

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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It is a very important review required to be compiled since it relates to the HMs' impact on human health, particularly for Asian countries. I disagree with the authors that most of the studies are available for Asia; hence, they have reviewed this work exclusively for Asia. They have to put more effort into getting a global perspective and not single out Asian countries. Since most of the consumption and export of seafood, meat, etc., is coming from Asia to western countries, it will be a very serious concern for their livelihood and export economy, even though they concluded that it is not having any serious impact on human health. The review should also concentrate on the sources of HMs and REEs in each country and the related environment through which it passes to the food chain, so that it will relate to the natural background level for each country and the contamination level and each country's acceptance level of human health over the long human history of their native consumption patterns, etc. are to be mentioned here; otherwise, this study will not be of any use, in my opinion. Since IARC classified the consumption of red meat and processed meat as "probably carcinogenic to humans" and as "carcinogenic to humans," respectively, the exposure to environmental (organic and inorganic) contaminants through the consumption of meat and meat products was discussed with limited geographical distribution. In this paper, no discussion is on the regional, environmental, climate, and pathogenic role in their distribution is distinguished. Their findings show that the concentrations of metals and metalloids in meat and meat products, as well as the estimated intake derived from that consumption, have shown notable differences among Asian regions and countries. They found that the group of meat and meat products is not being, at least in Asian countries, one of the most relevant food groups contributing to human dietary exposure to toxic metals and metalloids.