
Appendix B - Rationale for focus evaluation of exposure on children

Consistent with the 2009 evaluation of exposure, the current study focuses on children for four main reasons. As outlined in the 2009 HHRA, children are generally more sensitive to exposure to chemicals of concern (COCs) than adults. As well, children eat more food, drink more water, and breathe more air relative to their size than adults, and therefore may be exposed to relatively higher amounts of COCs in the environment. Additionally, children's normal activities and behaviors such as putting their hands in their mouth or playing on the ground create additional opportunities for exposures to COCs that most adults do not encounter. Finally, COCs may affect children more because their immune defenses are not fully developed, and their growing organs may be harmed more easily.