

# Review of: "Concentrations of Polychlorinated Naphthalenes in Food and Human Dietary Exposure: A Review of the Scientific Literature"

Tommaso Filippini<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Università degli Studi di Modena e Reggio Emilia

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript titled "Concentrations of Polychlorinated Naphthalenes in Food and Human Dietary Exposure: A Review of the Scientific Literature" presents an interesting and generally well-written review of the occurrence of PCNs in the human diet. Overall, the Introduction adequately presents the topic and the need to update the information, still scarce on these POPs compared to others.

Some suggestions to improve the reporting are below:

- It is recommended to avoid references in the Abstract, and if used, full reporting to identify the studies is necessary.
- A short list of adverse effects of PCNs in humans can be listed after the second paragraph of the Introduction.
- At the end of the Introduction, the search period in online databases should be mentioned (e.g., from inception till July 30, 2024). Also, inclusion criteria should be specified, and the modality of subdivision, i.e., by region (Asia, Europe) and country. This latter point is the main one to be clarified. It seems that no studies were carried out in other regions (Americas, Africa). Alternatively, they were not considered in the review. This issue is not clear. A comment is recommended, either adding a limitation of the review for lack of studies or because it was focused on Asia and Europe only.
- Typo for Dong 2022a reported as Dong 2002a in Chinese studies.
- Paragraph 2.2.7: It is not clear why a specific paragraph was used for cod liver. I suggest to list results under the previous paragraph of Spain studies.
- A list of abbreviations and acronyms used in Tables 1 and 2 (very complete and detailed) is recommended to avoid confusion in readers.