

Acronym Soup Recipe for a Deoxynivalenol Probabilistic Risk Assessment

Workshop: Advancing Quantitative Analysis in Human
Health Assessments through Probabilistic Methods

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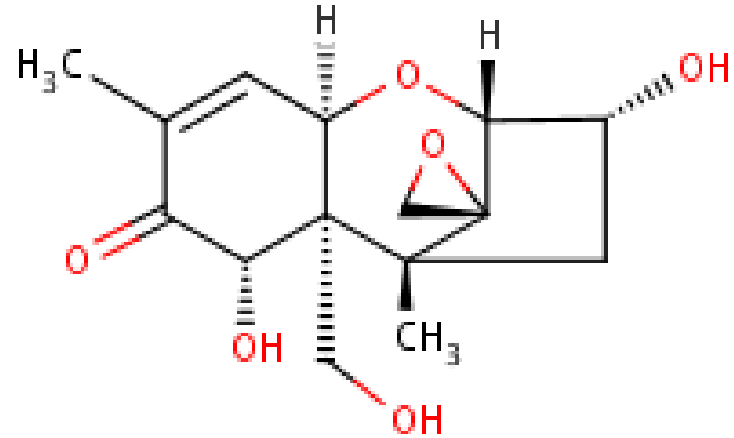
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Background: Deoxynivalenol (DON)

- Mycotoxin found in cereals (aka vomitoxin)
- Animal experiments show multiple adverse effects, e.g.:
 - Body weight in mice (chronic feeding)
 - Prenatal development in mice (oral gavage)
 - Fertility in male rats (28 d oral gavage test)
- Human biomonitoring (HBM) data show global, widespread, and variable exposures



Source: TOXNET/ChemID plus



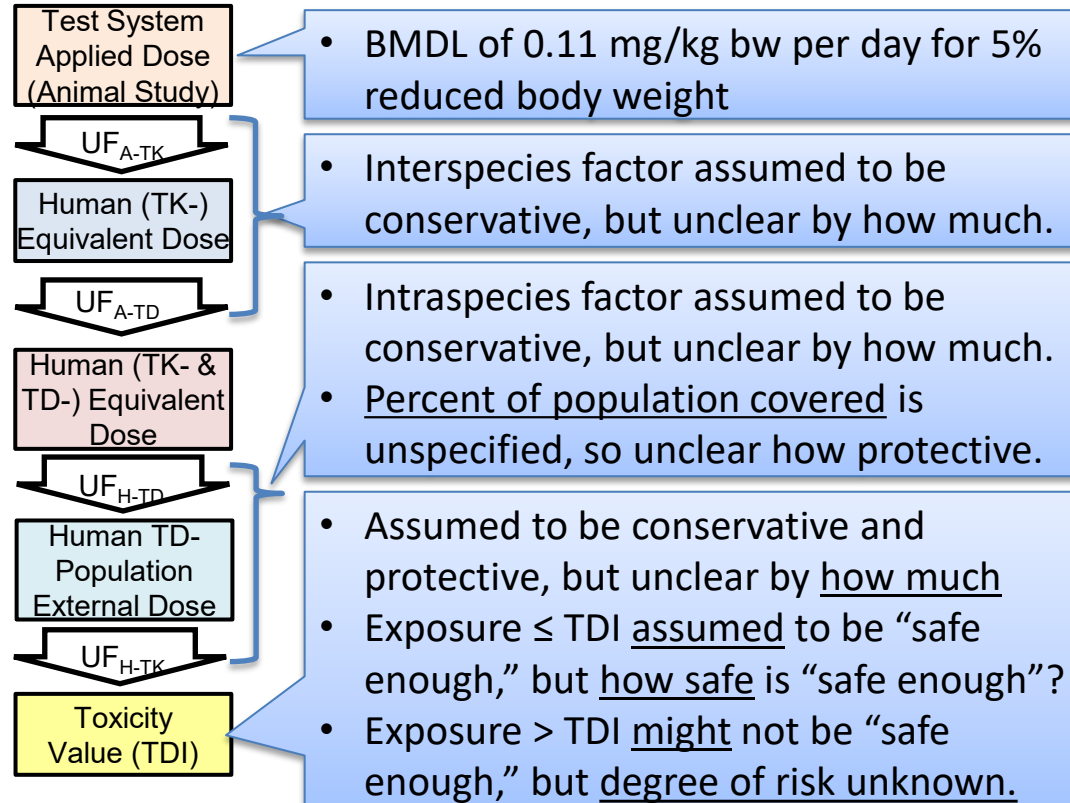
Multiple studies report exposures exceeding the EFSA Tolerable Daily Intake (TDI) of 1 µg/kg-d

