



ENVIRONMENTAL RISK & PFAS LITIGATION CONFERENCE

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Update on PFAS Epidemiology and Health Effects



Allison Stock, Ph.D., MPH, MS

J.S. Held
Vice President - Chief Scientist,
Environmental, Health & Safety
New Orleans, LA



Max Swetman, Esq.

MG+M The Law Firm
New Orleans, LA

Drivers for Current Research



- C8 Study
 - Large population-based study in Mid-Ohio Valley
 - ~69,000 participants followed between 2005-2013
 - Allowed for estimation of cumulative exposure through dose reconstruction
 - Probable Link Outcomes: high cholesterol, ulcerative colitis, thyroid disease, kidney cancer, testicular cancer, and pregnancy induced hypertension.
- US Airforce Study (ongoing)
 - Testicular and kidney cancers

Drivers Continued



- PREDICTS Study (2023) (case control)
 - Increased risk of ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease up to 10 years prior to diagnosis among those with the highest serum concentrations
- NHANES 2003-2018 Cross Sectional
 - Changes in lipid metabolism

Google Scholar



- “Epidemiology Studies PFAS”
- TOTAL Studies: 27000 results with 1200 discreet studies

"PFAS"[All Fields] AND ("epidemiologic studies"[MeSH Terms] OR ("epidemiologic"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "epidemiologic studies"[All Fields] OR ("epidemiological"[All Fields] AND "studies"[All Fields]) OR "epidemiological studies"[All Fields] or “epidemiology PFAS”)

- TOTAL Studies: 1,285

Overview of PFAS Literature



- In the past year, there have been approximately 3,100 publications on PFAS
- Of those, approximately 10% include epidemiological data.
- The most common topics in the published literature this year include pregnancy, prenatal, and post-partum.

3,100 publications on PFAS



~ 10% epidemiological data



Mostly related to pregnancy, prenatal, and post partum

Epidemiological PFAS Literature Over The Past Year



Category	Approx. number of studies	Percent of total
Prenatal / perinatal / early-life outcomes	~157	47%
Cancer outcomes	~34	10%
Non-cancer outcomes (adults or general populations)	~147	43%
Total	338	100%

