

**National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)**  
**Comments on the Interagency Science Discussion**  
**Draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) and Related Salts**  
**February 2023**  
(Date Received March 9, 2023)

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EPA authors carefully and thoroughly addressed the public and external peer review comments as detailed in Appendix E.

**Title Page and Table of Contents:**

***Suggested Revisions:***

- Title page: missing opening bracket of CASRN
- TOC: 1.1: Should the x in PFHxA be capped? Or should it be PFH<sub>x</sub>A?

**2. Literature Search and Study Evaluation**

2.1 Literature Search and Screening Results, page 2-1, lines 2, 3, 4, 7, 8, 9: Please doublecheck the number of studies identified from the literature search, title- and abstract-screening and full-text screening. On the lines referenced above, the numbers appear to repeat (e.g., “968968 studies identified”). For the full text screening, the authors state that 52 studies were identified as relevant at full-text screening, but the total number of relevant studies at this level as reported in the text equals 53 (24 human, 23 animal, 1 genotoxicity, 5 PBPK/PK).

***Suggested Revisions:***

- If there is a study that includes more than one evidence stream, please add this detail to the text.
- Page 2-1, line 5: There should be a space inserted between “52” and “studies”.
- Page 2-1, line 10: Remove “n” from “Ann” (“Ann interactive...”).

**3.2.1. Hepatic Effects**

***Suggested Revisions:***

- Page 3-24, line 8: Add a space after “p<0.05” (“...p<0.05 in...”).
- Page 3-38, line 17: Remove the extra “Specifically.”.

**3.2.2. Developmental Effects**

***Suggested Revisions:***

- Page 3-52, line 7: Remove the special character preceding “there was no effect...”.

**3.2.4. Hematopoietic Effects**

Page 3-66, line 4-5: There appears to be an error or redundancy in this statement of the three types of cells measured in a complete blood count: “red blood cells, white blood cells and erythrocytes”. Erythrocytes are mature red blood cells. Do you intend to include: red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets?

**Appendices:**

- **Appendix E**

- ***Suggested Revision:***

- Page 2-7, line 29: Consider rewording sentence beginning with “The reviewer” to “The reviewer may have been referring to time points beyond 52 weeks of age that were not considered ~~based on~~ as quantitative measures of hematology measures beyond 52 weeks may be complicated by...”.
    - Page E-7, line 33: Extra text should be removed: “;assessment sup to”.