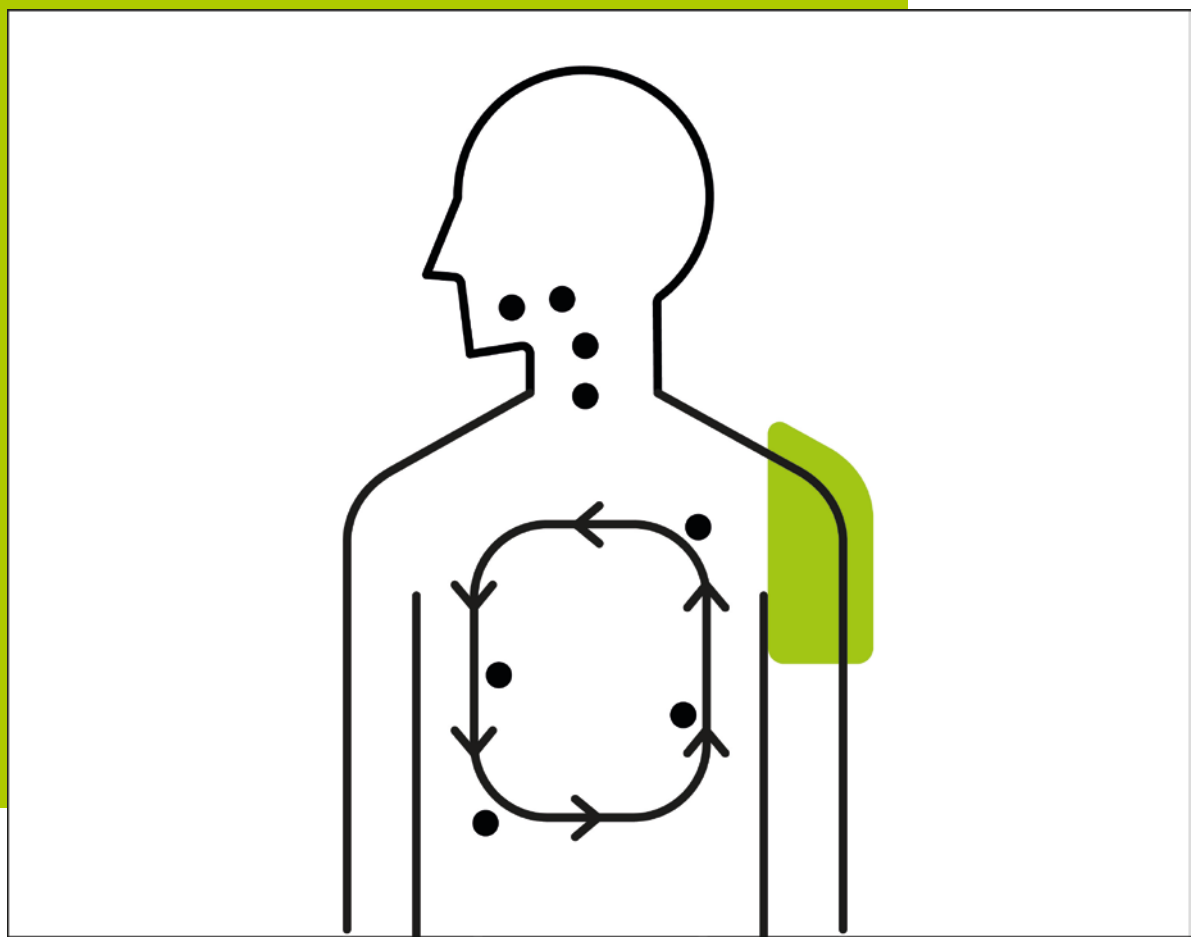
Programme



PFAS – Challenges and Scientific Perspectives in Human Health Risk Assessment

International Conference

08–10 October 2025, Berlin

BfR
German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment

PFAS – Challenges and Scientific Perspectives in Human Health Risk Assessment

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also known as “forever chemicals”, are a large group of industrial compounds that are persistent and can accumulate in the environment, the food chain and humans.

The conference brings together national and international scientists and risk assessors to exchange current scientific knowledge on PFAS and to discuss challenges and advances in human health risk assessment. Emphasis is placed on the following topics:

- Targeted and Untargeted Analytical Methods
- External and Internal Exposure
- Toxicokinetics
- Toxicity
- In Silico Methods
- New Approach Methodologies

Programme

Wednesday, 08 October 2025	
Opening	
11:15–12:15	**Registration**
12:15–12:30	**Welcome** Prof Dr Dr Dr h.c. Andreas Hensel, President of the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR), Berlin
Session I: The PFAS Situation on Assessment and Regulations Session Chair: Dr Janine Kowalczyk, BfR	
12:30–13:00	**Background and State of Play on the PFAS Restriction** Dr Christian Unkelbach, Federal Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Germany
13:00–13:30	**PFAS Everywhere?! Sources and Pathways of Human Exposure** Prof Dr Stuart Harrad, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
13:30–14:00	**EFSA 2020: Risk Assessment and related Challenges** t.b.a.
14:00–14:30	Coffee break