Limitations of the Existing TDI

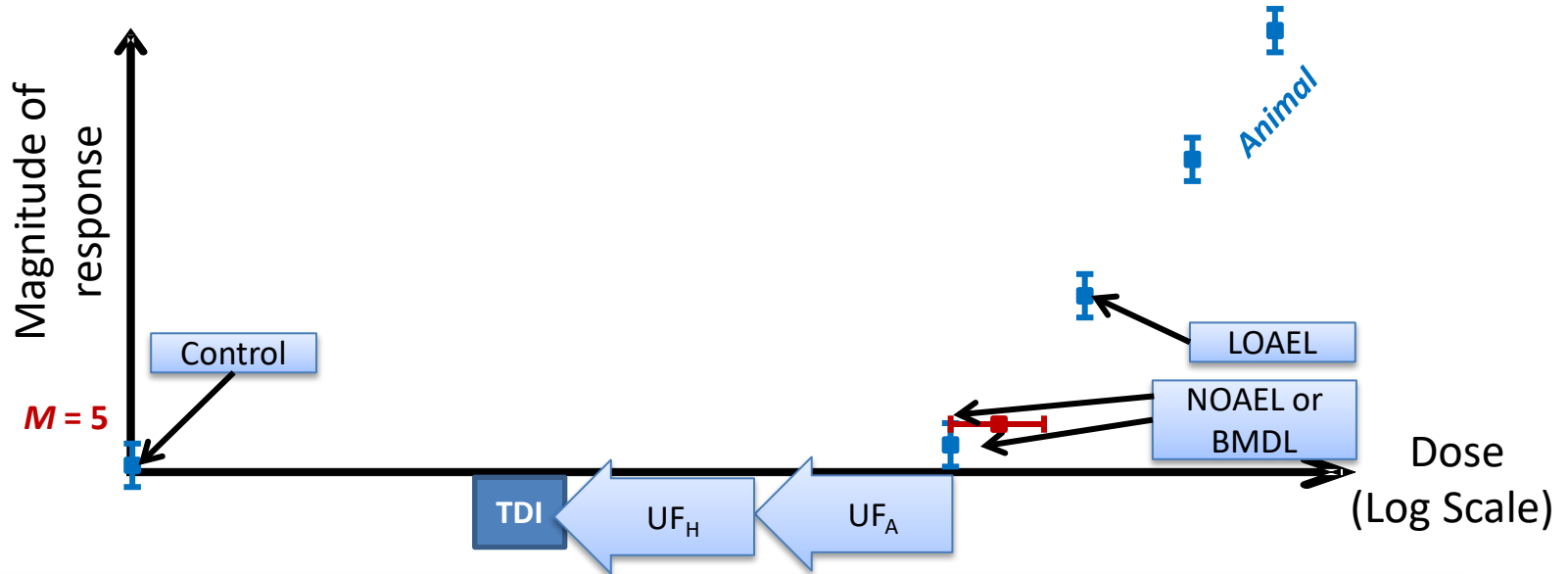
TDI:

The tolerable daily intake (TDI) is an estimate of the amount of a substance in food or drinking water which is not added deliberately (e.g. contaminants) and which can be consumed over a lifetime **without presenting an appreciable risk** to health.

“without presenting” = ?
“appreciable risk” = ?

