water, milk), no or weak associations with individual PFASs were found.

Regarding occupational exposure, a study to investigate PFASs exposure in chromate plating facilities was carried out. In total 155 plasma samples of workers are analysed from five studies. Results will be available before June 2022.

3 Which areas and environmental media in Europe are contaminated with PFASs?

PFASs accumulate in the environment and have been found to contaminate surface-, ground- and drinking water and accumulate in plants. **PFASs production sites, fire training areas, airports and waste disposal facilities as well as sewage treatment plants can lead to contamination of the environment, which in turn leads to exposure of people living in these areas.** Currently, there are several hotspots known in different countries (e.g., Germany, Sweden, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, Belgium, Denmark and Austria). It can be assumed that hot spots exist in most European countries. **HBM4EU is developing a guidance document on how to deal with Human Biomonitoring, health risk assessment and risk communication in (PFASs) hot spots.**

⁴ For substances that exceed the health-based guidance values, health effects cannot be excluded.

4 Can differences in PFASs profiles be observed in different population groups and time periods?

Geographical differences in internal exposure can be observed in the HBM4EU aligned studies for PFOS, PFOA, PFNA, PFHxS and their sum. Highest median values are observed in studies conducted in Northern and Western Europe.

To study differences in PFASs profiles in different time periods, analysis of time trend studies is needed, which are **currently not available at European level**. So far, time trend data are available for the sum Σ (PFOA + PFNA + PFHxS + PFOS) only for Germany. When comparing the PFASs levels in **plasma samples of young adults from the German Environment Specimen Bank** in the period from 2007 to 2019, a clear decrease can be seen. While the maximum P95 (P50) value for the sum of the 4 PFASs was 28.87 (13,82) $\mu\text{g/L}$ in 2007, in 2019 it is only 8.28 (4,59) $\mu\text{g/L}$. Data from two mother-child studies in Vienna/Austria also showed a decline in the P50 values for the sum of the 4 PFASs from 4.3 $\mu\text{g/l}$ in 2010 to 2.2 $\mu\text{g/L}$ in 2019.

Datasets are also available for individual PFASs in other countries: Norway, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Slovakia, Denmark and Czechia.

5 What are the PFASs levels and health effects in vulnerable population groups?

Analyses of epidemiological data from cohort studies performed within the HBM4EU consortium shows associations of higher maternal PFASs levels with an increased propensity for infections in the children up to age 4 and the frequency of use antibiotics until adolescent age. Associations with poorer cardiovascular risk profile based on higher cholesterol and lipid profile, higher fasting blood glucose, BMI and blood pressure, higher body weight, BMI-score and waist circumference at age 9, among boys were found. **PFASs mixture was associated with an increase in triglyceride and insulin levels and decrease in HDL cholesterol** and with a modest interaction of endogenous hormones. Further, **prenatal PFASs exposure could be associated with reproductive disorders** such as preeclampsia and pregnancy hypertension, delay of menarche and abnormal menstruation/length, reduction of birth weight, length, and change in gestational length, decreases in semen quality and sperm count. One study showed correlations with the anogenital distance in girls and a risk of cerebral palsy in boys.

6 Are there differences in exposure of the EU population to regulated and non-regulated PFASs? Have restrictions led to a reduction in exposure?

To date PFOS and PFOA are still the substances occurring in the highest concentrations in blood in Europe, however other PFASs compounds are also detected in many human samples. Alternative PFASs compounds have lower exposure levels compared to regulated PFASs compounds. However, due to a large proportion of non-detects for alternative PFASs compounds and a big difference in absolute values of the limit of quantification (LOQs) reached across studies there is a need for lowering the LOQ in the chemical analysis. HBM indicators display HBM levels for regulated and not yet regulated PFASs.

The EFSA opinion on PFOS and PFOA in food, states that generally after the year 2000, the concentrations in serum/plasma of PFOS, PFOA and in some studies PFHxS have decreased, while the concentrations of PFNA, PFDA and PFUnDA have increased.

