

State of the science of endocrine disrupting chemicals 2012: an assessment of the state of the science of endocrine disruptors prepared by a group of experts.

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State of the science of endocrine disrupting chemicals 2012: an assessment of the state of the science of endocrine disruptors prepared by a group of experts for the United Nations Environment Programme and World Health Organization.

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Abstract : This technical document is an update of the scientific knowledge and main conclusions and key concerns, on endocrine disruptors as part of the collaboration between the World Health Organization and the United Nations Environment Programme to address concerns about the potential adverse health effects on humans and wildlife. This document provides the global status of scientific knowledge on exposure to and effects of endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs). It explains in the first chapter, what endocrine disruption is all about, and then it discusses in subsequent sections in the second chapter, endocrine disrupting effects in humans and wildlife. The work is based on the fact that endocrine systems are very similar across vertebrate species and that endocrine effects manifest themselves independently of species. Effects shown in wildlife or experimental animals may also occur in humans if they are exposed to EDCs at a vulnerable time and at concentrations leading to alterations of endocrine system regulation. Of special concern are effects on early development of both humans and wildlife, as these effects are often irreversible and may not become evident until later in life. The third and final chapter of this document discusses exposure of humans and wildlife to EDCs and potential EDCs.

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