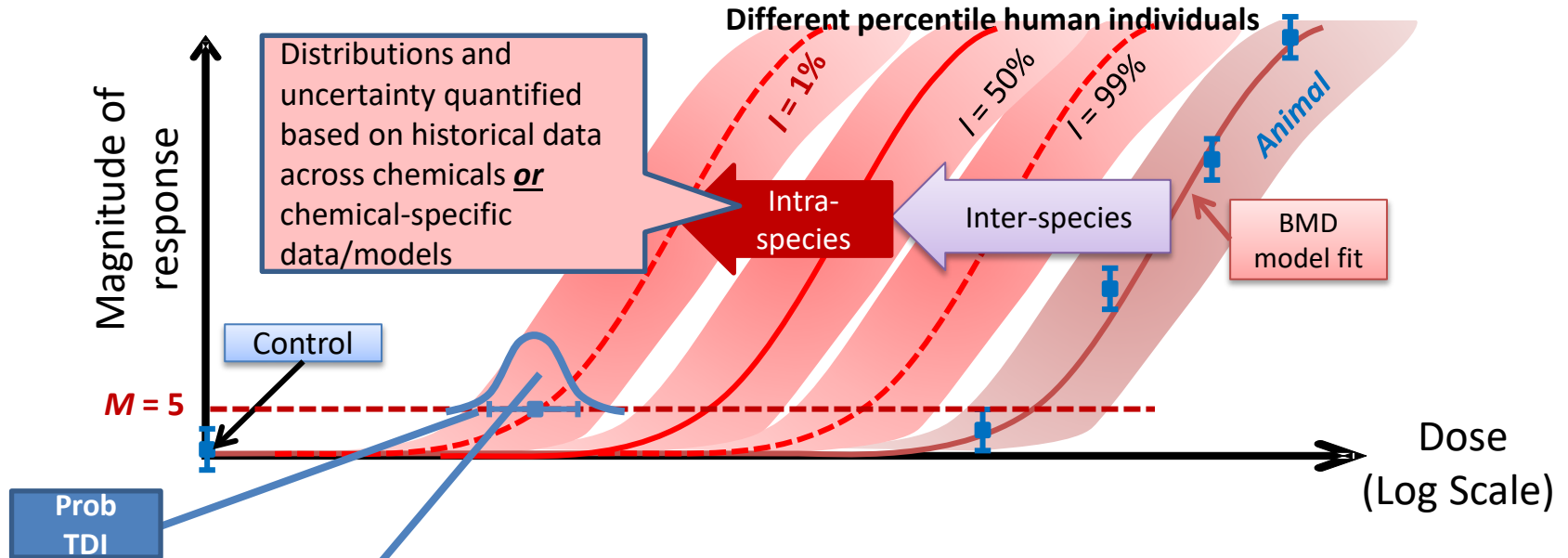


Traditional Reference Value Determination Process



The tolerable daily intake (TDI) is an estimate of the amount of a substance in food or drinking water which is not added deliberately (e.g. contaminants) and which can be consumed over a lifetime without presenting an appreciable risk to health.

WHO/IPCS Framework based on Concept of Target Human Dose: HD_M^I



Target Human Dose (e.g., HD_{05}^{01}): HD_M^I = the human dose at which a fraction (or incidence) I of the population shows an effect of magnitude (or severity) M or greater (for the critical effect considered).

Target Human Dose (HD_M^I) has a more precise definition than the TDI

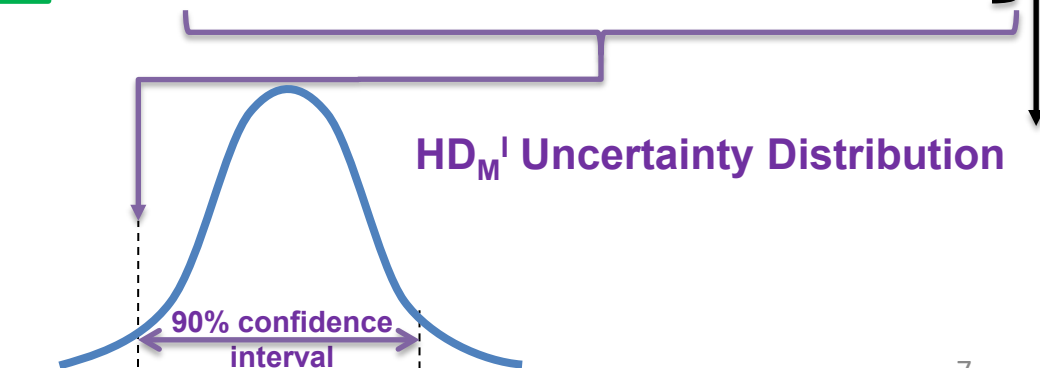
TDI:

The tolerable daily intake (TDI) is an estimate of the amount of a substance in food or drinking water which is not added deliberately (e.g. contaminants) and which can be consumed over a lifetime **without presenting an appreciable risk** to health.

Probabilistic TDI:

A statistical lower confidence limit on the human dose that at which a fraction I of the population shows an effect of magnitude (or severity) M or greater (for the critical effect considered).

TDI should be viewed as an “approximation” of the HD_M^I !



Benchmark Dose has a more precise definition than the NOAEL

Deja vu all over again...

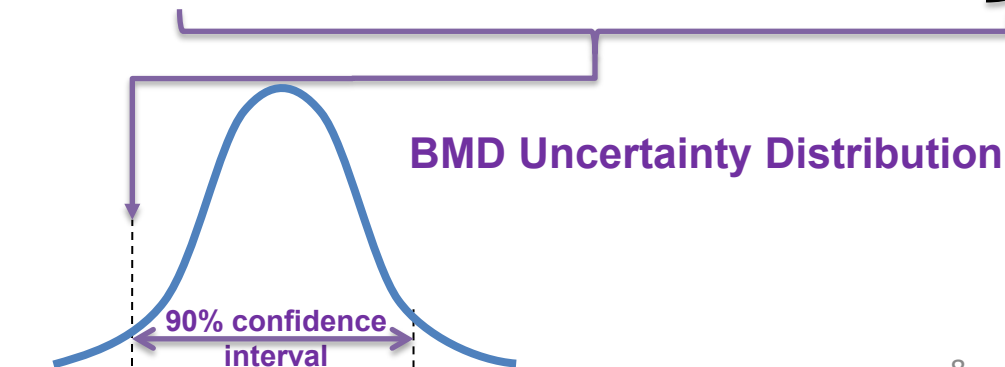
NOAEL:

Greatest concentration or amount of a substance, found by experiment or observation, that causes **no adverse alteration ...of the target organism distinguishable from those observed in normal (control) organisms** of the same species and strain under the same defined conditions of exposure.

