

Prioritised substance group: Chromium VI

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Table 1: Short overview of results of the activities carried out within HBM4EU 2017 to answer the policy questions with reference to corresponding deliverables

Policy Question	Short Summary of Results
What are the current exposure levels to Cr(VI) at workplaces in Europe?	The HBM4EU activities are on-going within the work packages WP8 (task 8.5). The research plan is available on the HBM4EU web site (Research plan for chromates study under HBM4EU Deliverable Report AD 8.2) and one of the specific aims is to create representative EU-wide data on the occupational exposure to Cr(VI) in Europe (data should be available in 2019).
What is the impact of authorisation and established limits of chromates on exposure levels (e.g. in surface treatment activities or in market products)?	Also this aspect will be faced in the chromates study within the work packages WP8 (task 8.5). The REACH legislation cover the use of chromates only for specific purposes (e.g., it does not cover process-generated fumes like welding fumes) while the EC in 2017 proposed to add Cr(VI) to the Carcinogens and Mutagens directive (CMD, 2004/37/EC) with a binding limit value. One of the aims of the chromates study under HBM4EU is to support the recent regulatory measures (REACH and CMD) related to occupational exposure to Cr(VI).
What is the current exposure of the EU population to Cr(VI)?	This question is still unfulfilled due to the lack of HBM studies on CrVI exposure for the EU general population. As mentioned in the Deliverable 7.1 (Report on ongoing activities and existing data and data gaps for the 1st prioritised substances including a list of metadata that can be uploaded in IPCheM), Cr(VI) is one of the least reported substances. In AWP2019 this issue should be faced in more detail.
Does exposure differ between countries? Why?	This question will be derived after the knowledge of the previous one policy question.
Is the limit of 50 µg Cr/L for total chromium in water intended for human consumption and natural mineral waters sufficiently protective?	This question is still unfulfilled. It should be answered within the WP5 (task 5.3) in which the risk assessment/health impact assessment (HRA and HIA) could be evaluated by integration of HBM information produced by Task 5.2 (HBM <u>Guidance Values</u> , HB HBM GV) and by WP10 (<u>Reference Values</u> , RV). <u>Note:</u> some EU-members, like Italy, has also a limit for CrVI (10 µg/L) in water intended for human consumption (Decree M.14/11/16). It could be useful promotes feed into the discussion on the lack of specific limit also for CrVI at EU level.

<p>To review the impact of the limit of 3 ppm of Cr(VI) in leather articles imposed in May 2015 on consumer exposure.</p>	<p>This question is still unfulfilled and should be postponed (included in AWP 2019)</p>
<p>Feed into the discussion on whether to tighten controls of levels of Cr(VI) in toys, following the recommendation of the Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks.</p>	<p>This question is still unfulfilled and should be postponed (included in AWP 2019)</p>