Studies Most Likely To Move The Needle



EPIDEMIOLOGICAL RESEARCH DESIGN



New population + New Data

**Previously published population
+ New Data**

**Previously published population
+ Prior Data**

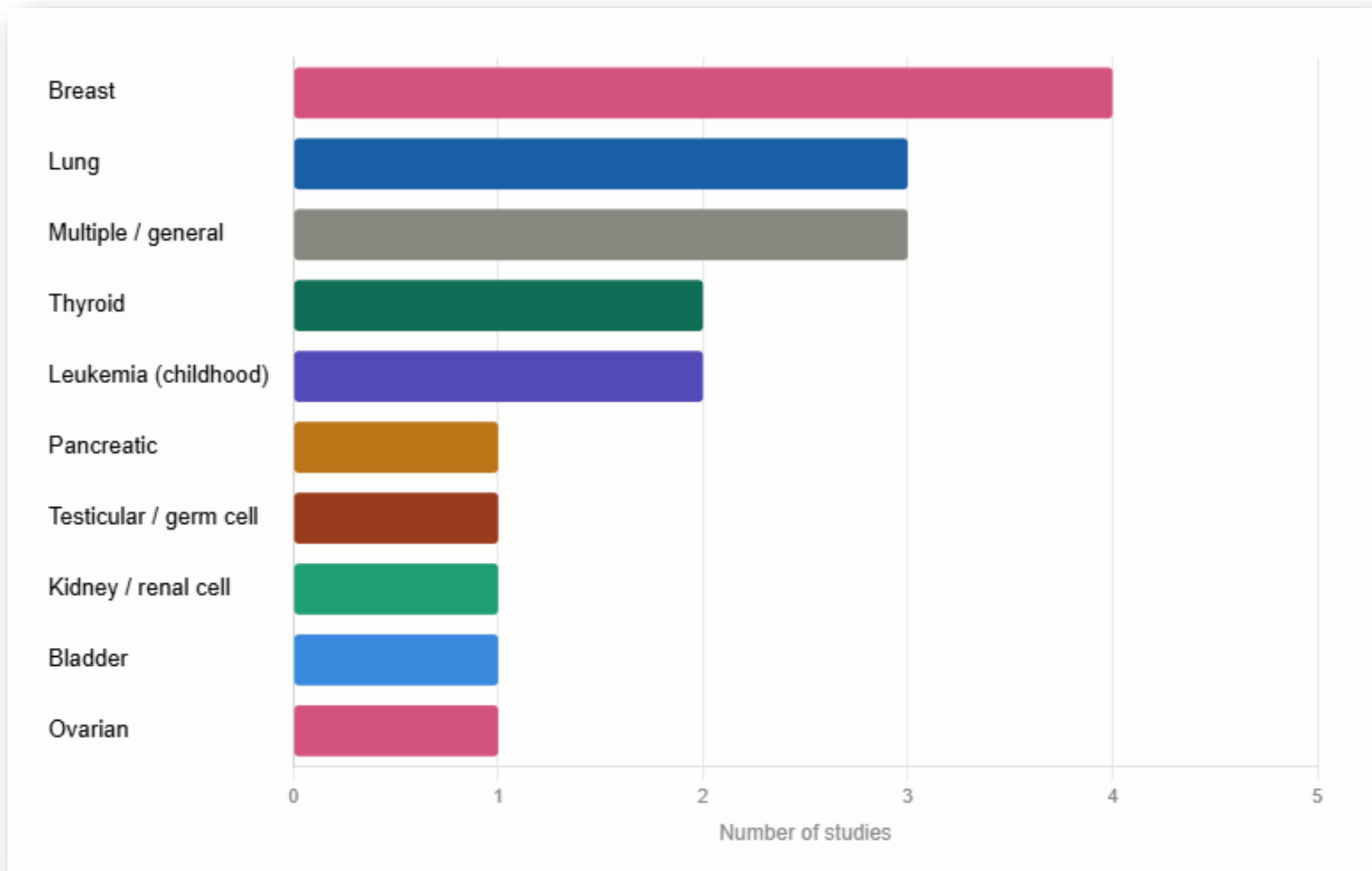
Pregnancy, Prenatal, Post-Partum Data



Outcome category	n	%
Neurodevelopment / behavior	18	17%
Pubertal / endocrine	16	15%
Respiratory / immune	7	7%
Birth outcomes (size, miscarriage, preterm, malformations)	16	15%
Other outcomes	50	47%



Cancer Endpoints



BREAST (4 studies)

- 1** **A case-control study of the association between per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and risk of postmenopausal breast cancer in the Danish diet cancer and health cohort**
Tina Kold Jensen, Ulla A Hvidtfeldt, Anne Tjønneland, Erich Batzella, Flemming Nielsen, Ole Raaschou-Nielsen
- 2** **PFAS and adipokines: Decoding their roles in the risk of breast nodules and breast cancer**
Mengya Xu, Xinyu Zhu, Yangyang Liu, Xuezhen Liu, Wanlu Liu, Baihao Lin, Yuyu Zheng, Kang Liu, Yue Feng, Nada Alhazmi
- 3** **PFAS is associated with perineural invasion in triple-negative breast cancer with a potential role for Cathepsin D dysregulation: a multi-omics and experimental study**
Shuran Chen, Rongsheng Su, Zhenglang Yin, Haohao Chen, Yanyan Liu, Angqing Li
- 4** **Integrated network toxicology and bioinformatics reveal PFAS-driven prognostic biomarkers and molecular mechanisms in breast cancer: insights from transcriptome analysis and molecular docking**
Yingqiang Fu, Yiyang Liu, Ziqi Sui

LUNG (3 studies)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 5 | <p>Association of blood levels of forever plastics with lung cancer mortality among ever smokers in the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian (PLCO) cohort study</p> <p><i>Ehsan Irajizad, Johannes F Fahrman, Ranran Wu, Hamid Rudsari, Jennifer B Dennison, Edwin Ostrin, Jaffer Ajani, Samir Hanash</i></p> |
| 6 | <p>Integrating machine learning and metabolomics to identify PFAS-associated metabolic alterations related to lung cancer risk</p> <p><i>Jianli Qu, Xinguo Zhang, Qianxun Jin, Yasheng Guo, Haomiao Yu, Guoyin Zhan, Weili Mao, Sicheng Xiang, Meirong Zhao</i></p> |
| 7 | <p>Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances in lung tissues and their association with lung cancer</p> <p><i>Xi-Ze Min, Li Ma, Fei Chen, Ying-Hua Hu, Chao Jiang, Yi-Fan Li, Yue Han, Zi-Feng Zhang, Kurunthachalam Kannan</i></p> |

