

Review of: "A Literature Review on the Levels of Toxic Metals/Metalloids in Meat and Meat Products in Asian Countries: Human Health Risks"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The manuscript presents a comprehensive review of the levels of toxic metals and metalloids in meat and meat products consumed in Asian countries, with a focus on human health risks. The review is timely and relevant, addressing an important public health concern, especially given the growing interest in food safety and environmental contaminants.

The strengths of the paper include:

1. **Thorough Literature Review:** The manuscript offers a broad review of recent studies, summarizing the concentrations of toxic metals like As, Cd, Hg, and Pb in various types of meat and meat products across different Asian countries.
2. **Clear Presentation of Data:** The paper is well-organized, with clear tables summarizing the data from numerous studies, making it easier for readers to grasp regional differences and trends.
3. **Focus on Human Health Risks:** The paper connects the environmental data with potential human health risks, contributing to our understanding of dietary exposure to harmful contaminants.

Minor Suggestions for Improvement:

- **Contextualization of Results:** While the review is extensive, it would benefit from more direct comparisons with established safety limits for toxic metals and metalloids, which would help quantify the severity of health risks more clearly.
- **Future Research Directions:** It would be helpful to highlight specific areas where data are lacking, particularly in underrepresented countries, and suggest directions for future studies.

Overall, the manuscript makes a valuable contribution to the field of environmental toxicology and public health. It is well-written, and the analysis of the literature is robust. I recommend accepting the paper with minor revisions to enhance its clarity and impact.