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# Adverse Outcome Pathway as an Integrating Framework for Systematic Review



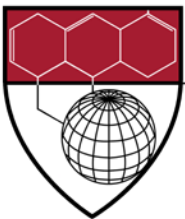


# ADVERSE OUTCOME PATHWAY AS AN INTEGRATING FRAMEWORK FOR SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

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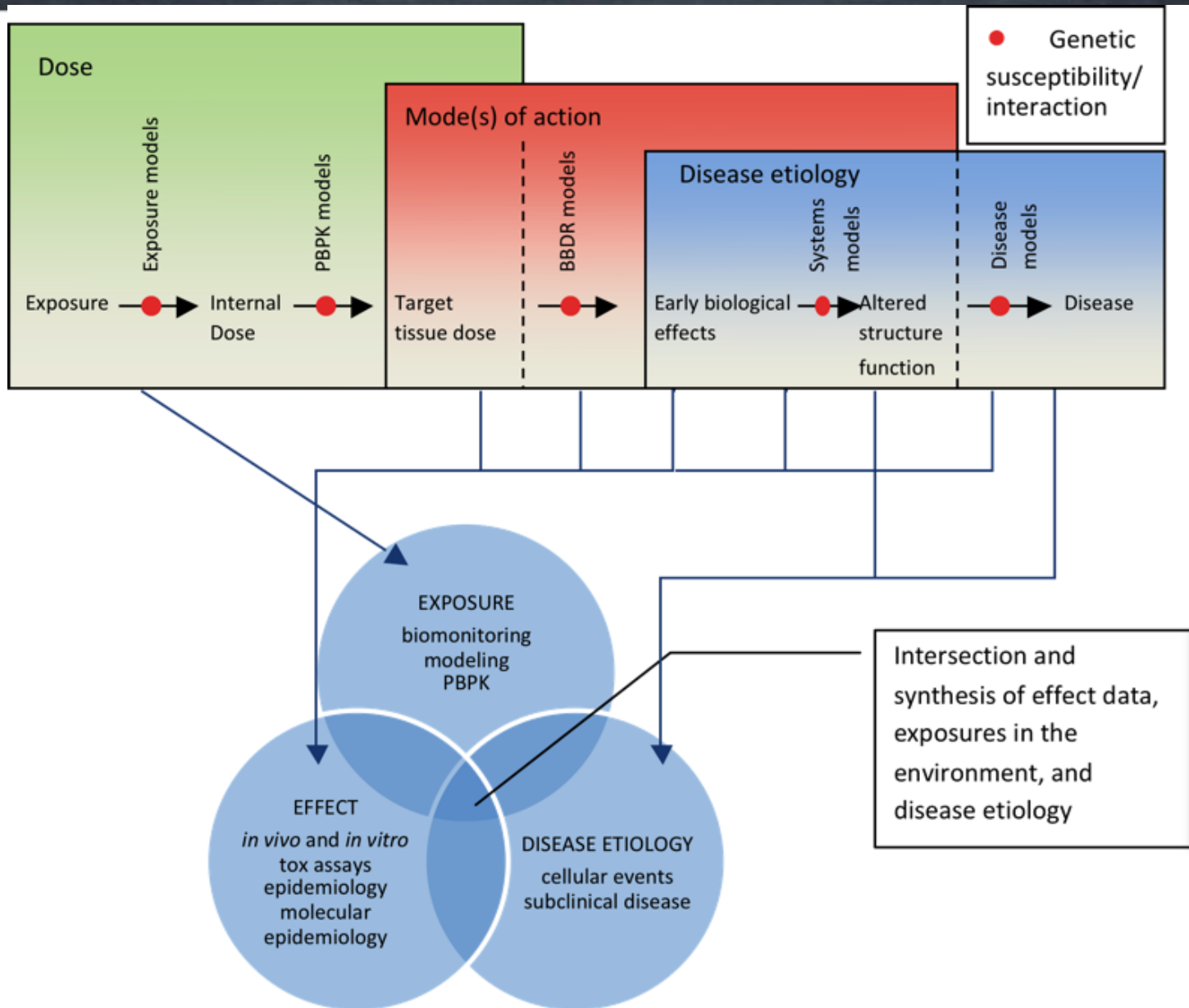


Biogeochemistry of Global Contaminants

Harvard School of Engineering and  
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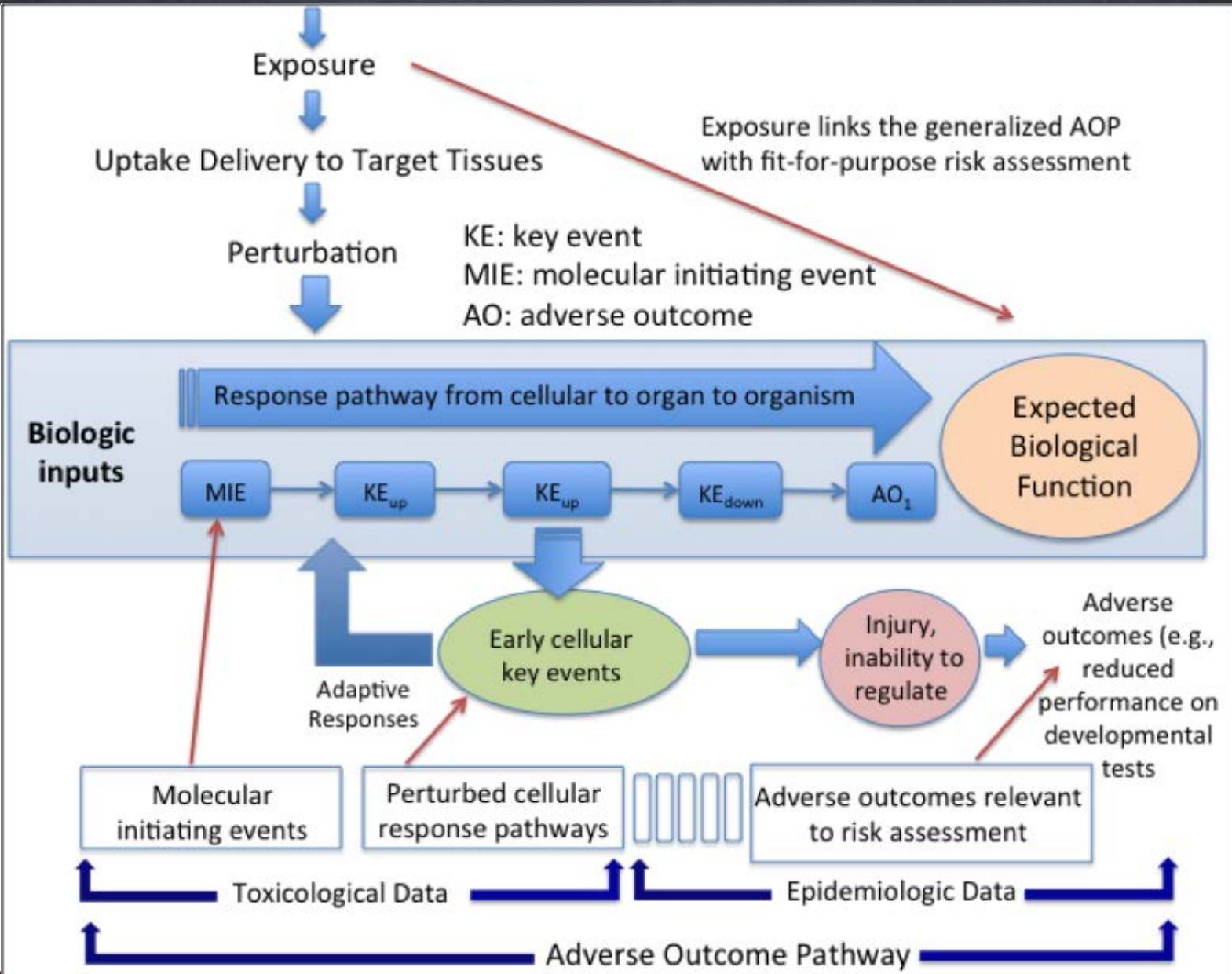
# Synthesizing Evidence from Exposure to Health Outcome







