

ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS

To help share the latest science-based information on EDCs, we have prepared the following newsletter for policymakers in the EU. We urge policymakers to prioritize specific actions on EDCs, including a coherent identification process linked to control measures to reduce widespread exposures. If you have any questions or requests for content, please reach out to Joe Laakso, PhD, Director of Science Policy at jlaakso@endocrine.org.

THE LATEST EDC SCIENCE

PFAS increase breast cancer risk:

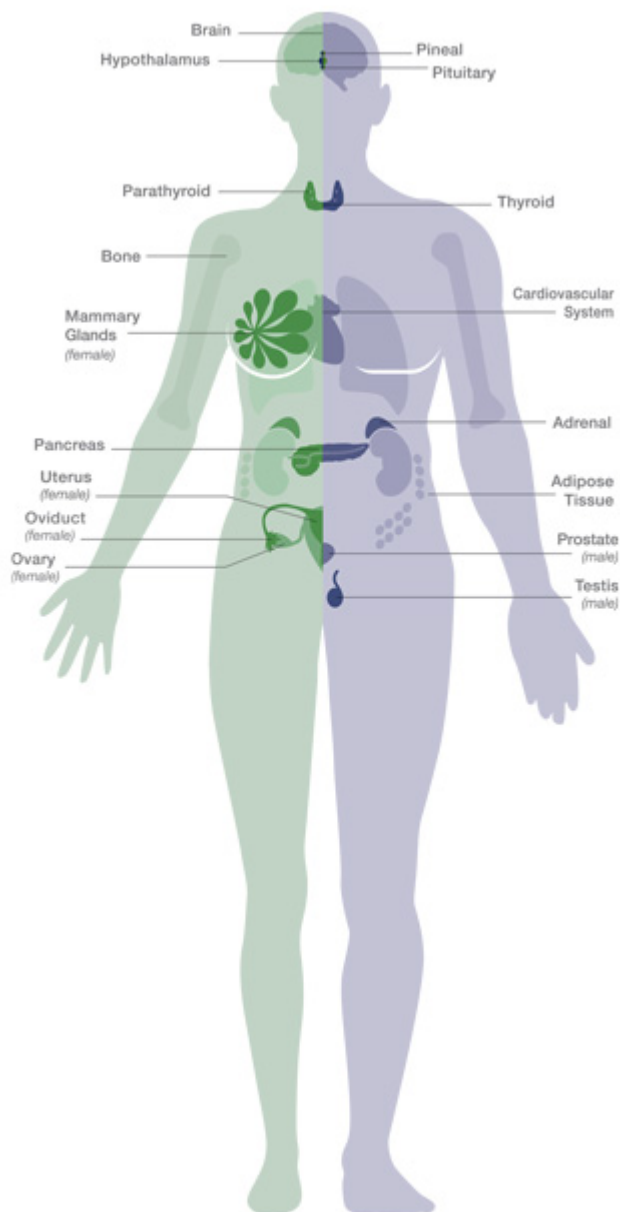
September, 2020 | This article examined exposure to perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in Taiwanese women and concludes that PFAS exposure is linked to increased risk of breast cancer for younger women.

More Evidence for Exposure-Outcome Links and Policy Implications:

21 July, 2020 | A new series of articles reviews studies published since 2015, concluding that the strength of evidence linking EDCs to a variety of harmful outcomes is even stronger. Important economic and policy implications are also discussed. [Article 1](#), [Article 2](#), and [Article 3](#).

Pesticides Affect Neonatal Development:

26 June, 2020 | This study examined effects of household pesticide use during pregnancy and the results suggest that household pesticides may adversely influence fetal and postnatal growth trajectories.



Endocrine Society European Union EDC Task Force

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Le Monde Article Exposes Industry Connections of EDC Sceptics:

23 June, 2020 | A new article by French journalists Stéphane Horel and Stéphane Foucart exposes the industry connections of toxicologists who have written editorials seeking to undermine the strong scientific consensus linking EDCs to human health hazards. [English translation](#).

No-Threshold Approach Required for EDCs:

9 July, 2020 | In this Policy Perspective article, members of the Endocrine Society EDC Advisory Group explain why the use of thresholds in the context of EDCs is demonstrably inappropriate.

EU EDC POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

EU Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability:

The Parliament's [resolution](#) on a Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, with its various strong recommendations for actions on EDCs, was adopted on 10 July by an overwhelming cross-party majority. We submitted [our response](#) to the proposed Roadmap for the Strategy to the Commission as part of the EU consultation process and held briefing meetings on EDCs with the Commissioner for Health and senior officials in the cabinet of other Commissioners, including Environment and Industry. In these meetings expert EDC scientists shared scientific evidence on the health effects of EDCs and called on policymakers to prioritize EDCs in the Chemicals Strategy and support an accelerated and coherent identification process for EDCs linked to control measures to reduce widespread exposures.

EU Beating Cancer Action Plan:

We asked the Health Commissioner to include actions on EDCs as a key preventative measure in the upcoming Beating Cancer Action Plan. The European Parliament has established a new Special Committee on Beating Cancer to start work in September.

EDC Lists Published:

National Authorities in Belgium, Denmark, France, the Netherlands and Sweden joined to create [data-driven lists of potential EDCs](#). These lists divide EDCs into those substances that have been identified as EDCs at the EU level, substances under evaluation for endocrine disruption, and substances that are considered by the evaluating National Authority to have endocrine disruption properties.



POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AND RESOURCES ON EDCs

- [Endocrine Society Scientific Statement on EDCs](#)
- [Endocrine Society Scientific Statement on EDCs](#)
- [Endocrine Society Position Statement on EDCs in the European Union](#)
- [Introduction to EDCs](#), A Guide for Public Interest Organizations and Policymakers (available in multiple languages)
- [Let's Talk EDCs Video Series](#) describes EDCs, their health effects, and strategies to minimize exposure.
- [EDCs Topics Page](#) provides a more comprehensive list of resources.

LEARN MORE



ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS (EDCs)

Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are exogenous chemicals or their mixtures that can interfere with any aspect of hormone action. EDCs such as bisphenols, phthalates, and PFAS are found in food, toys, cosmetics, medicines, and plastics as well as throughout the environment. Scientific evidence has shown that exposure to EDCs has contributed to increases in the incidence of diseases including neurodevelopmental, reproductive, and metabolic disorders, as well as some cancers.

Founded in 1916, the Endocrine Society is the world's oldest and largest international organization dedicated to research on endocrine science and the clinical treatment of patients with endocrine diseases. Our members include researchers and clinicians from over 120 countries, including all the member states of the European Union.

Since 2013, the Endocrine Society has made improving regulation of EDCs a top priority and has been the leading voice of endocrine science in global policy efforts. We have hosted several briefings in the European Parliament and numerous meetings with Members of the European Parliament and Commission officials. The Endocrine Society supports effective translation of scientific knowledge on EDCs and their health effects to regulatory policies that protect consumers and improve regulatory testing strategies.

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