

Research to Risk Assessment Interagency Working Group

DRAFT NOTES: Winter Conference Call, February 01, 2012

Participants:

NIEHS

Beth Anderson

Danielle Carlin

Michael DeVito

Heather Henry

ATSDR

Deborah Burgin

Tonia Burk

Steve Jones

MDB, Inc.

Elmer Akin

Maureen Avakian

Mike Callahan

Larry Reed

EPA

Michael Adam

Xabier Arzuaga

Roseanne Lorenzana

Mark Maddaloni

Bob Shewack

Larry Zaragoza

Beth Anderson welcomed participants and thanked them for their continued interest and support of the R2RA initiative. She opened the floor for comments, questions, and nominations of ideas for additional pilot projects.

- Mark Maddaloni suggested that data/discussion of the efficacy of amendments to sequester metals (decrease bioavailability) in soils would be of great interest.

Mark Maddaloni summarized progress to date on the Airborne PCBs Pilot Study:

- Following Maddaloni's comments about the issue in NYU schools, a conference call was conducted on 10/28/2011 with R2RA members from EPA and ATSDR and researchers from the [SRP Center](#) at the University of Iowa. Two areas of mutual interest were identified: source attribution/F&T and the need for an inhalation reference dose.
- At the invitation of the U Iowa Center, Maddaloni visited the university on 12/01/2011. Following presentations and conversations, Peter Thorne suggested that he could conduct studies to provide data to reduce the uncertainty factor.
- On a 12/20/2011 conference call, Mark Maddaloni and Vince Cogliano (IRIS) spoke to discuss EPA interest, priorities, and study design.
- On a 01/31/2012 conference call, Mark Maddaloni, Geniece Lehmann (IRIS Chemical Manager for PCBs), and Larry Robertson (U Iowa SRP Center Director) discussed study design concepts ranging from human epi studies to rat studies (larger sample size, longer study duration, more exposure levels). They agreed to schedule another call in late February.

Larry Reed provided a brief summary of the Soil Vapor Intrusion Pilot Study:

- At the SRP Annual Meeting, Kathleen Raffaele met with Kelly Pennell and Eric Suuberg, both researchers with the SRP Center at [Brown University](#).
- On a December 7, 2011 conference call, Suuberg and Pennell discussed their research with R2RA members from EPA and ATSDR. Shared interests included Brown's interest in obtaining real-world data to continue to improve the model for use in site characterization and risk assessments, and in contributing to EPA guidance documents were discussed.
- Tonia Burk (ATSDR) commented that she has since included Kelly on peer review panel for site data.
- Kathleen Raffaele commented that Helen Dawson is aware of the work being conducted at Brown and is very interested in working with the researchers.
- Mike Adam commented that he may be able to provide data sets.

Elmer Akin summarized the work to begin the BRIDGES/Bioavailability Pilot Study:

- Kim Anderson at the Oregon State University SRP Center at to present her [BRIDGES](#) has provided data from her samplers for 4 Superfund sites. She is working to expand the list of compounds detected and is very interested in expanding its use beyond Region 10 and to have the method accepted for wide use at hazardous waste sites.
- The SRP Center at Oregon State University hosted a seminar work to Oregon environmental and public health officials. R2RA working group members were invited to attend.
- Kim Anderson recently presented a webinar to EPA, focusing on the analytical chemistry aspects of the tool.
- Raffaele and Maddaloni both expressed interest in the sampler.

Roseanne Lorenzana commented on her efforts to engage SRP-funded researchers at Columbia University in the EPA Regional Applied Research Efforts (RARE) program. She would like to have them participate in work to investigate how inorganic arsenic is getting into eastern soft shell clams, an important tribal food source. This may involve an exchange of information or a potential research collaboration.

Bob Shewack described a tool that the Community Engagement branch is piloting to identify technical needs of communities affected by NPL sites. He will share the results with SRP, with hopes that the Research Translation and/or Community Engagement Cores might identify opportunities for collaboration.

Beth Anderson reminded the group about the concept of conducting webinars for Mutual Learning, suggesting that information about the processes and data needs for risk assessment and health assessments would be of great interest to SRP grantees.

Steve Jones agreed to identify an ATSDR representative to discuss health assessments.

Xabier Arzuaga led a discussion about importance of mode of action versus downstream health effects for risk assessment.