# Adverse Outcome Pathway





## Review Article

### A Systematic Review of Carcinogenic Outcomes and Potential Mechanisms from Exposure to 2,4-D and MCPA in the Environment

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Chlorophenoxy compounds, particularly 2,4-dichlorophenoxyacetic acid (2,4-D) and 4-(MCPA), are amongst the most widely used herbicides in the United States for both agrar. Epidemiologic studies suggest that exposure to 2,4-D and MCPA may be associated with incr (NHL), Hodgkin's disease (HD), leukemia, and soft-tissue sarcoma (STS). Toxicological stu carcinogenicity, and regulatory agencies worldwide consider chlorophenoxyes as not likely to l carcinogenicity. This systematic review assembles the available data to evaluate epidemiolo exposure, and biomonitoring studies with respect to key cellular events noted in diseas hypothesized modes of action for these constituents to determine the plausibility of a environmentally relevant concentrations of 2,4-D and MCPA and lymphohematopoietic can support a genotoxic mode of action. Although plausible hypotheses for other carcinogenic m biomonitoring data to oral equivalent doses calculated from bioassay data shows that environ support a causal relationship. Genetic polymorphisms exist that are known to increase the interaction between these polymorphisms and exposures to chlorophenoxy compounds, pa largely unknown.

Risk Analysis

DOI: 10.1155/rtxa.12425

## Perspective

### Exposure to Mixtures of Metals and Neurodevelopmental Outcomes: A Multidisciplinary Review Using an Adverse Outcome Pathway Framework

Katherine von Stackelberg,<sup>1,2,4</sup> Elizabeth Guzy,<sup>2</sup> Tian Chu,<sup>2</sup> and Birgit Claus Henn<sup>2,3</sup>

Current risk assessment guidance calls for an individual chemical-by-chemical approach that fails to capture potential interactive effects of exposure to environmental mixtures and genetic variability. We conducted a review of the literature on relationships between prenatal and early life exposure to mixtures of lead (Pb), arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), and manganese (Mn) with neurodevelopmental outcomes. We then used an adverse outcome pathway (AOP) framework to integrate lines of evidence from multiple disciplines based on evolving guidance developed by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). Toxicological evidence suggests a greater than additive effect of combined exposures to As-Pb-Cd and to Mn with any other metal, and several epidemiologic studies also suggest synergistic effects from binary combinations of Pb-As, Pb-Cd, and Pb-Mn. The exposure levels reported in these epidemiologic studies largely fall at the high-end (e.g., 95th percentile) of biomonitoring data from the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES), suggesting a small but significant potential for high-end exposures. This review integrates multiple data sources using an AOP framework and provides an initial application of the OECD guidance in the context of potential neurodevelopmental toxicity of several metals, recognizing the evolving nature of regulatory interpretation and acceptance.

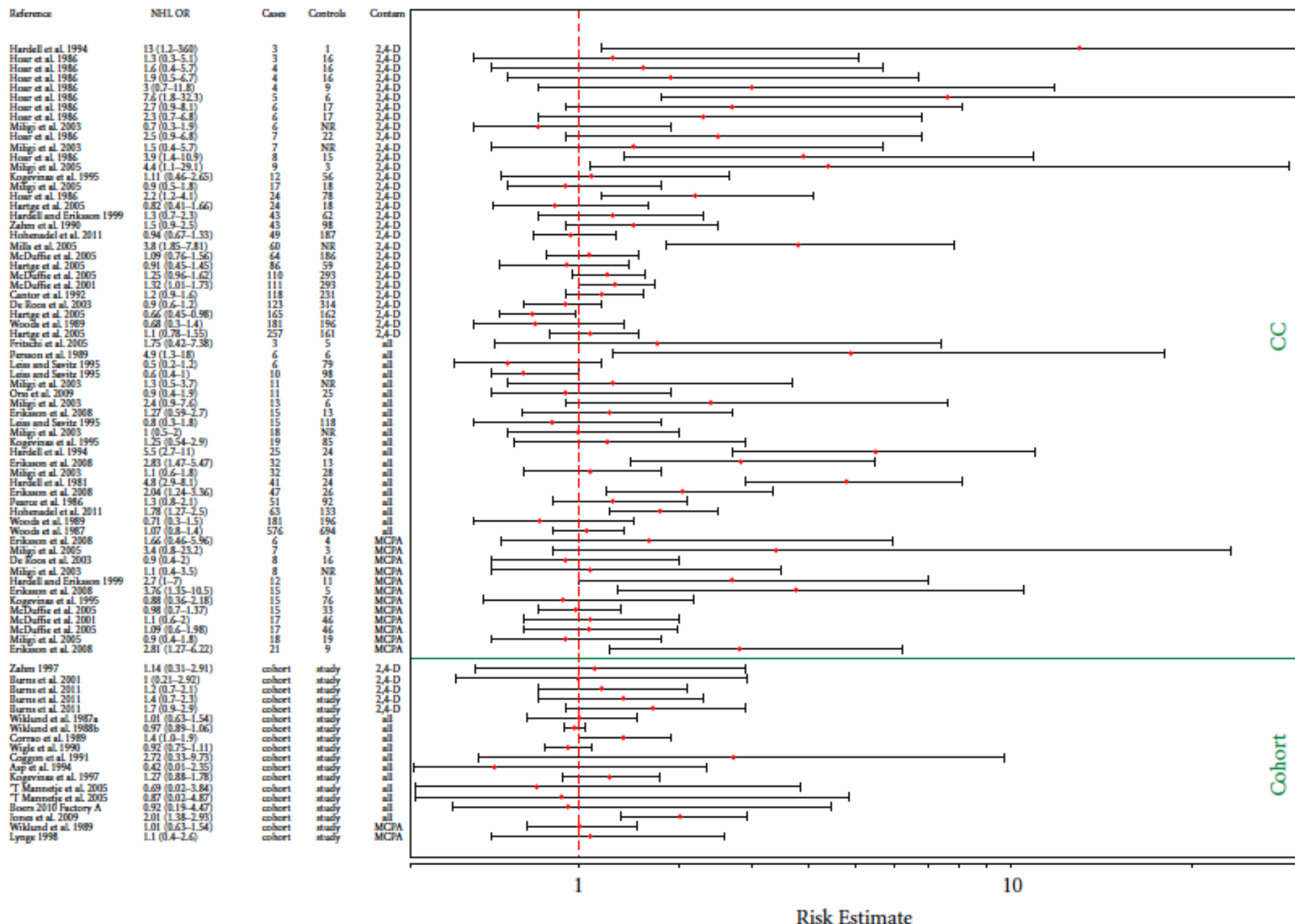
**KEY WORDS:** Adverse outcome pathway; arsenic; cadmium; developmental; lead; manganese; metal mixtures; systematic review



