

Endocrine-Disrupting Chemicals



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Outline

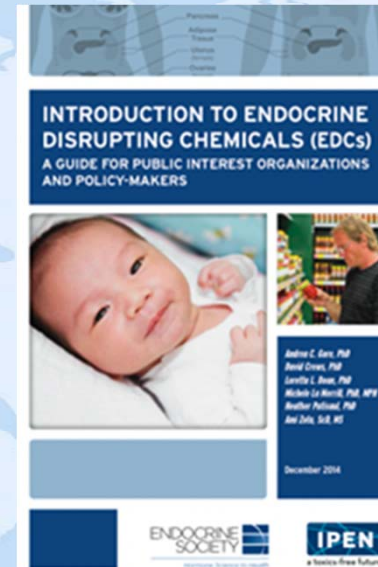
- The Endocrine Society – Who we are and how we are involved
- What does the Endocrine Society say about the Commission Roadmap?
- **What Is Needed:**
 - Specific actions to close legal gaps and identify EDCs
 - Additional investment in research to accelerate regulatory decision making and improve test methods

- Over 18,000 members from over 120 countries
- Basic researchers, clinical scientists, clinicians in practice
- We unite, lead, and grow the endocrine community to accelerate scientific breakthroughs and improve health worldwide
- Involved in EU EDC Criteria process and implementation since 2013



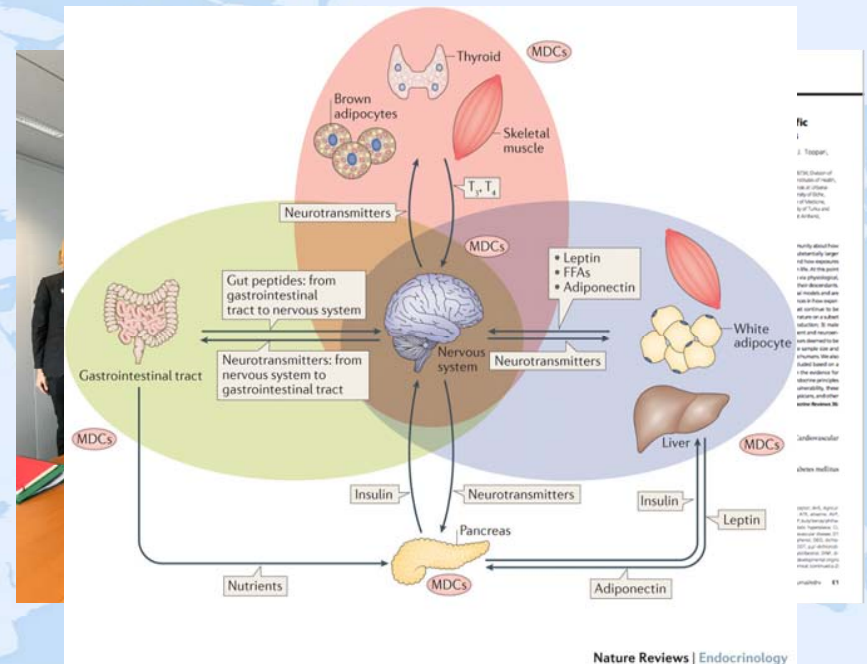
EU Impact and Global Reach

- EDC Criteria – with European Parliament and European Commission
- Workshops and conferences with EFSA
- Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management
- UN – WHO meetings and reports



My Background and Research

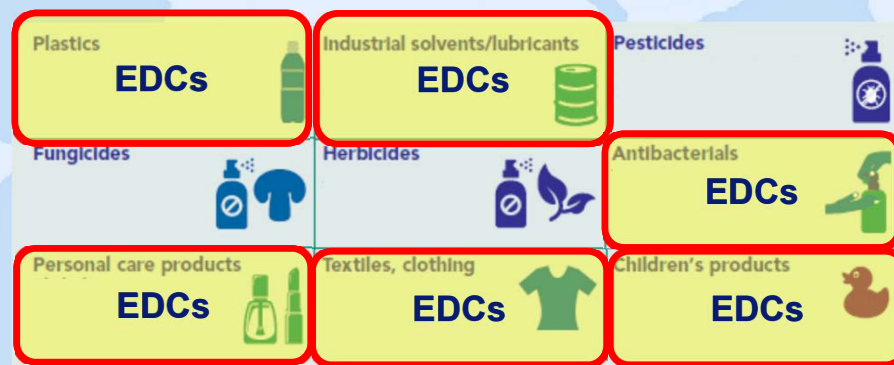
- Senior Scientist and Group Leader at IDIBE and CIBERDEM
- I study how endocrine disruption influences glucose metabolism and energy balance.
- These disruptions can lead to diseases such as diabetes and obesity.
- Recognize the need to prevent harms to human health.



Nadal, A. et al. (2017) Endocrine-disrupting chemicals and the regulation of energy balance
Nat. Rev. Endocrinol. doi:10.1038/nrendo.2017.51

We Need Better Public Health Protection

- New scientific information has been developed since the original 1999 European Strategy on EDCs
- Policymakers have made progress implementing new criteria for identifying EDCs in biocides and pesticides. Note, however, that these criteria do not apply to many sources of exposure, i.e.: cosmetics, food contact material.....



A New Strategy is Required

- Therefore, the EU Strategy on EDCs should be revised,
 - Prioritize new scientific information developed in recent years
 - Aim to minimize exposure to hazardous EDCs throughout the environment and in consumer products
- The European Commission and agencies should support further research into EDCs
 - See: Hormone disrupting chemicals: slow progress to regulation BMJ 2018; 361
 - <https://doi.org/10.1136/bmj.k1876> (Published 30 April 2018)

Endocrine Society Response to Commission Communication

- The 7 November communication by the Commission calls for:
 - Minimizing exposures to EDCs
 - Improved test methods
 - Additional research on EDCs
 - Continued involvement and cooperation by stakeholders

These are positive messages and we support concepts that will increase knowledge surrounding EDCs and facilitate regulatory decision-making. However, action is needed, and the Communication does not propose concrete steps to address necessary changes in policy.

Endocrine Society Response to Commission Communication

- The Society is concerned about several aspects of the Communication
 - Specific measures to achieve horizontal identification and regulation of EDCs across multiple sectors is lacking.
 - There are no targets for identifying EDCs and replacing with safer alternatives.
 - The communication refers to “knowledge gaps” that could be used to delay further action.
 - There is no recognition of the need to evaluate classes of chemicals in order to prevent regrettable substitutions, nor the need to evaluate mixtures of chemicals for combination effects.

What We Are Asking For

In order to protect the public from further harms due to ongoing EDC exposures, the Endocrine Society supports:

- A revised strategy for EDCs that is consistent across sectors, sets targets for the identification of EDCs and substitution with safer alternatives, and
- Additional investment in research to accelerate regulatory decision making and improve test methods, without delaying action based on currently available evidence