7 Has restriction of PFOS according to the POP Regulation led to a reduction in exposure?

The effectiveness evaluation under the **Stockholm Convention concluded that PFOS levels seem to be gradually declining**. The data collections in HBM4EU also demonstrate the decrease of PFASs within the observed period.

8 What is the impact of a pending 2016 ECHA decision to restrict the manufacturing, marketing and use of PFOA under REACH?

Although in some individual EU countries, decreasing time trends of PFOA have been described the **HBM4EU aligned studies still show that a fraction of the teenagers in Europe exceed guidance values for PFOA and that substitute PFASs are detected**. It is of utmost importance to avoid regrettable substitutions.

KNOWLEDGE GAPS

Data on health impacts of different PFASs are available for a comparatively small number of PFASs, of which especially PFOS and PFOA are well researched. There is **a need for human-relevant hazard and HBM data**, and there are also gaps for the majority of the 4,000 PFAS currently used related to uses, exposure patterns and toxicity.

There is a gap of Human Biomonitoring data for PFASs **other than those addressed in the risk assessment** (specifically those which are used/formed in high volumes as a result of substituting legacy PFASs). There is **a need to measure the total organic fluorine content in humans** in order to assess the magnitude of the so far unknown or not yet assessable contribution of PFASs in humans. Furthermore, non-target analytical methods could be used to identify new relevant substances.

To support the science-based grouping of PFASs, a better understanding of the modes of action of different PFASs is needed. Further studying relative potencies of PFAS for mixture risk assessment would be of added value.

There is also **a need to better coordinate EU regulations in different areas**, e. g. food and drinking water, as well as food contact material and environmental regulations to strengthen overarching risk management and avoid further contaminations with PFASs.

Human biomonitoring in hotspots highlights the **urgent need to develop PFASs minimising measures at all levels, including in the human body**. This seems essential to ensure the protection of vulnerable groups, specifically pregnant and breastfeeding women in hotspots.

HBM4EU coordinator:
German Environment Agency hbm4eu@uba.de

Knowledge Hub coordinator:
European Environment Agency hbm4eu@eea.europa.eu

www.hbm4eu.eu



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 733032.

Tieners in Europa hebben hoge concentraties PFAS in hun bloed

Tieners in Europa hebben hoge concentraties PFAS in hun bloed, vooral Zweedse, Franse en Noorse, zo blijkt uit een biomonitoringsstudie van de EU bij mensen. De reden voor deze hoge niveaus? Een grote inname van eieren, vis, orgaanvlees - en plaatselijk geproduceerd voedsel.

PFAS zijn alomtegenwoordig en kunnen worden aangetroffen in bijna alle mensen, met inbegrip van jonge kinderen en tieners. Volgens een grootschalig humaan biomonitoringsonderzoek, HBM4EU, zijn PFAS aangetroffen in het bloed van tieners in alle negen van de onderzochte Europese landen. Meer dan 14 procent van de monsters overschreed de gezondheidsrichtlijnen van de Europese voedselwaakhond, EFSA.

In het kader van het HBM4EU-project zijn veel verschillende chemische stoffen beoordeeld bij een groot aantal leeftijdsgroepen. Wat tieners en PFAS in het bijzonder betreft, werden tussen 2014 en 2021 in negen landen monsters genomen bij 2000 tieners tussen 12 en 18 jaar: Noorwegen, Zweden, Slowakije, Slovenië, Griekenland, Spanje, Duitsland, Frankrijk en België.

Van deze landen hadden de Zweedse tieners het hoogste PFAS-gehalte in hun bloed: 12,31 microgram per liter. Franse tieners kwamen op de tweede plaats met 11,26 microgram per liter, en Noorwegen kwam op de derde plaats met 10,83 microgram per liter. Slechts in één van de onderzochte landen hadden tieners lagere PFAS-waarden in hun bloed dan de gezondheidsaanbeveling van de EFSA van 6,9 microgram per liter: Spanje, met 5,09 microgram per liter.

Bron: ChemSec https://chemsec.org/european-teenagers-are-high-on-pfas/?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=2022_06_30&fbclid=IwAR14pYgJxgnzf1uk9c5Q5FfyCWe28G753JoucaJ8cbjXr58umTZ8rtIWD70

