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Endocrine Disruptors: Advances in Assessing Environmental Health Risk and Human Health

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Message from the Guest Editors

Exogenous chemicals can interact with hormone receptors, disrupt hormone synthesis and metabolism, and dysregulate hormone signaling pathways to induce adverse effects in individuals, their progeny, and populations. While endocrine disruption is generally regarded as an important issue in toxicology, it has been variously defined, and the health effects continue to be hotly debated. Thus, there is need for a re-examination of the endocrine disruption literature with attention to providing direction for the following: the definition of an endocrine disrupting chemical (EDC); the interpretation of dose response curves and the relevance of the inverted U-shaped dose response curve, the standardized test methods; the strengths and limitations of screening tests; the assessment of emerging chemicals for endocrine disruption and impact of alternatives to existing chemicals; the epidemiology of endocrine-disrupting chemical effects in children, men, and women; the role of EDCs in the obesity epidemic and how EDCs modulate phenomic, genomic, proteomic, and metabolomic effects. The role of endocrine disruption in hormone-dependent cancers will also be explored.



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