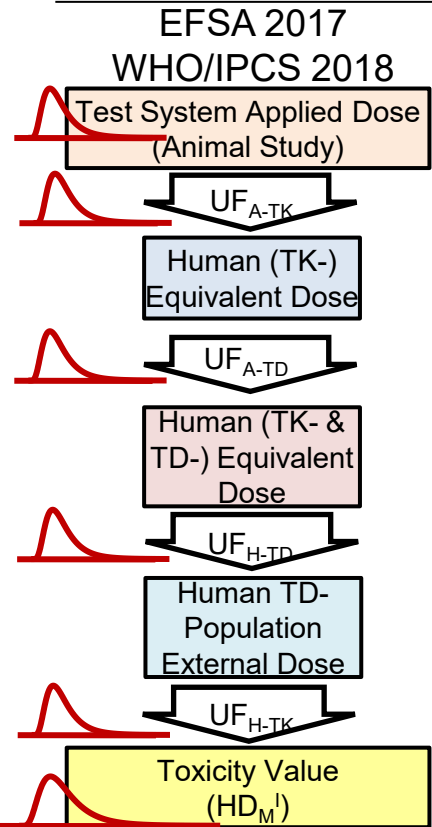
BMDL:

A statistical lower confidence limit on the *dose* that produces **a predetermined change in response rate of an adverse effect (called the benchmark response or BMR)** compared to background.

NOAEL should be viewed as an “approximation” of the BMD!



WHO/IPCS 2018 Case Study

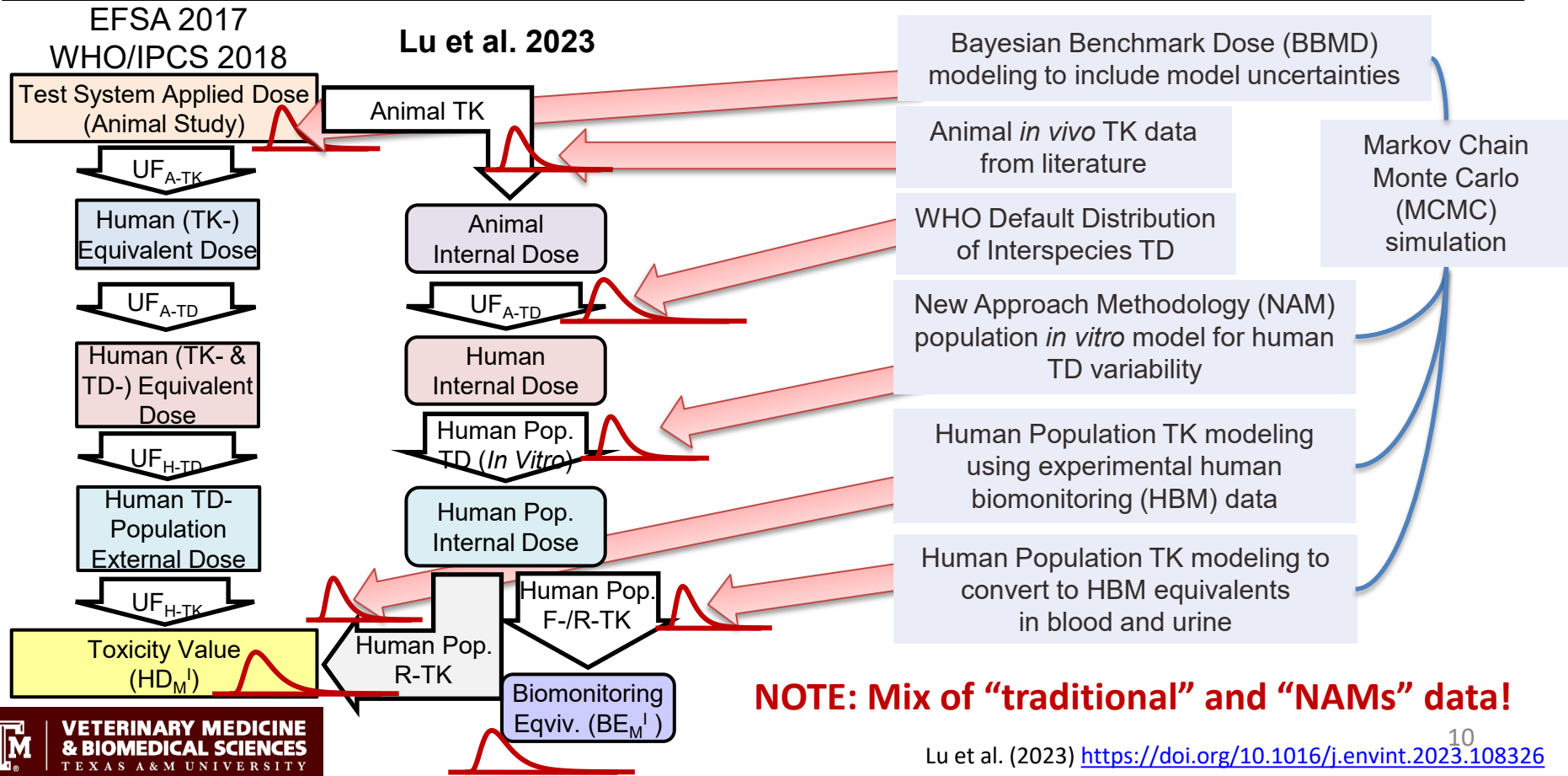


EFSA (2017)	WHO/IPCS (2018)
Point estimates	HD_M^I Median [90% CI]
TDI = 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$	$HD_{M=05}^{I=1\%} =$ 2.92 [0.44 – 19] $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$
	ProbTDI = 0.44 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$

