PFAS in Products
State Board of Health, Nov. 13, 2024

Holly Davies, PhD
Office of Environmental Public Health Sciences
Division of Environmental Public Health

Why do toxics in products matter?

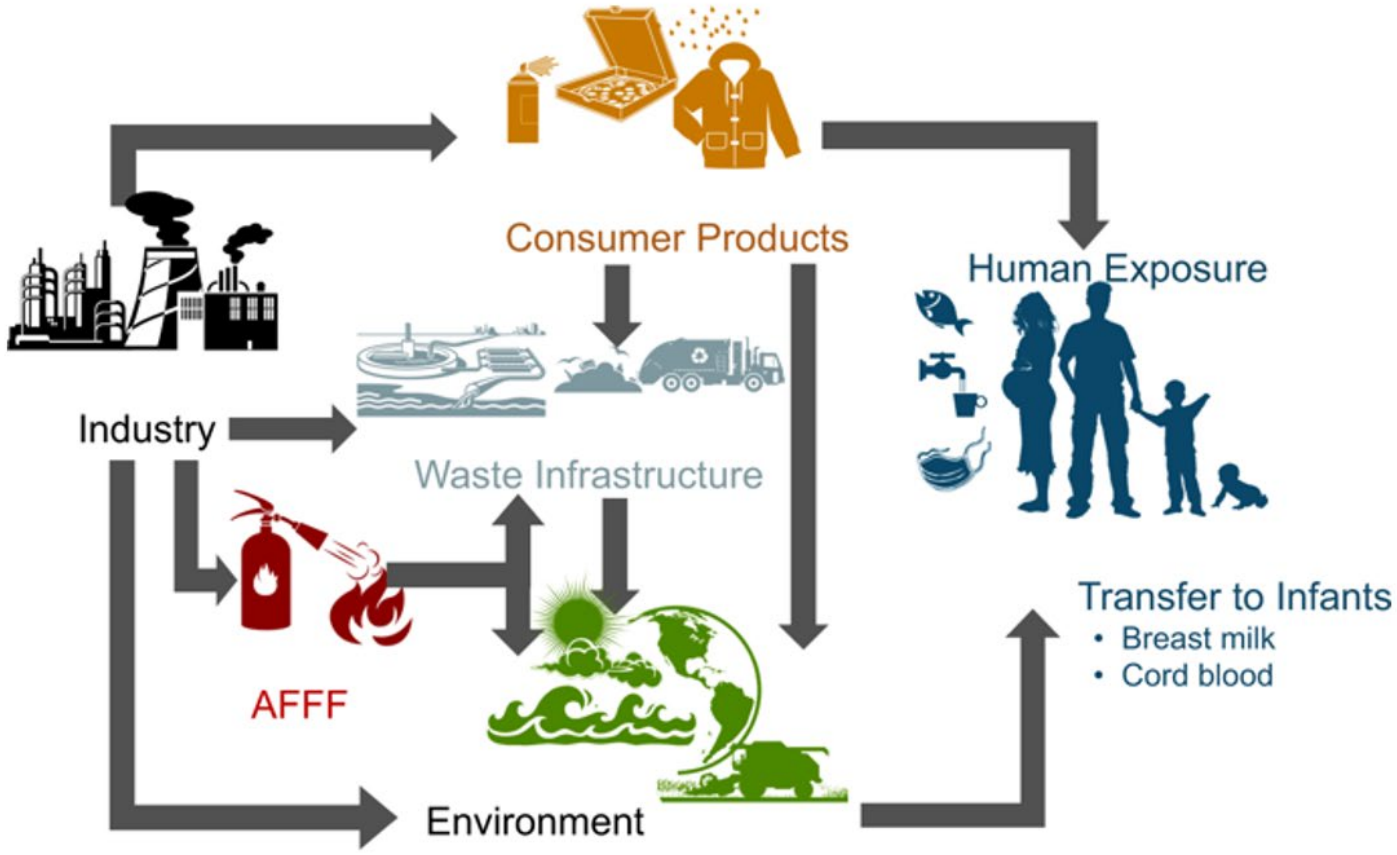
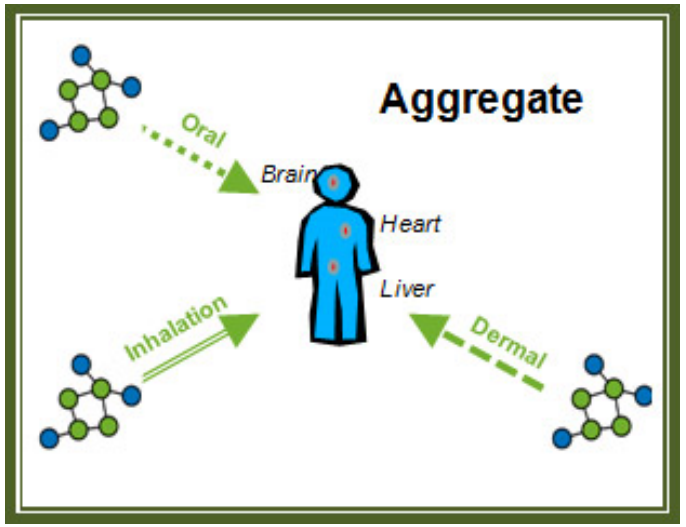
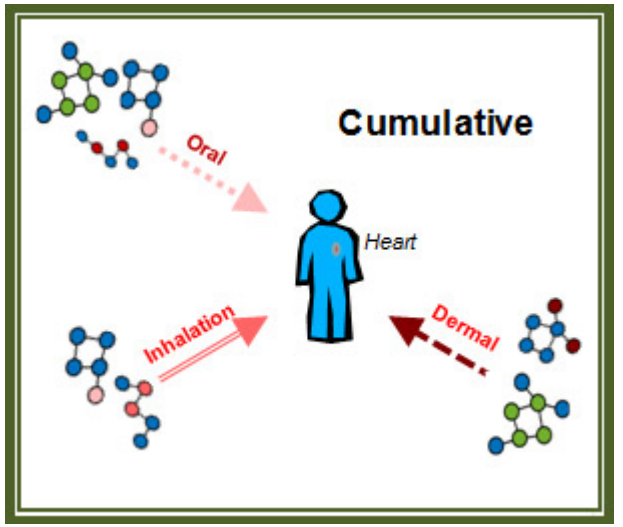