MULTIPLE / GENERAL (3 studies)

8 Association of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances with Pan-Cancers Associated with Sex Hormones

Elizabeth Olarewaju, Emmanuel Obeng-Gyasi

9 Exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and risk of reproductive system cancers: A systematic review and meta-analysis

Xin Liu, Zhihong Lv, Zixiang Huang, Rui Sun, Dingyu Zhu, Pengcheng Xu, Yiquan Xiong, Xiaowei Guo, Yaxuan Ren

10 Spatial analysis of residential location at birth, PFAS in public water, and childhood cancers in Southern California (2000-2019)

Natalie R Binczewski, Libby M Morimoto, Joseph L Wiemels, David B Richardson

THYROID (2 studies)

- 11** Serum per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in relation to circulating thyroxine levels and thyroid cancer risk: results from the Prostate, Lung, Colorectal and Ovarian Cancer Screening Trial cohort

Eun Mi Jung, Jongeun Rhee, Alexander P Keil, Cari M Kitahara, Steven C Moore

- 12** Environmental exposure to mixtures of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in Northeast China: exploring links to nodular goiter and papillary thyroid carcinoma

Ziqing Sun, Boying Liu, Rui Ding, Xin Wang, Yanyan Chen, Yi Wang

CHILDHOOD LEUKEMIA (2 studies)

- 13** Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance concentrations during pregnancy and at birth and risk of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia

Libby M Morimoto, Catherine Metayer, Georgia Dolios, Joseph L Wiemels, Xiaomei Ma

- 14** Targeted and non-targeted analyses of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in newborn dried blood spots and risk of childhood acute lymphoblastic leukemia

Veronica M Vieira, Sheng Liu, Libby M Morimoto, Jeremy Koelmel, Natalie R Binczewski, Joseph L Wiemels, Xiaomei Ma

PANCREATIC (1 study)

- 15** Circulating per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and risk of pancreatic cancer: A nested case-control study within the NYU Women's Health Study

Fen Wu, Miquel Porta, Emily Spear, Elena Colicino, Srinivasan Narasimhan

TESTICULAR / GERM CELL (1 study)

- 16** Exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances during fetal development and risk of testicular germ cell cancer in adulthood

Cecilie S Uldbjerg, Youn-Hee Lim, Astrid L Beck, Jorgen H Petersen, Karina M Sorensen

KIDNEY / RENAL CELL (1 study)

17 PFOA biomonitoring and kidney cancer risk: a meta-analysis of serum levels

Francesca Spyraakis, Gioele Antonio Tiburtini, Stefania Bruno, Tommaso A Dragani

BLADDER (1 study)