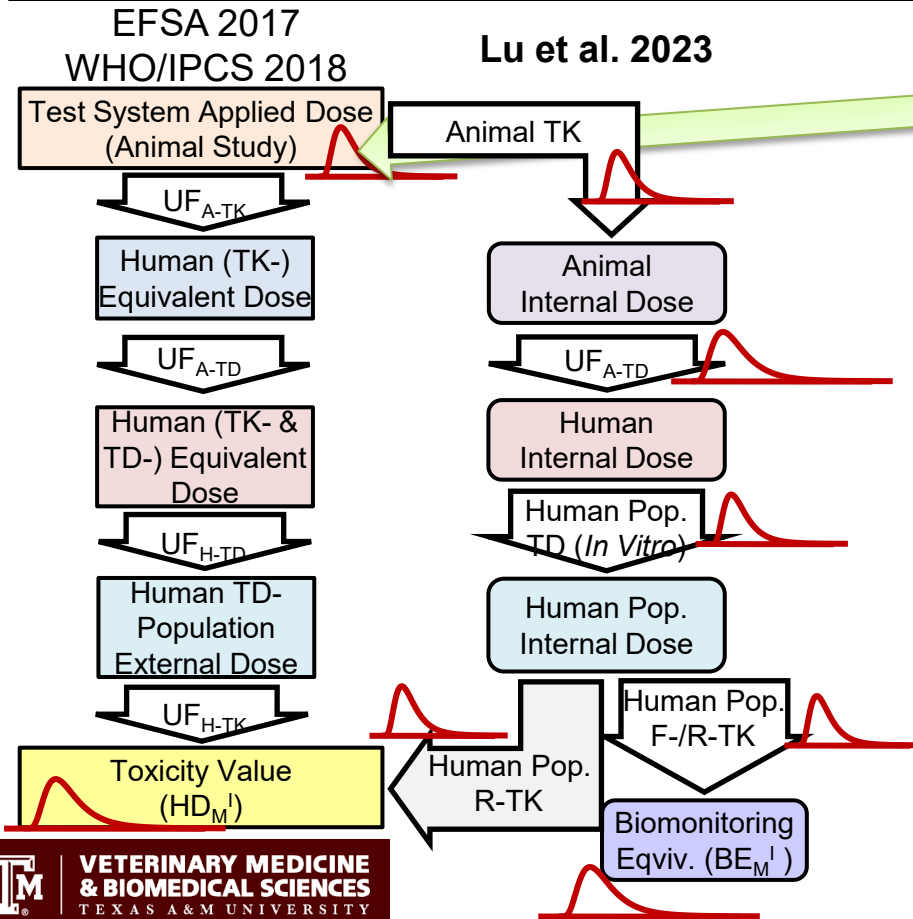
Can we reduce
~40-fold
uncertainty with
chemical-
specific data?

- Deterministic factors for inter- and intra-species differences replaced by default distributions from WHO/IPCS (2018)
- ProbTDI about 2-fold lower than EFSA TDI
- Confidence interval of HD_M^I extends from 2-fold below to 20-fold above the EFSA TDI – suggesting EFSA TDI is conservative, but not at 95% coverage.

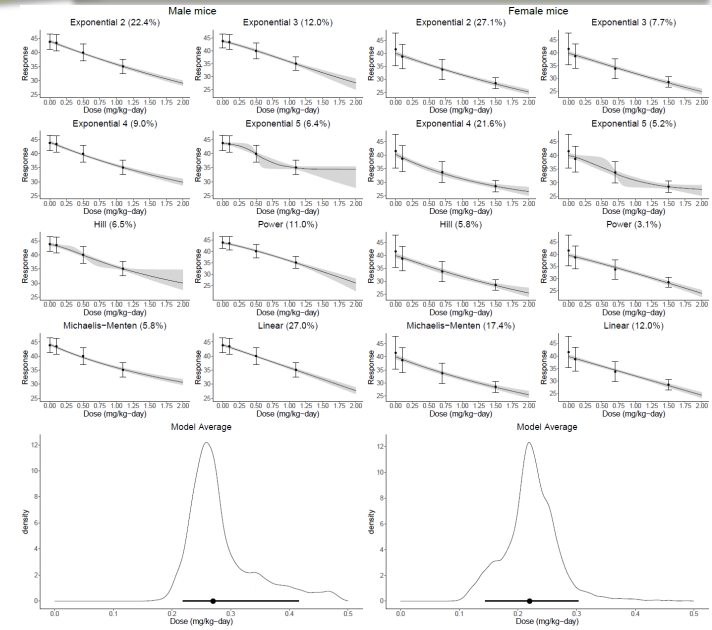
Incorporating Chemical-Specific Data to Reduce Uncertainties in the Probabilistic TDI for DON