Session II: Development and Application of Targeted and Untargeted Analysis Session Chair: Dr Anja Lüth, BfR	
14:30–15:00	**Target Analysis: New Developments in Matrices and Detection Limits** Dr Stefan van Leeuwen, Wageningen Food Safety Research (WUR), The Netherlands
15:00–15:30	**Untargeted Methods: Overview of Existing Methods** Dr Bernd Göckener, Fraunhofer Institute for Molecular Biology and Applied Ecology IME, Germany
15:30–16:00	**Untargeted Methods: Suitability to Determine PFAS in Human Blood?** Dr Dorte Herzke, Norwegian Institute for Public Health, Norway
16:00–16:30	Coffee break

Session III: External Exposure Assessment Session Chair: t.b.a., BfR	
16:30–17:00	**Challenges in External Exposure Assessment** Dr Christian Jung, BfR, Germany
17:00–17:30	**PFAS in Drinking Water** Dr Alexander Eckhardt, German Environment Agency (UBA), Germany
17:30–18:00	**PFAS in Different Food Matrices** Dr Runa S. Boeddinghaus, Landwirtschaftliches Technologiezentrum Augustenberg (LTZ), Germany

Thursday, 09 October 2025	
09:00–09:05	**Welcome day 2** t.b.a., BfR

Session IV: Internal Exposure and Toxicokinetics Session Chair: Dr Thorsten Buhrke, BfR	
09:05–09:35	**Temporal Development of Internal Exposure** PhD Greet Schoeters, University of Antwerp, Belgium
09:35–10:05	**Kinetics in Humans** PD Dr Klaus Abraham, BfR, Germany
10:05–10:35	**Sources, Fate and Exposure to Trifluoroacetic Acid (TFA)** Dr Finnian Freeling, German Water Centre, Germany
10:35–11:00	Coffee break

Session V: In Silico Methods to Describe Toxicity and Toxicokinetics Session Chair: Dr Hans Mielke, BfR	
11:00–11:30	**Transfer Along the Path Feed-Animal-Food of Animal Origin** Dr Jorge Numata, BfR, Germany
11:30–12:00	**Understanding Half-life Variability Using Mechanistic Kinetic Modelling** Dr James Chan, Agency for Science, Technology and Research, Singapore
12:00–12:30	**In Silico Tools to Model PFAS Toxicity** PhD Periklis Tsiros, National Technical University of Athens, Greece
12:30–14:00	Lunch break

Session VI: Toxicity Session Chair: PD Dr Juliane Menzel, BfR	
14:00–14:30	**Animal Data and the Challenges in Human Health Risk Assessment** Dr Louise Ramhøj, DTU National Food Institute, Denmark
14:30–15:00	**C8 and Veneto Epidemiological Studies: Exposure and Health Impacts Assessment** Prof Dr Tony Fletcher, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
15:00–15:30	**Health Effects of High PFAS Drinking Water Exposure in Ronneby, Sweden** Prof Dr Kristina Jakobsson, University of Gothenburg, Sweden
15:30–16:30	Coffee break and poster session
Session VI: Toxicity Session Chair: Dr Katharina Sommerkorn, BfR	
16:30–17:00	**Epidemiological Data on the Most Sensitive Endpoint in Humans: Immunotoxicity** Prof Dr Thorhallur I. Halldorsson, University of Iceland, Iceland
17:00–17:30	**Mode of Action on Immunotoxicity** Dr Macon Carroll, Oregon State University, United States of America
17:30–18:00	**Carcinogenic Hazard: PFOA and PFOS** PhD Frederica Madai, International Agency for Research on Cancer, France
18:00	Evening Event

Friday, 10 October 2025	
09:00–09:05	**Welcome day 3** PD Dr Robert Pieper, BfR
Session VII: Future Perspectives Session Chair: PD Dr Robert Pieper, BfR	
09:05–09:35	**Consideration of Potency Factors for Human Health Risk Assessment** Dr Ron Hoogenboom, Wageningen Food Safety Research (WUR), The Netherlands
09:35–10:05	**The Use of NAMs for PFAS Risk Assessment** Prof Dr Iseult Lynch, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom
10:05–10:35	**Challenges and Data Needs in PFAS Risk Assessment** Assoc Prof Dr Xenia Trier, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
10:35–11:00	Coffee break
Panel Discussion on Challenges and Advances in Human Health Risk Assessment Session Chair: t.b.a.	
11:00–12:00	**Panellists:** Dr Carlos Gonçalo das Neves, Chief Scientist of the European Authority of Food Safety (EFSA) t.b.a., European Commission, Belgium Dr Philip Marx-Stölting, BfR, Germany 2–3 selected scientists t. b. a.
12:00–12:30	**Wrap up and Closure** PD Dr Robert Pieper, BfR

Organisational information

PFAS – Challenges and Scientific Perspectives in Human Health Risk Assessment

Venue
German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR)
Location Berlin-Marienfelde
Lecture theatre
Diedersdorfer Weg 1
12277 Berlin

Directions
Destination stop (www.bahn.de, www.bvg.de):
“Nahmitzer Damm/Marienfelder Allee (Berlin)”

Registration fee
General: 340.00
General, online: 100 € online
Students incl. PhD candidates: 135 €
Students incl. PhD candidates, online: 35 €
If you are a German federal employee (incl. BfR) other participation fees may apply. Please contact us at akademie@bfr.bund.de

Please register online by 01/10/25 on https://www.bfr-akademie.de/english/events/pfas2025.html

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About the BfR

The German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR) is a scientifically independent institution within the portfolio of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL). It advises the Federal Government and the federal states (“Laender”) on questions of food, chemicals and product safety. The BfR conducts its own research on topics that are closely linked to its assessment tasks.