# Regulatory Reviews for 2,4-D and Cancer

TABLE 1: Summary of Reviews of 2,4-D and/or MCPA.

Reference	Evaluation	Conclusions
	Regulatory reviews or reviews in support of regulatory activities	
US EPA, SAB [27]	Science Advisory Board consultation on carcinogenicity of 2,4-D	“Data are not sufficient to conclude that there is a cause and effect relationship between exposure to 2,4-D and non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma”
US EPA [28]	4th carcinogenicity of 2,4-D peer review	Not classifiable as to carcinogenicity
WHO/IARC [29]	Evaluations of carcinogenic risk	Inadequate and/or limited for 2,4-D specifically and chlorophenoxy compounds generally
US EPA [5]	Health Effects Division Carcinogenicity Peer Review Committee (2,4-D)	“Evidence is inadequate and cannot be interpreted as showing either the presence or absence of a carcinogenic effect.”
European Commission [30]	Review report for 2,4-D	Proposed uses have no harmful effects on animal or human health; no evidence of carcinogenicity
US EPA [3, 4]	Risk assessments and reregistration decision for MCPA	Limited evidence for carcinogenicity
US EPA [8]	Risk assessments and reregistration decision for 2,4-D	Group D, not classifiable as to carcinogenicity
Health Canada PMRA [31]	Reregistration decision for 2,4-D	No evidence of carcinogenicity
Health Canada PMRA [32]	Reregistration decision for MCPA	No evidence of carcinogenicity
Health Canada [9]	MCPA in drinking water	Not considered a carcinogen
77FR23135 [33]	Response to NRDC petition to revoke 2,4-D registration	No new evidence that would suggest registration should be revoked



† 5% LCL  
 ‡ 95% UCL  
 ● Estimate

CC

Cohort

Risk Estimate



# Putative AOP – Generalized Schematic of NHL

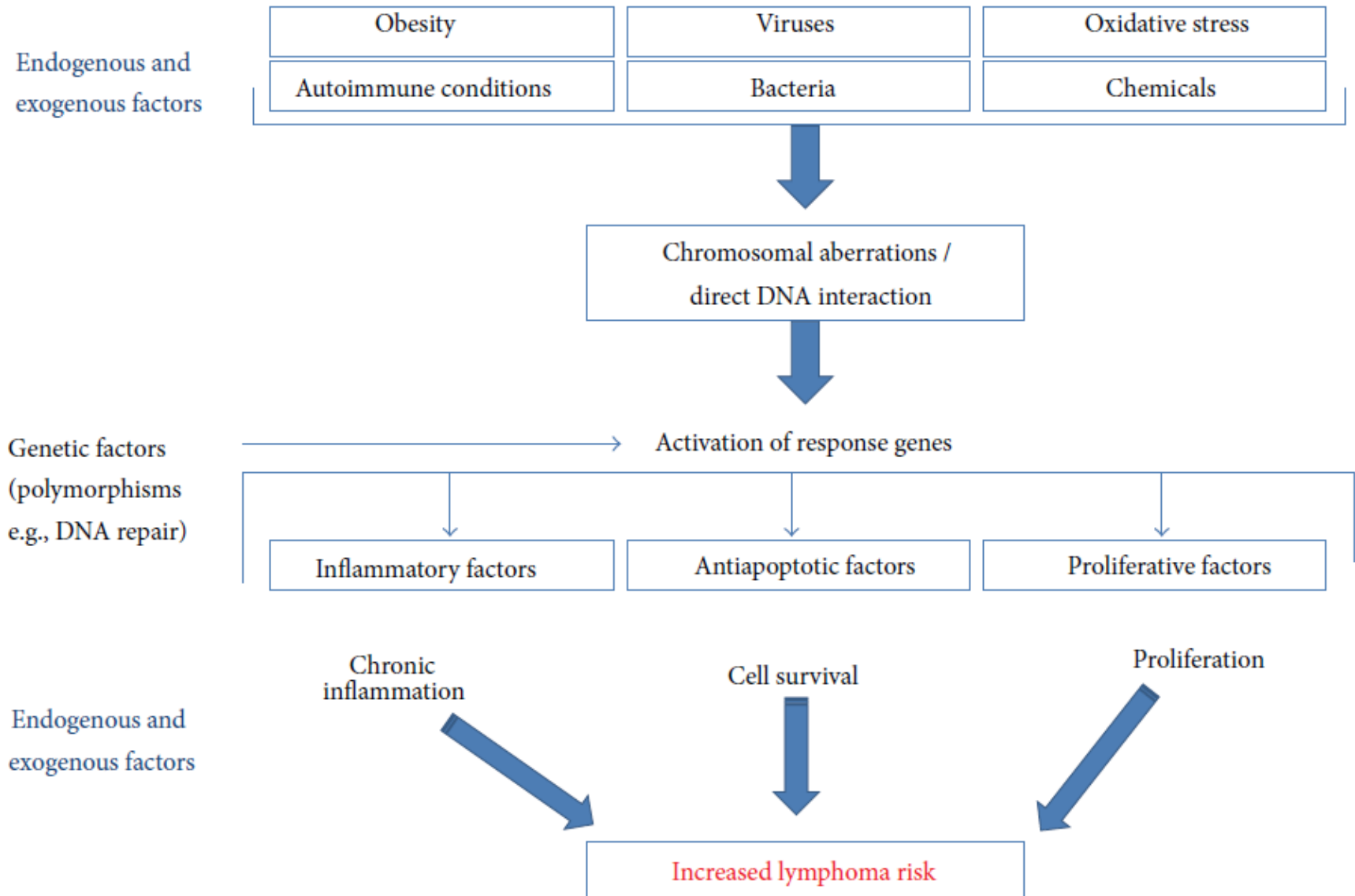


FIGURE 5: Schematic of general pathways leading to increased risk of developing lymphoma.