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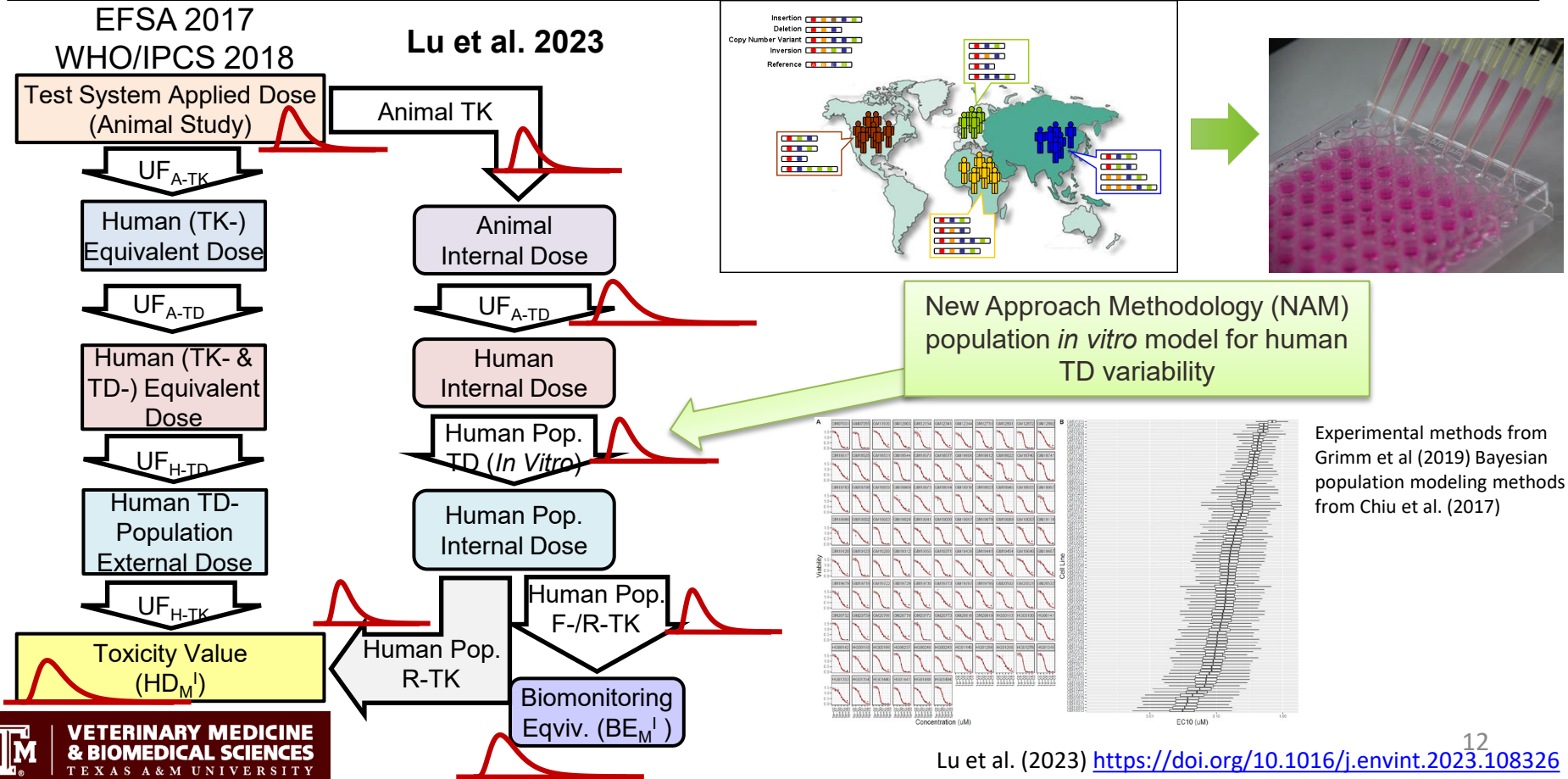


