



Environmental Contaminants of Emerging Public Health Concern: PFAS

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

While PFAS chemicals have long been in use, our understanding of the mechanisms by which they adversely affect biological systems and the endpoints they alter need elucidation so that risks posed to human and environmental targets can be understood. PFAS present challenges to public health by the sheer number of chemical forms, molecular targets, adverse outcome pathways, and potential developmental or homeostatic impacts. PFAS have now been detected worldwide, including in some of the most pristine environments on Earth and in large percentages of human blood samples from broad populational surveys. Expanding scientific understanding of the molecular targets, adverse outcome pathways, and endpoints would aid in strategies for both PFAS-related regulatory and translational science and in predictive toxicology efforts. In these perspectives, collecting evidence on nuclear receptor interactions, biomolecular cascades, and endpoints detrimental to individual or community health will help to shed light on the challenges presented by these “forever” chemicals.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Scientific discoveries and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a rational basis for informed decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards.

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