



Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) WG on Methodologies

Venue: Luxembourg

Meeting date: 18 January 2017

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chair welcomed the participants, in particular one representative from JRC and three from ECHA. One member apologised.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

The Chair requested members of the Working Groups to declare any conflict of interest regarding matters on the agenda. None of the members declared any conflict of interest.

4. METHODOLOGY

There were internal presentations on the state of art on *in silico* in order to familiarise new members with this subject in a stepwise process as follows:

1. The fundamental concepts behind *in silico* methods – i.e. what they are, how they are developed and used, and what useful information they can provide in relation to risk assessment of chemical compounds (in particular cosmetic ingredients),
2. What the main limitations are,
3. What chemical types different model/systems can cover, how reliable the results could be for use in risk assessment,
4. What is available in the form of (Q)SAR models, read-across tools, toxicity expert systems, etc,
5. How a weight of evidence approach could be used to make toxicity estimates by *in silico* models/systems more reliable.

JRC suggested the following web links, each of which gives access to online webinars and tutorials:

- COSMOS toxicological database: <http://www.cosmostox.eu/what/COSMOSdb/>
- COSMOS TTC developments and tools: <http://www.cosmostox.eu/what/ttc/>
- General COSMOS developed tools: <http://www.cosmostox.eu/output/newsletter/>

SCCS Chair suggested useful links to Models' toolboxes to be downloaded:

- ChemSketch (for chemical structure drawing and calculating properties): www.acdlabs.com/resources/freeware/chemsketch/

- T.E.S.T (integrated QSARs platform): www.epa.gov/chemical-research/toxicity-estimation-software-tool-test
- Vega (integrated QSARs platform): www.vega-qsar.eu/
- ToxRead (Read-across platform): www.toxgate.eu/developers.php
- TOXTREE (toxicity assessment based on structural alerts): <http://toxtree.sourceforge.net/>
- ChemTunes (commercial software – i.e. not free): www.mn-am.com/products/chemtunes
- COSMOS (database containing cosmetic related chemicals): <https://cosmosdb.eu/cosmosdb.v2/accounts/login/?next=/cosmosdb.v2/>
- QSAR Toolbox (platform for chemical grouping, read-across, QSARs) : www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/risk-assessment/theoecdqsartoolbox.htm (current version 3.3.5)

ECHA informed about the following:

- RAAF: <https://echa.europa.eu/support/registration/how-to-avoid-unnecessary-testing-on-animals/grouping-of-substances-and-read-across>
- Practical guide on how to use and report QSARs: https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/13655/pg_report_qsars_en.pdf/407dff11-aa4a-4eef-a1ce-9300f8460099
- QSAR Toolbox illustrative examples: <https://echa.europa.eu/support/oecd-qsar-toolbox>
- Proceedings from ECHA Topical Scientific Workshop - New Approach Methodologies in Regulatory Science: https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/22816069/scientific_ws_proceedings_en.pdf/a2087434-0407-4705-9057-95d9c2c2cc57

The presentations were followed up by a discussion. The group agreed to start thinking about the drafting of the future revision of the SCCS Notes of Guidance with regard to the state of art on *in silico*.

The SCCS Memorandum on the use of *in silico* methods for assessment of chemical hazards:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/scientific_committees/consumer_safety/docs/sccs_o_200.pdf

5. INFORMATION FROM CHAIR/MEMBERS/COMMISSION

- One member informed about OECD Guidance on Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA) and 12 Skin Sensitisation Case Studies.
- One member informed about a report on Consumer exposure models that has been released by the Netherlands National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM).
- Specific and permanent external expertise on exposure assessment and nano materials has been requested to the Commission by the SCCS WG on nano ingredients, for both Working Groups' work (including Methodology). The Commission presented its proposal to the members of the WG on Methodology and the feedback was positive. This proposal will also be presented to the nano WG meeting on 20/01. The formal decision from the Commission will be added on the agenda of the next Plenary meeting on 7 March 2017.
- Member Jeanne Duus-Johansen resigned in January 2017 for personal reasons due to other commitments. However she expressed her intention to remain in the reserve list.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

08 March 2017 (on Aggregate Dermal Exposure)

02 May (Benchmark Dose - BMD)