

Peer Review

Review of: "Human Health Risks from Textile Chemicals: A Critical Review of Recent Evidence (2019-2025)"

Carmen KM Chan¹

1. Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

This paper raises valid concerns about the hazardous risks to human health, especially the trend of focusing on more vulnerable populations. It also highlights the need to take more action to harmonise the global chemical requirements for textile manufacturing. The review contains representative studies for different chemical groups used in the textile manufacturing sector. It is considered informative for a general understanding of the topic, with research gaps and good suggestions made.

The authors can consider the following suggestions to make it more relevant and valuable.

1. A more systematic approach to the literature review is necessary, for example, by quantifying papers for each chemical group or health risk category.
2. Spain and Brazil are mainly used to represent and generalise as global practices, especially legal requirements. This makes the discussion not entirely valid, as these two countries are not leading textile manufacturing countries. More in-depth discussion of their representation and regional research is needed to ensure that the suggestions are pragmatic. Comparing the chemical limits of low-income textile production countries can make it more relevant. Otherwise, the authors can consider specifying this in the title and scope.
3. The assessment appears to be missing an in-depth evaluation of the severity of the human health risks associated with exposure to textile products and their relation to the application of the chemicals.
4. Figure 1. It would be better if the chemical agents referenced here matched section 3. Please add citations.
5. Table 1. Please add citations. It is better to include all chemical groups discussed in this paper.

Please feel free to request additional in-text comments.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.