

Review of: "Knowledge of Risk Associated with Exposure to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Abuja, Nigeria"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

This paper tried to indicate the status of knowledge of risk associated with exposure to Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Abuja, Nigeria. It used a simple questionnaire of 400, with 7 questions to measure the level of knowledge, and tried to indicate what risks are associated with PFAS products. Although the attempt is very much appreciated, as similar works about forever chemicals and the awareness about them are almost zero in Africa, it can be considered eye-opening, and the effort is much appreciated. But it would have been better if the methodology were revised and an in-depth study were done, including levels of PFAS in clinical blood samples, what specific products are being sold in the area and the levels of PFAS, the level of residue in drinking water, similar clinical or epidemiological information on incidences of deaths or diseases (cancer) possibly associated with PFAS in the area, and other similar parameters. Results can be discussed thoroughly by comparing them with other similar works done elsewhere in Africa or other European or Asian countries. Strong recommendations based on sound statistical and scientific information can be followed based on a more profound investigation of the problem. Only such a strong paper would really put forward the issue of PFAS in developing countries and make society more aware and alert. Moreover, if the paper is revised in such a way, it would induce government and non-governmental organizations working in similar areas to implement proper intervention mechanisms. Otherwise, the present form is too shallow to be published in a scientific journal, as the conclusions are obvious: no or very little knowledge is present in Africa, and other developing nations in general, concerning PFAS, and almost no intervention is being done about it.