Bayesian Benchmark Dose (BBMD) modeling to include model uncertainties

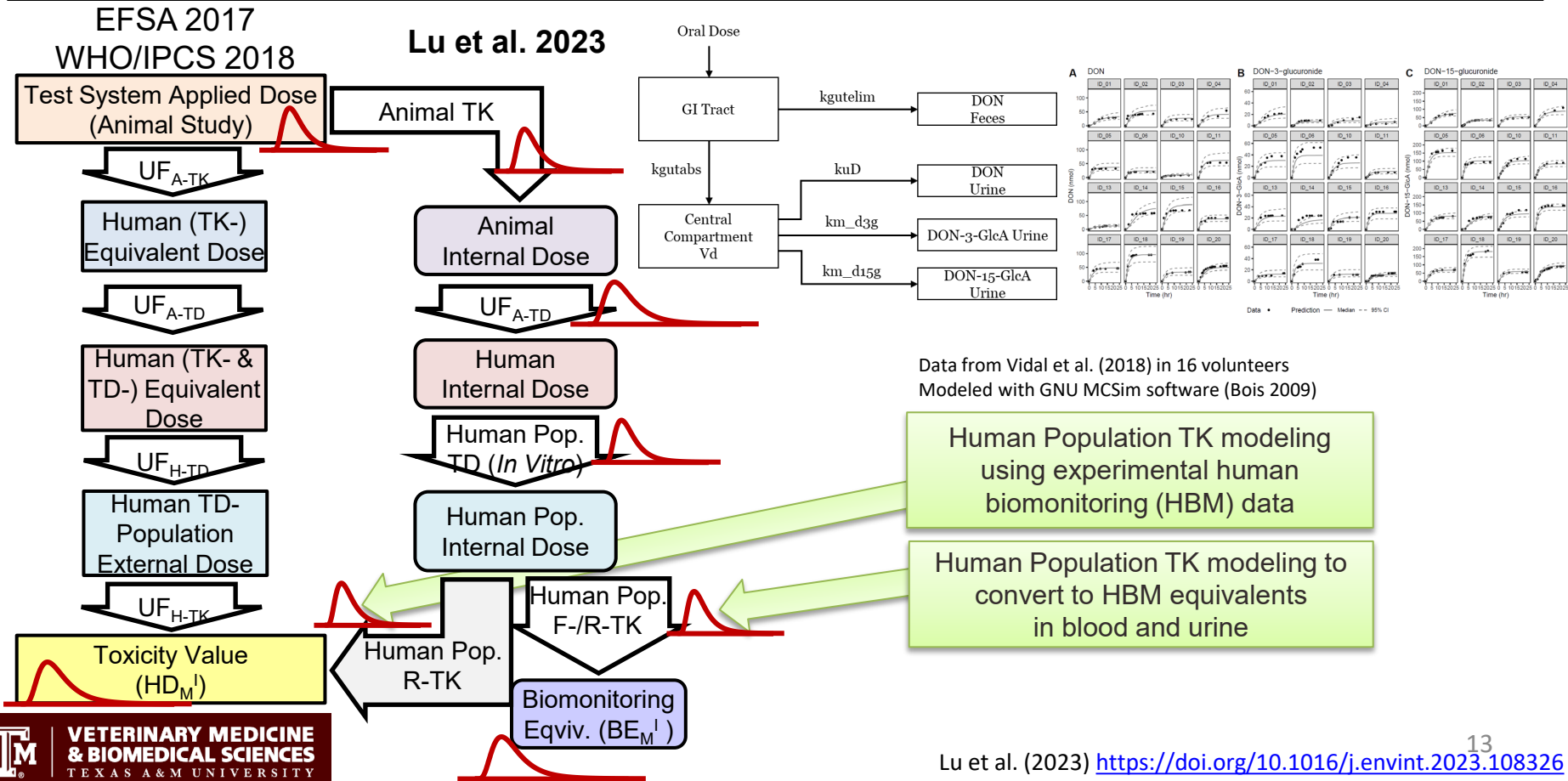


Data from Iverson et al. (1995) chronic feeding study in mice. Modeling based on methods from Shao and Shapiro (2018) <https://benchmarkdose.org>

Incorporating Chemical-Specific Data to Reduce Uncertainties in the Probabilistic TDI for DON



Incorporating Chemical-Specific Data to Reduce Uncertainties in the Probabilistic TDI for DON



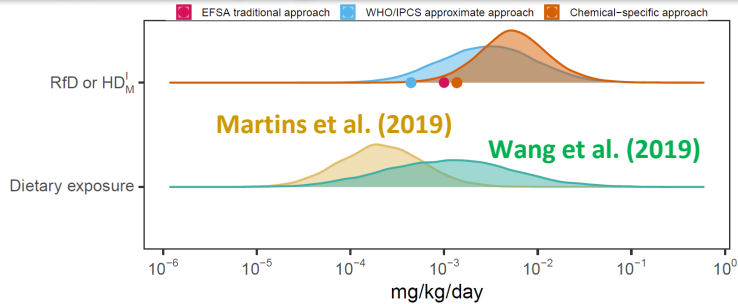
Results

EFSA (2017)	WHO/IPCS (2018)	Lu et al. (2023)		
Point estimates	HD_M^I Median [90% CI]	HD_M^I Median [90% CI]	Blood BE_M^I Median [90% CI]	Urine BE_M^I (24 hr) Median [90% CI]
TDI = 1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$	$HD_{M=05}^{I=1\%} =$ 2.92 [0.44 – 19] $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$ ProbTDI = 0.44 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$	$HD_{M=05}^{I=1\%} =$ 5.48 [1.37 – 23.81] $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$ ProbTDI = 1.37 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$	$BE_{M=05}^{I=1\%} =$ 0.53 [0.17 – 1.62] $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ ProbBE = 0.17 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$	$BE_{M=05}^{I=1\%} =$ 3.93 [0.98 – 16.37] $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$ ProbBE = 0.98 $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}\cdot\text{d}$

- By coincidence, ProbTDI and EFSA TDI are about the same.
- Was all the effort to use probabilistic and chemical-specific methods a waste? NO!
 - Based on data rather than assumptions
 - Chemical-specific data reduced uncertainty from 40-fold to between 9.5- and 17-fold.
 - When exposures are above the TDI (like for DON) the probabilistic methodology provides a means for more accurate risk characterization.