18 Water-Related Exposures and Bladder Cancer Risk: A Comprehensive Epidemiologic Review

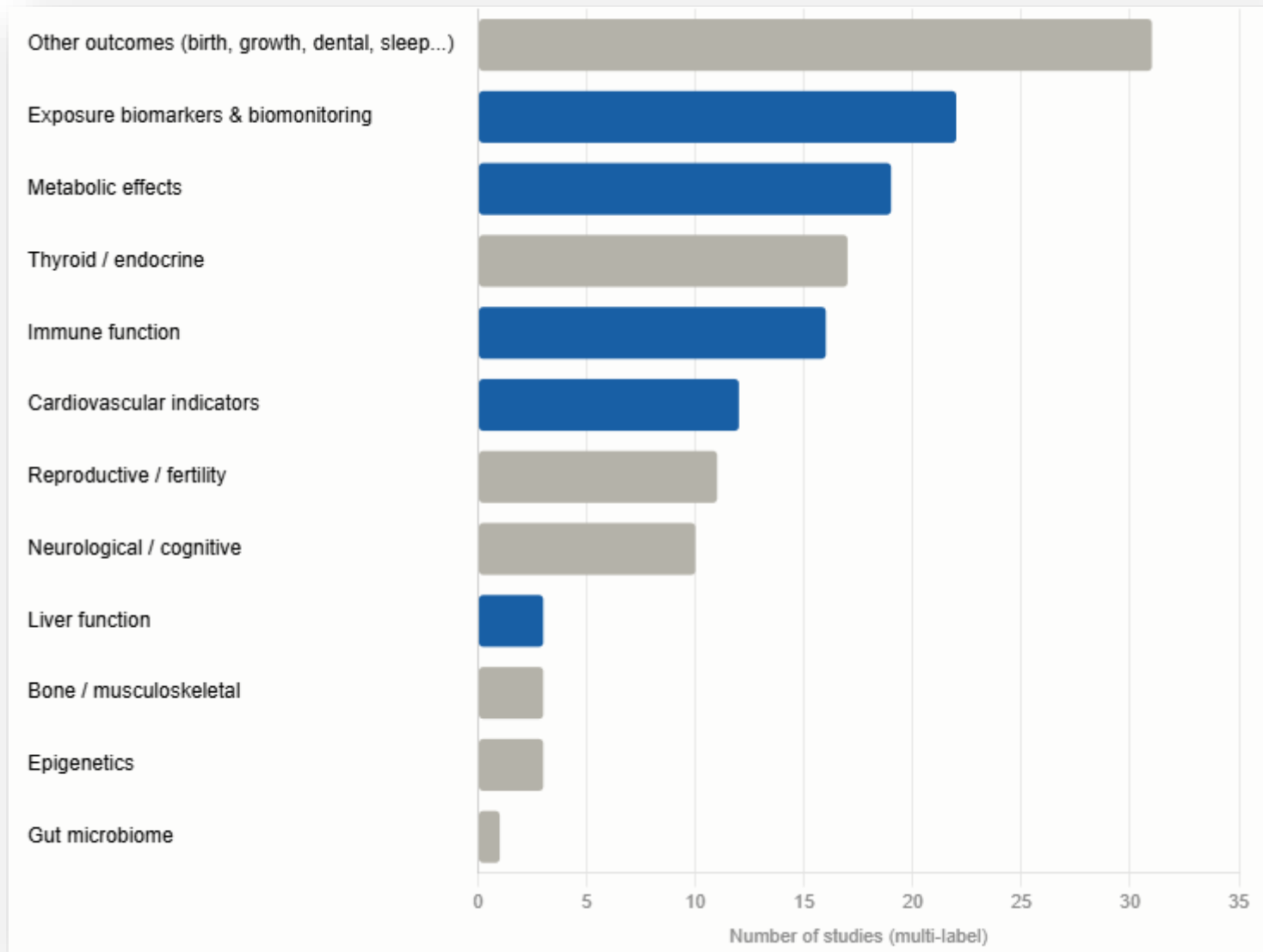
Ali Bourqi, Emmanuel Rusch, Franck Bruyere

OVARIAN (1 study)

19 Serum concentrations of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances and risk of ovarian cancer

Rena R Jones, Jessica M Madrigal, Danielle N Medgyesi, Jared A Fisher, Antonia M Calafat, Julianne Cook Botelho, Kayoko Kato, Paul S Albert, Debra T Silverman, Jonathan N Hofmann, Britton Trabert

Non-Cancer Outcomes



CONCLUSIONS

- The literature continues to expand rapidly, but it does not show a uniform, strong, across-the-board pattern of PFAS causing specific human diseases.
- The strongest recent activity is in prenatal and early-life epidemiology, not cancer.
- Even within prenatal and child studies, the pattern is mixed rather than consistently adverse.

CONCLUSIONS



- The non-cancer adult literature continues to show the most reproducible signals for intermediate biomarkers, especially lipids, metabolism, liver-related markers, and some immune endpoints.
- Thyroid-related epidemiology remains especially conflicted.
- Methodologically, the field is still constrained by classic observational-epidemiology problems.

CONCLUSIONS



- The past year's epidemiology shows active, expanding literature with recurring associations for certain developmental, metabolic, lipid, endocrine, liver, and immune-related outcomes.
- The overall body remains heterogeneous and endpoint-specific, with many null findings, inconsistent replication, sparse cancer evidence, and continued methodological limitations that generally fall short of demonstrating broad, uniform causal human health effects across endpoints.