# Genetic Abnormalities in NHL

Foreign antigen independent

Foreign antigen dependent

Terminal differentiation

B cells	Somatic mutations	Corresponding lymphoma	Genetic abnormalities	Percent of cases
Stem cell	None			
Pro B cell	None			
Pre B cell	None	B-cell lymphoblastic lymphoma (B-LBL)		
Immature B cell	None			
Mature naïve B cell	None	Mantle cell lymphoma	t(11; 14)(q13; q32)	>95%
		Chronic lymphocytic leukemia		
Germinal center	Introduction of somatic mutations	Burkitt lymphoma (BL)	t(8; 14)(q24; q32)	80%
			t(8; 22)(q24; q11)	5%
			t(2; 8)(p11; q24)	15%
		Follicular lymphoma (FL)	t(14; 18)(q32; q21)	90%
			t(2; 18)(p11; q21)	5%
		Lymphocyte-predominant Hodgkin lymphoma	t(18; 22)(q21; q11)	5%
		Diffuse large cell B-cell lymphoma (B-LBL)	der(3)(q27)	35%
t(14; 18)(q32; q21)	30%			
t(3; 14)(p14.1; q32)	Unknown			
t(3; 14)(q27; q32)	35%			
t(8; 14)(q24; q32)	10%			
	t(8; 22)(q24; q11)	5%		
		Hodgkins disease		
Memory B cell	Somatic mutations	Marginal zone B-cell lymphoma; chronic lymphocytic leukemia	t(9; 14)(p13; q32)	50%
Plasma cell	Somatic mutations	Plasmacytoma/myeloma		
		Anaplastic large T-cell lymphoma	t(2; 5)(p23; q35)	60% adults; 85% children

Bone marrow

Peripheral lymphoid tissue



# Molecular Epidemiology for 2,4-D

- Urinary 2,4-D levels not correlated with chromosome aberration frequency (although significant genomic instability)
- Exposure-related effects observed were reversible and temporary (*Source: Garry et al. EHP 2001*)
- t(14;18)-positive NHL cases have larger relative risks from agricultural exposures than t(14;18)-negative cases, but show no association with 2,4-D or chlorophenoxy (*Source: Chiu and Blair J Agromed 2009; Schroeder et al. Epi 2001; Agopian et al. J Exp Med 2009*)
- Significant evidence of genetic polymorphisms that contribute to NHL risk (*Source: Hill et al. Blood 2006; Kelly et al. Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev 2010*)
- t(14;18) occurs frequently in general public (*Source: Bende et al. Leukemia 2007; Janz et al. Genes Chrom Canc 2003*)



# Summary of Toxicological Studies

- 2,4-D and MCPA are capable of interacting with cellular functions
  - Cell proliferation
  - CD38 – MCPA – marker in NHL
  - Mitotic arrest
- Show an impact on immunological parameters in humans exposed *in vivo* but effects are transient and reversible
- Less evidence for direct DNA interaction
  - Equivocal results *in vivo*
  - Some positive *in vitro* but did not come up in ToxCast
- Commercial formulations rather than pure product tend to show positive results
- No evidence for difference in toxicity across salts, acid, ester



# Reverse Dosimetry to Obtain Urinary Concentrations Associated with *in vivo/in vitro* Assays to Compare to Biomonitoring Data

$$\text{Oral Equivalent Dose} = AC_{50} \bullet \frac{1 \text{ mg/kg} - \text{d}}{C_{ss} (\mu\text{M})}$$

*Source: Wetmore et al. Tox Sci 2011*

Predicted concentration in urine at oral equivalent dose in  $\mu\text{g/L}$ :