Beyond the TDI: Estimating Individual and Population Risks

(A) Comparing HD_M^I and dietary exposure



Martins et al. (2019) study population Wang et al. (2019) study population

Population (%) exceeding (prob)TDI

EFSA (2017)	6.2%	53.4%
WHO/IPCS (2018)	23.5%	73.3%
Lu et al. (2023)	3.3%	45.4%

Comparing population HBM exposure distributions with TDI overestimates risk because TDI (including Prob TDI) is a conservative estimate for a sensitive individual, and neglects TK uncertainty & variability in converting biomonitoring data to dose.

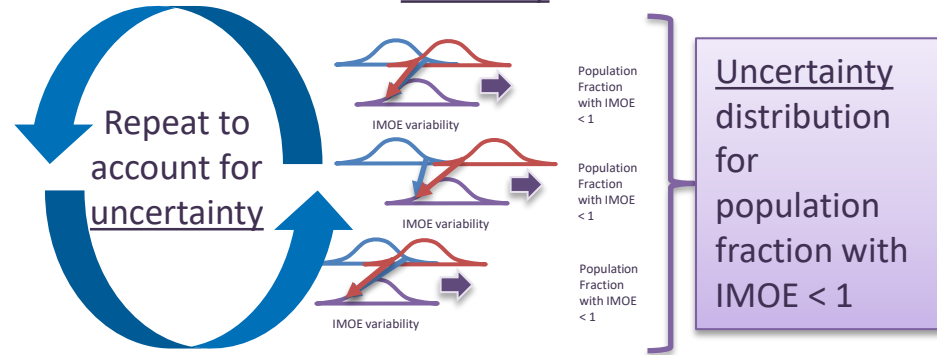
Exposure variability

Toxicity value variability
(different I in HD_M^I)

Random individuals

IMOE variability

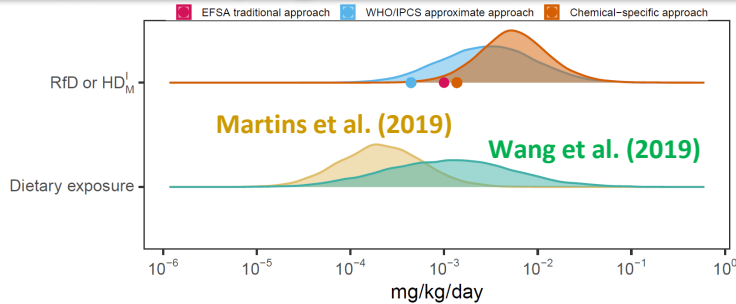
Population fraction with IMOE < 1



Full Monte Carlo simulation for Individual Margin of Exposure (IMOE) comparing individual HBM exposures and BE-based HD_M^I values gives more accurate estimates of fraction of population at risk (with confidence intervals for uncertainty).

Beyond the TDI: Estimating Individual and Population Risks

(A) Comparing HD_M^I and dietary exposure

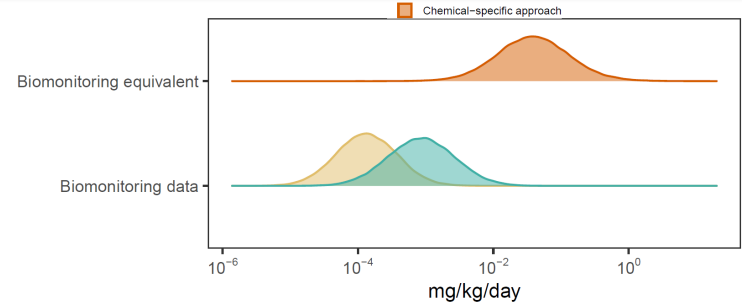


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(B) Comparing biomonitoring equivalent and urinary exposure data



Martins et al. (2019) study population Wang et al. (2019) study population

Probabilistic individual	margin of exposure	(IMOIE)
Random individual IMOIE	289 [20.7 – 4250]	44.6 [2.8 – 718]
Population 1%ile IMOIE	10.3 [2.8 – 40.6]	1.4 [0.4 – 5.2]
% of population with IMOIE ≤ 1	0.003% [0%-0.14%]	0.57% [0.03%-4.46%]

Full Monte Carlo simulation for Individual Margin of Exposure (IMOIE) comparing individual HBM exposures and BE-based HD_M^I values gives more accurate estimates of fraction of population at risk of effects > M (with confidence intervals for uncertainty).

Acronym Recipe Soup for Probabilistic Risk Assessment