Figure 1 from Sunderland et al. (2019) *Journal of Exposure Science & Environmental Epidemiology 29*(2). doi:10.1038/s41370-018-0094-1

Protecting Human Health

- Prevention
- Safer Alternatives
- Class approach
  - Data gaps
- Aggregate and cumulative exposures
  - Non-chemical stressors
- Disproportionate exposures





Figures from EPA

Community Concerns and Exposures

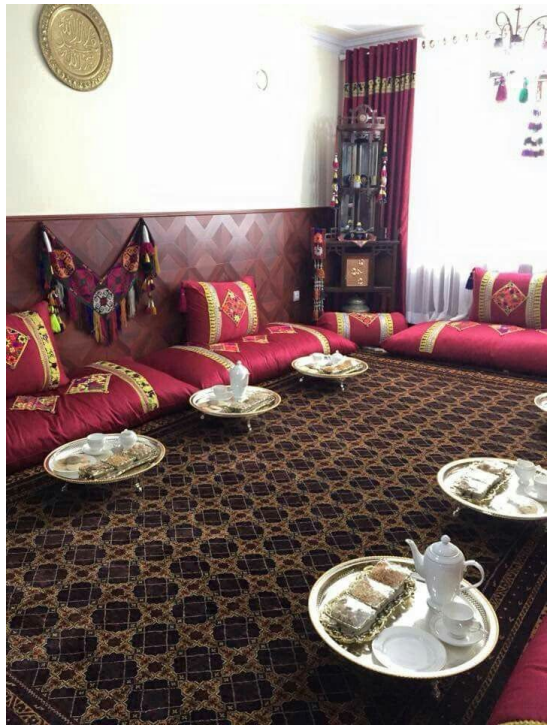
Afghan Health Initiative
Promoting Health through Lived Experience

Toxic-Free FUTURE

- Afghan Health Initiative PFAS Survey
  - Use of sprays at home for water and stain proofing
- Most respondents use these treatments
- More frequent use than we expected
- Respondents appreciated the information

Frequency of use	% respndents
Once	5
Once a year	2
Once every 6 months	30
Once every 3 months	20
Once a month	18
Once a week	25

63%



AHI

Environmental contamination risk-based regulations

- Goal: Set a risk-based limit
- Need: Concentrations of chemicals in environmental media
  - Must be measured
  - Concentration matters
  - Expect variability within a location
- **Question: How much of this chemical is safe?**

Consumer product hazard-based regulations

- Goal: Avoid the chemical in the first place
- Need: Information about chemicals used in products
  - Can be measured or reported
  - Concentration matters less, binary data can be useful
  - Don't expect much variability within a product component
- **Question: Can we avoid using this chemical in the first place?**

PFAS Detection Method Development with Partners

- 2024 legislative budget proviso to UW for one-year project to develop a mobile, non-destructive screening method (XRF)
- Will allow agencies and communities to understand which products are likely to have PFAS, allowing them to reduce exposure
- Compare with established methods
  - PIGE for total fluorine at Notre Dame University
  - Analytical testing by Eurofins
- Select products with input from other organizations
  - Regulations
  - Previous studies
  - Vulnerable populations- children
  - Type of product best suited for XRF

Public Health
Seattle & King County

Hazardous Waste Management Program
GOVERNMENTS WORKING TOGETHER FOR A HEALTHIER AND CLEANER KING COUNTY

ENVIRONMENTAL & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH SCIENCES
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Questions?

Washington State Department of HEALTH

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