*Source: Aylward et al. Reg Tox Pharm 2008*

$$C_{urine} = \frac{OED \bullet BW}{V_{24hr}}$$

Compare to biomonitoring data

Use other reference values from bioassays

Evaluate underlying assays with respect to disease etiology



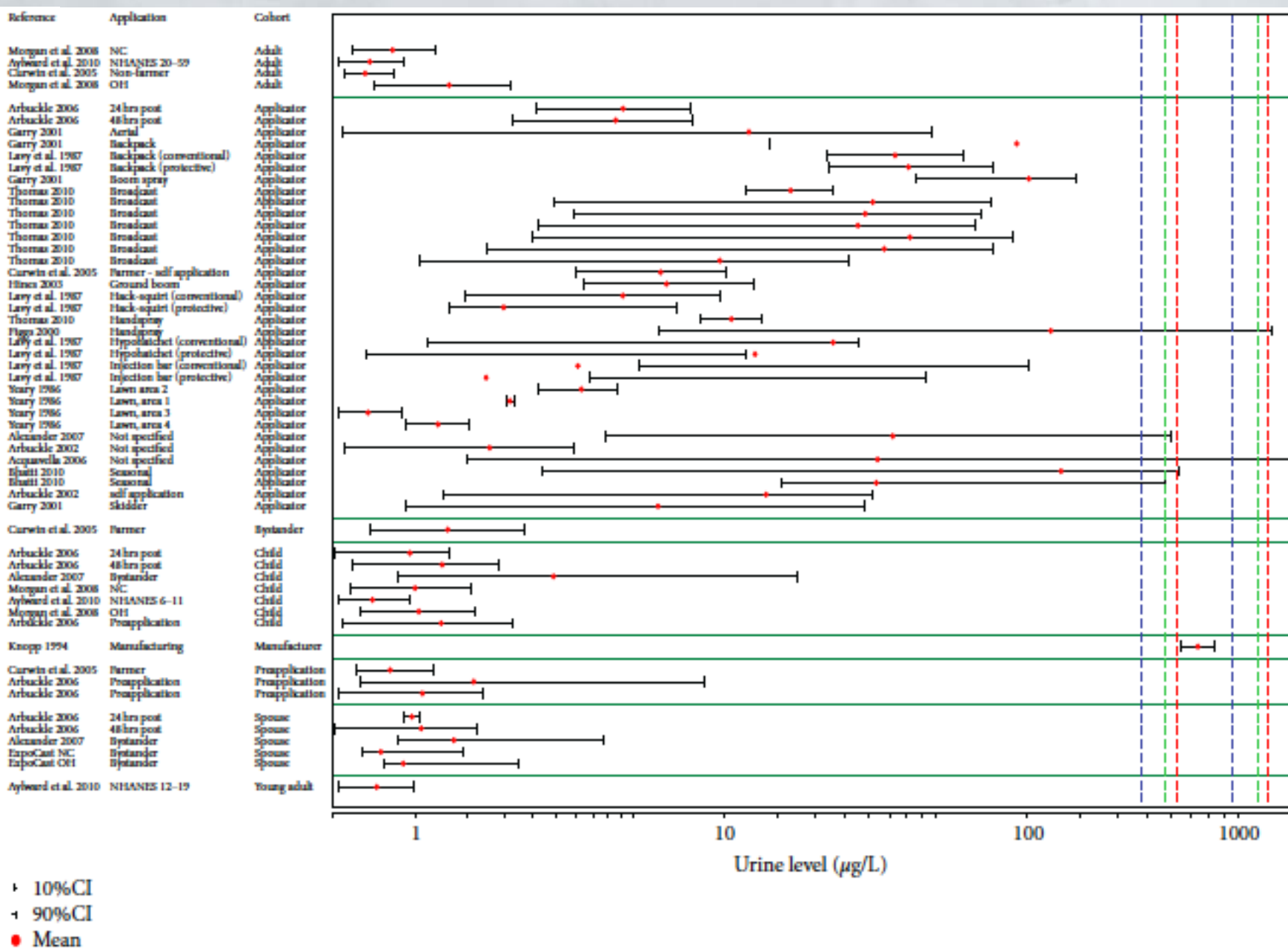


FIGURE 7: Biomonitoring data for 2,4-D in the context of backcalculated urine levels. Reference lines: green = men 575  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (RfD), men 1170  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ToxCast reverse dosimetry). Blue = women 480  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (RfD), women 960  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ToxCast reverse dosimetry). Red = child 630  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (RfD), child 1250  $\mu\text{g/L}$  (ToxCast reverse dosimetry) (see for review [26, 124, 154, 201, 214, 215, 218–227]).



# Exposure to Mixtures of Metals

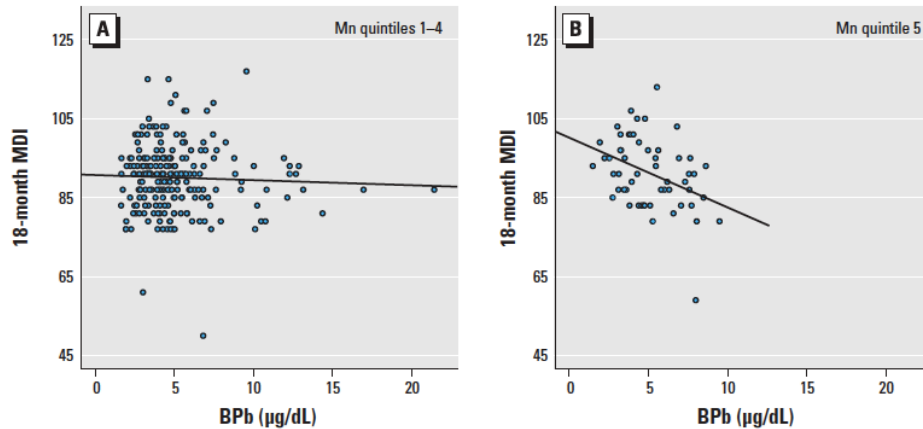


Figure 1. Scatterplots and regression lines of 12-month blood lead (BPb) and 18-month MDI among children with 12-month blood manganese (Mn) in quintiles 1–4 (A) and quintile 5 (B).

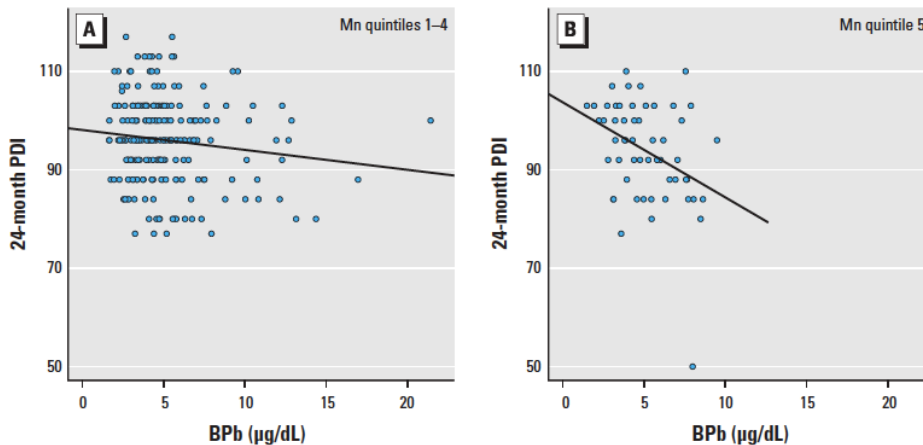


Figure 2. Scatterplots and regression lines of 12-month blood lead (BPb) on 24-month PDI among children with 12-month blood manganese (Mn) in quintiles 1–4 (A) and quintile 5 (B).

