



*toxics*



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## Phthalate Exposure: From Quantification to Risk Assessment

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### Message from the Guest Editors

Phthalates, the diesters of phthalic acid, are industrial chemicals widely used in commercial products. Phthalates have been evaluated as possible human toxicants, and their toxicity has been extensively reviewed. Mainly phthalates possess endocrine-disrupting properties. The environmental and biological monitoring of phthalates is a starting point to understand the real level of exposure for humans—first of all, distinguished between the base level in the environment and other sources of exposure (e.g., occupational). An important target is the proposal of analytical methods able to quantify low concentrations in different complex matrixes, particularly in human biomonitoring. Any contribution to the clarification of the mechanisms of action of these chemical compounds in the human body and to the understanding of the role they play in producing adverse effects on health is necessary for the scientific community to orient itself and propose risk-prevention measures.



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