



SETAC-Australasia Workshop on

Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in the Environment:
What are the Research Priorities in Australia and New Zealand?



Auditorium | Plant Research Centre | Waite Campus | Adelaide

5th October 2011



National Research
FLAGSHIPS
Water for a Healthy Country



BACKGROUND

Over the past 10-15 years, a significant amount of work has been invested by the scientific, regulatory and business communities into occurrence, effects and risks of pharmaceuticals and personal care products (PPCPs) in the environment. Numerous studies in Australia and overseas have found appreciable residues of PPCPs in freshwater and marine environments, even in treated drinking waters. A number of detrimental effects of PPCPs have been reported, including effects of the contraceptive hormone 17 α -ethinylestradiol on gender distribution in fish populations, and the catastrophic decline of vulture populations caused by the painkiller diclofenac.

In order to identify, the key research questions regarding the effects and risks of PPCPs in the environment, the Pharmaceutical Advisory Group of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry recently ran a Global 20 Question Exercise. In the first phase of the exercise, questions were solicited from the academic, government and business communities around the globe. In second phase of the exercise, selected questions were discussed at a 2 d workshop involving academics, governmental/regulatory organisations and the business sector from N. America, Europe, Asia and Latin America and a top 20 list was developed. The final top 20 questions fell into a number of categories, namely questions around: 1) prioritisation of PPCPs; 2) routes of exposure; 3) bioavailability and uptake; 4) effects assessment; 5) risk; 6) antibiotic resistance; and 7) risk management.

This one-day Workshop will bring together representatives from academia, government and the business sector to discuss the outputs of the SETAC exercise from an Australia/New Zealand perspective. The Workshop will begin with a series of presentations on ongoing research on PPCPs in Australia, New Zealand and the UK. The conclusions from the SETAC exercise will then be presented and attendees will work in small groups to 1) discuss the SETAC top 20 questions; 2) identify issues that may have been missed that are important to the Australia/New Zealand situation; and 3) discuss priorities for future research and policy developments.

AIMS

The aims of the workshop are to:

- bring together regulators, researchers, natural resource managers and policy makers from Australasia who have an interest in the area of PPCPs in the environment
- share and discuss latest research and policy developments on PPCPs in the environment.
- disseminate the conclusions from the SETAC prioritisation exercise; and
- identify priority questions for researchers, policy makers and the business sector in Australia and New Zealand.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The workshop would bring together researchers, environmental engineers, resource managers, regulators, policy makers and academia from Australasia.

KEY SPEAKERS

- Dr Alistair Boxall | University of York, UK
- Dr Rai Kookana | CSIRO, Australia
- Dr Stuart Khan | University of NSW
- Dr Grant Northcott | Plant & Food Research Limited
- Water Industry Representative | Dr David Halliwell - Water Quality Research Australia Limited.

VENUE



The workshop will be held at the Plant Research Centre (PRC), Waite Campus, Adelaide.

Note - parking is available at Mulyungerie car park Waite Campus

Science Contact
Dr Rai Kookana rai.kookana@csiro.au

General Contact
Ms Jane Dewar jane.dewar@csiro.au