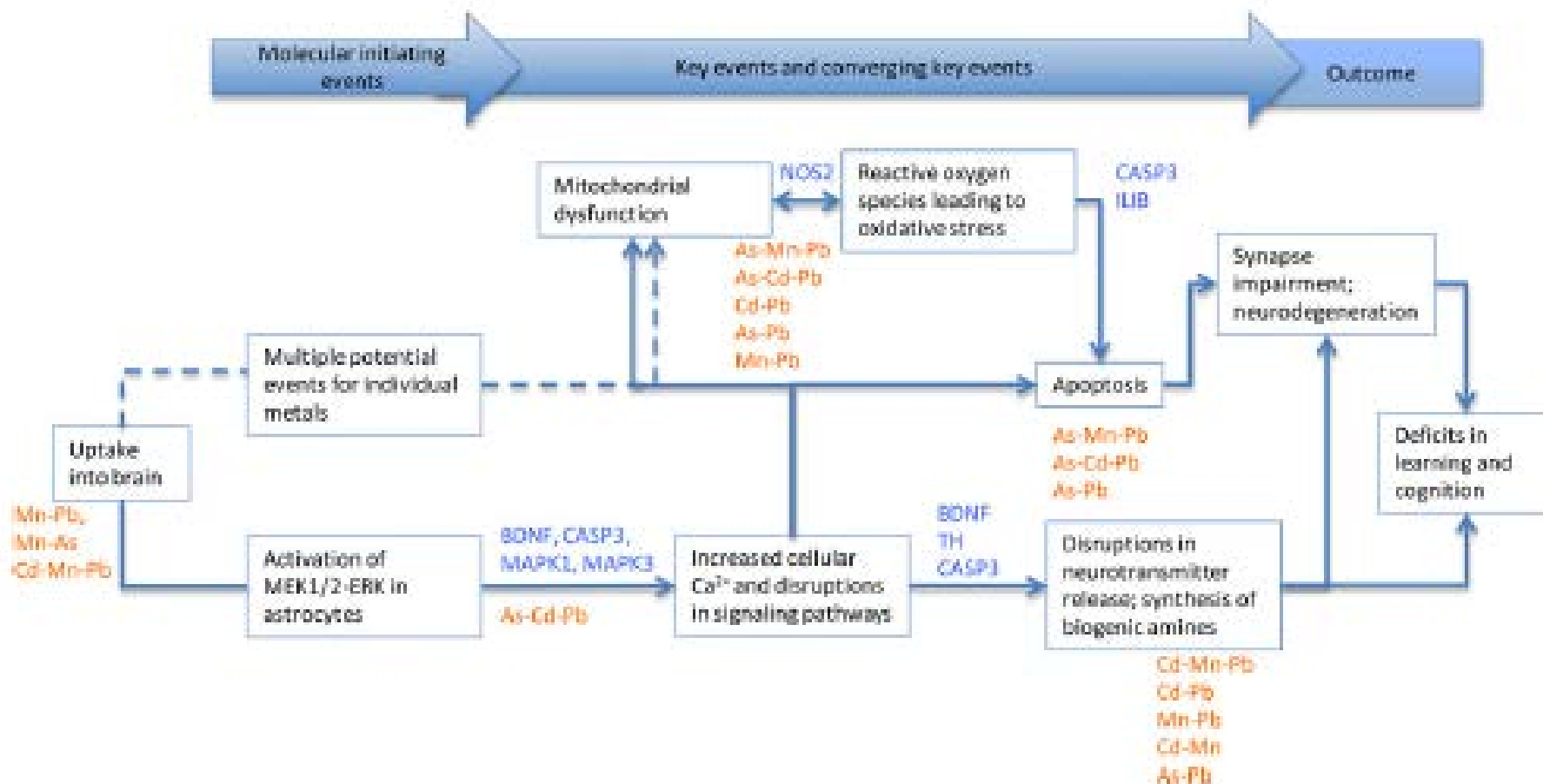
- Superfund Research Program at Harvard
- Mexico city cohort n=493
- Previous study showed U-shaped association between Mn and neurodevelopmental outcomes at 12 mos (*Claus-Henn et al. 2010, Epidemiology, 21(4):433-439*)
- Exposure to both Pb and Mn associated with greater cognitive deficits than to either constituent individually (*Claus-Henn et al. 2012, EHP, 120(1):126-131*)



- Evidence for less or greater than additive effect
  - Independent or additive
  - Antagonistic
  - Synergistic
- Multiple exposures leading to a common but non-specific health outcome
  - Reduced performance on a battery of tests including WISC, Bayley's, etc.
- Frame for the AOP is normal neuronal development and opportunities for perturbations
- May be similar or different mechanisms
- AOPwiki and associated OECD guidance



