

European Food Safety Authority

11th Scientific Colloquium on acrylamide carcinogenicity – new evidence in relation to dietary exposure

Introduction to EFSA

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EFSA's Mission



- Provide science based risk assessments supporting Risk Management related to food/feed safety
- Provide scientific and technical advice on all matters within these fields
- Communicate all findings publicly (communication task is shared with EC/MS)

EFSA panels

- Generic opinions



- Panel on Plant Health (PLH)
- Panel on Plant protection products and their residues (PPR)
- Panel on Animal Health and Welfare (AHAW)
- Panel on contaminants in the food chain (CONTAM)
- Panel on biological hazards (BIOHAZ)
- Scientific Committee (SC)

EFSA Panels

- mainly opinions on applications



- Panel on Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO)
- Panel on additives and products or substances used in animal feed (FEEDAP)
- Panel on additives, flavourings, processing aids and materials in contact with food (AFC):
 - Panel on food additives and nutrients sources added to food (ANS)
 - Panel on food contact materials, enzymes, flavourings and processing aids (CEF)
- Panel on dietetic products, nutrition and allergies (NDA)

Directorate of Cooperation and Assistance



Comprising:

- Data collection and exposure Unit (DATEX)
- Zoonosis Unit
- Assessment methodology Unit (AMU)
- Pesticides risk assessment Unit (PRAPeR)
- Scientific cooperation Unit (SCO)
- Emerging risks Unit (EMRISK)

Activities of the CONTAM Panel



- To deliver scientific opinions and advice on contaminants in food and feed, associated areas and undesirable substances such as natural toxicants, mycotoxins and residues of non authorised substances not covered by another Panel
- To respond to emerging issues in the area of contaminants, if needed in a fast manner
- To apply current risk assessment methods such as benchmark dose modelling, margin of exposure calculations and risk-benefit analysis, if needed, it its risk assessments

An EFSA Colloquium is



- An interactive event rather than a passive listening to lectures
- A platform for scientists to have in-depth discussions on scientific approaches and methods available and tools and data needed for conducting a scientific assessments
- An event to explore opportunities and limitations for defining a common understanding of the current state-of-the-art in scientific progress and limitations and
- An opportunity to define further (research) needs

An EFSA Colloquium is not



- An attempt to agree on the details of a preferred strategy or approach, if any
- An attempt to finalise a blue print for the work ahead of us
- A "who is right and who is wrong" discussion

Issues



- The outcome of epidemiological studies relating acrylamide dietary exposure and human cancer risk can vary
- Impact of biomarkers on the risk assessment of acrylamide from an exposure and a mode of action point of view
- Is there any recent evidence related to the genotoxic and non-genotoxic modes of action of acrylamide and its metabolites?
- What is the current situation on dietary exposure to acrylamide in Europe?



A free and open debate should be the basis to discuss the state-of-the-art on acrylamide carcinogenicity



Thank you for sharing your views with EFSA.

Thank you for being frank, open and constructive.