# Strawman for Greater than Additive Effects





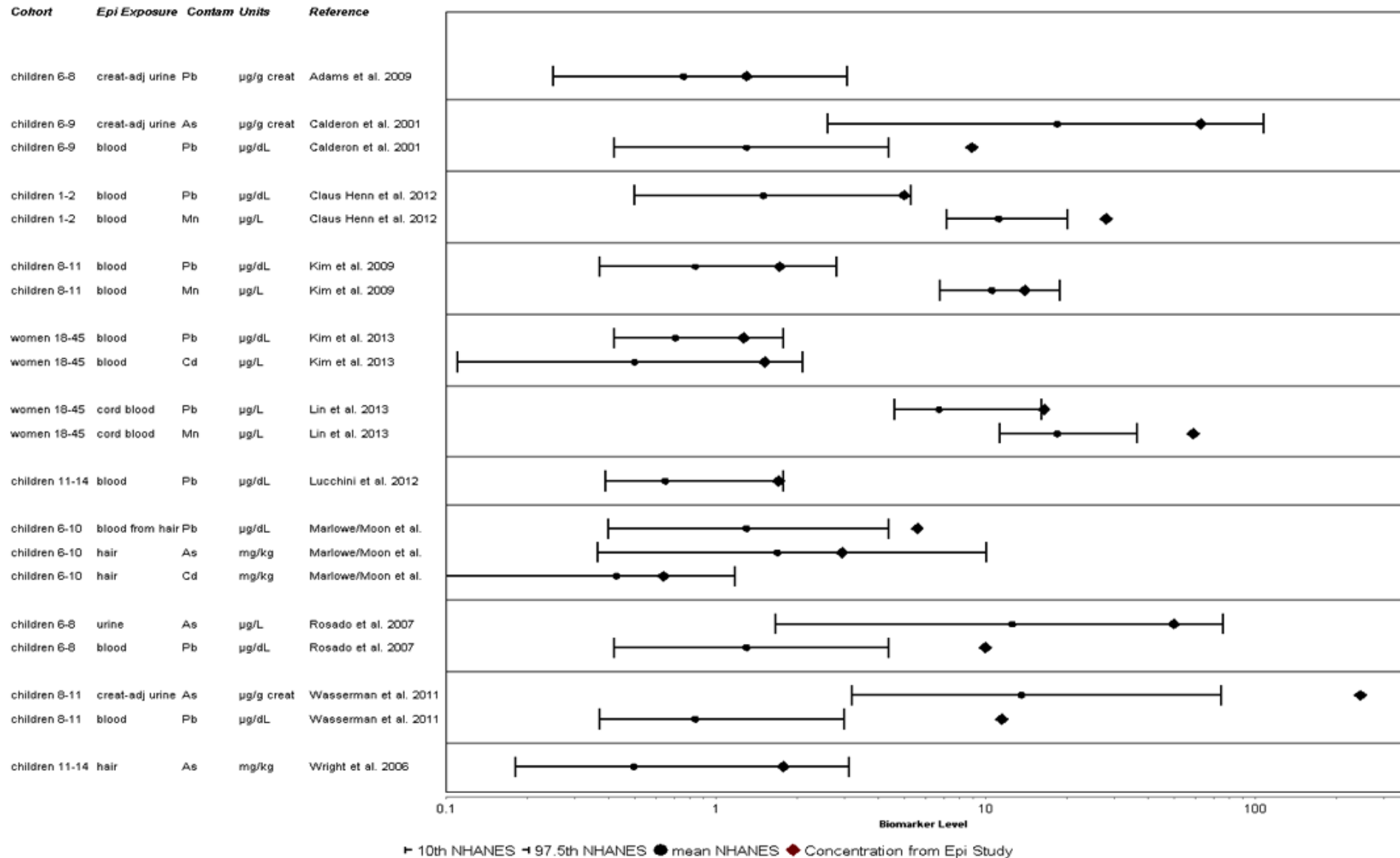


# Biological Plausibility and Essentiality

1. Support for Biological Plausibility		Strong	Moderate
MIE: Activation of MEK1/2, ERK in astrocytes		As-Cd-Pb: 63 As: 121 Cd: 122, 123, 124 Mn: 125-127 Pb: 128	
KE: Increased cellular Ca <sup>2+</sup>		As-Cd-Pb: 60, 63 As: 135, 136, 137 Cd: 92, 123, 124, 138 Mn: 125 Pb: 96, 97	
KE: Reactive organic species and oxidative stress in brain tissue			As-Mn-Pb: 68 As-Cd-Pb: 63, 64 Cd-Pb: 42 As-Pb: 55 As: 121, 123, 135, 136, 137, 139, 140, 141 Cd: 92, 122, 134 Mn: 98, 123, 125, 138, 142 Pb: 97, 143
KE: Apoptosis of astrocytes or neurons		As-Cd-Pb: 60-63 As-Pb: 55 As: 121, 139, 137, 141 Cd: 92, 139, 138, 124 Mn: 153, 125, 126, 152 Pb: 96, 112, 154	
KE2: Disruptions in neurotransmitter release			Cd-Mn-Pb: 33 Cd-Pb: 38, 40, 47 As-Pb: 54 Cd-Mn: 59 Mn-Pb: 50 As: 157, 135, 142 Cd: 123, 124 Mn: 98, 99, 144 Pb: 96, 97, 112, 143, 154
AO: Learning and cognition disorders			As-Pb: 81, 84 reported qualitative interaction, 76-79 reported synergistic Mn-Pb: 14, 87 As-Mn: 15
2. Support for Essentiality of KEs		Strong	Moderate
MIE: Activation of MEK1/2, ERK in astrocytes		117, 119-121	
KE: Increased cellular Ca <sup>2+</sup>		130, 131, 132, 133, 149	
KE: Reactive organic species and oxidative stress in brain tissue		118, 129, 141	
KE: Apoptosis of astrocytes or neurons		113, 152, 158	
KE2: Disruptions in neurotransmitter release		101, 111, 155, 156, 159	
3. Empirical Support for KERs		Strong	Moderate
Key event relationships		Empirical evidence/data is insufficient to develop regulatory values for synergistic effects of metal mixtures.	

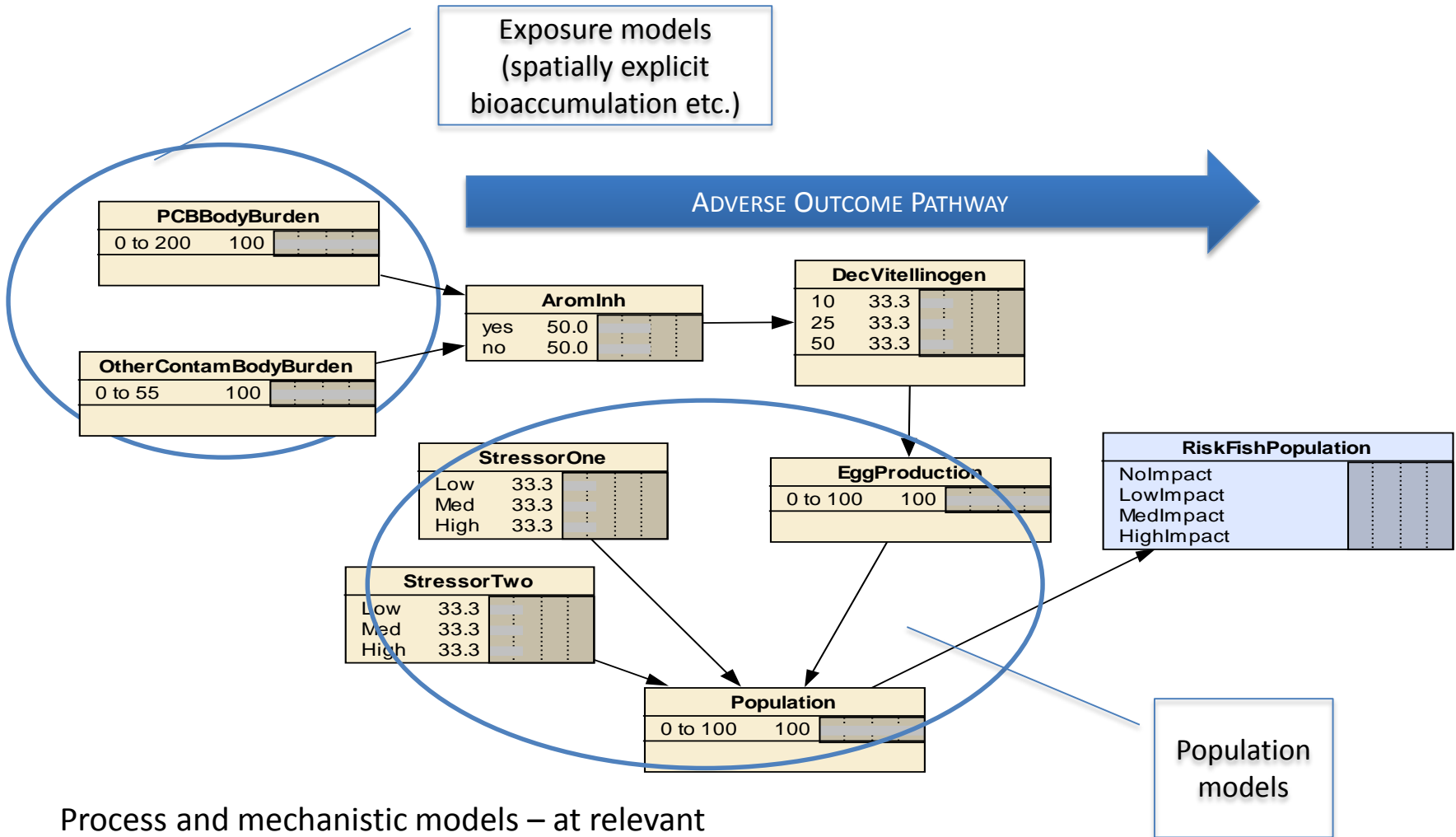


# Comparison of Levels from Epi Studies to Biomonitoring Data





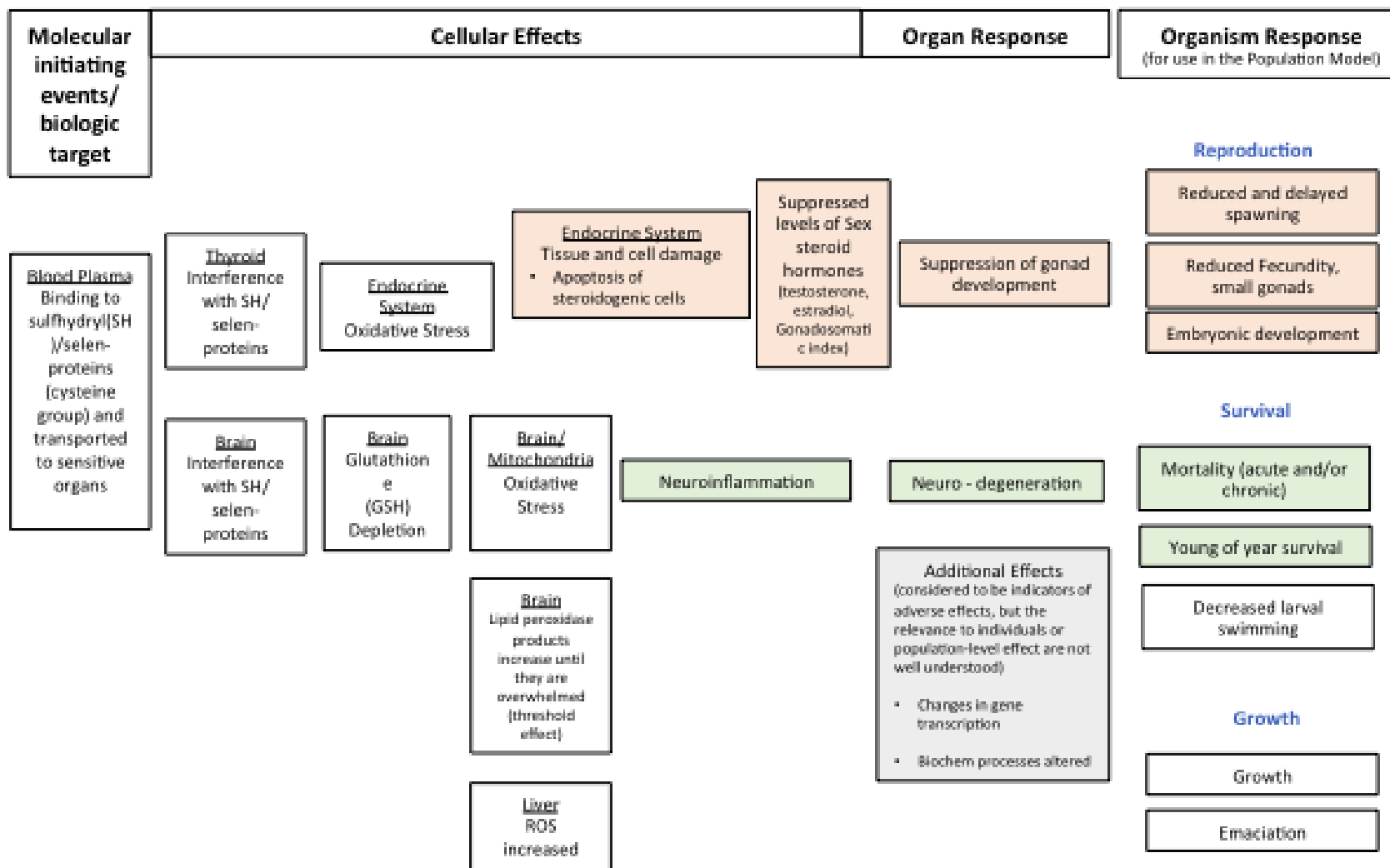
# Moving Towards Quantitative Modeling



Process and mechanistic models – at relevant spatial and temporal scales – can be incorporated at any stage



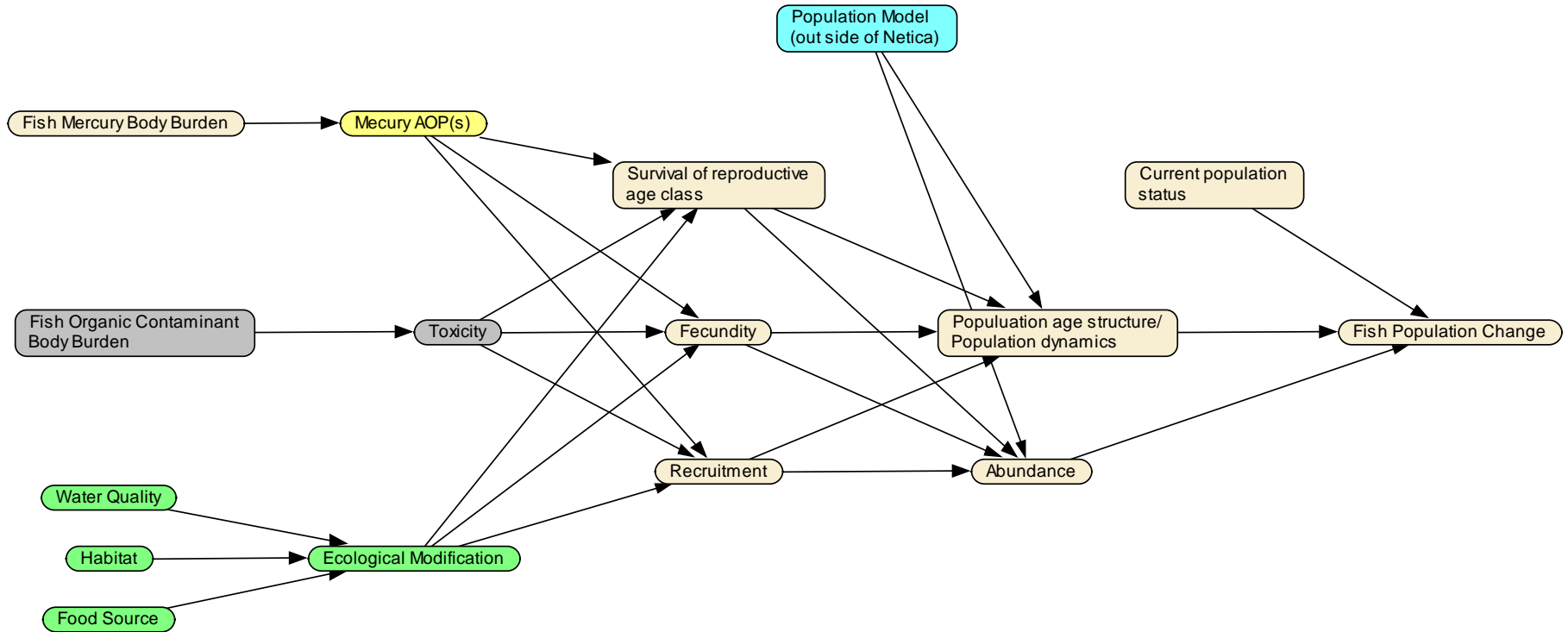
# Putative AOP for Mercury Based on Human Health







# Initial BayesNet – Relative Risk Model





# Conclusions

- AOPs provide a context for data from systematic reviews
- Important that the initial literature review-data extraction follows a structured, transparent approach
  - Toxicological
  - Epidemiologic
  - Exposure and biomonitoring
  - Health outcome etiology
- Institute of Environmental Toxicology at Western Washington University
- Puyallup Research and Extension Service at Washington State University