



## **Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes**

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### **Supplemental Information**

*June 2016*

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## ABBREVIATIONS

AAQC	Ambient air quality criterion	Hb/g-A	animal blood:gas partition coefficient
ABR	amount of 1,2,4-TMB in the brain	Hb/g-H	human blood:gas partition coefficient
ADME	absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion	HEC	human equivalent concentration
AEGL	Acute Exposure Guideline Level	HED	human equivalent dose
AIC	Akaike Information Criterion	HERO	Health and Environmental Research Online
ALT	alanine aminotransferase	HFAN	High-Flash Aromatic Naphtha
ANCOVA	analysis of covariance	HLVOC	highly lipophilic volatile organic chemical
ANOVA	analysis of variance	HSDB	Hazardous Substances Data Bank
AP	alkaline phosphatase	IL-8	interleukin-8
AST	aspartate aminotransferase	i.p.	intraperitoneal
AUC	area under the curve	IRIS	Integrated Risk Information System
BAL	bronchoalveolar lavage	JP-8	jet propulsion fuel 8
BMCL	lower confidence limit on the benchmark concentration	KCCT	kaolin-cephalin coagulation time
BMD	benchmark dose	K <sub>m</sub>	Michaelis-Menten constant
BMDL	lower confidence limit on the benchmark dose	LLF	log-likelihood function
BMDS	benchmark dose software	LOAEL	lowest-observed-adverse-effect level
BMR	benchmark response	MCH	mean corpuscular hemoglobin
BrdU	5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine	MCHC	mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration
BUN	blood urea nitrogen	MCV	mean cell volume
BW	body weight	MMS	methyl methanesulfate
CAAC	Chemical Assessment and Advisory Committee	MOE	Ministry of the Environment
CASRN	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number	NIOSH	National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
CE	cloning efficiency	NLE	neutral lipid equivalent
CHO	Chinese hamster ovary	NLM	National Library of Medicine
CI	confidence interval	NMDA	N- methyl-D-aspartate
CMIX	average of arterial and venous blood concentrations	NOAEL	no-observed-adverse-effect level
CNS	central nervous system	NOEL	no-observed-effect level
CV	concentration in venous blood	NRC	National Research Council
CVS	concentration in venous blood exiting slowly perfused tissues	NSC	normalized sensitivity coefficient
CXEQ	concentration in exhaled breath	OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
CYP450	cytochrome P450	<i>p</i> -value	probability value
DAF	dosimetric adjustment factor	PBPK	physiologically based pharmacokinetic (model)
df	degree of freedom	PCV	packed cell volume
DMBA	dimethylbenzoic acid	pg	picogram
DMHA	dimethylhippuric acid	PMR	proportional mortality ratio
DMSO	dimethylsulfoxide	PND	postnatal day
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid	POD	point of departure
EC <sub>50</sub>	half maximal effective concentration	POD <sub>ADJ</sub>	duration-adjusted POD
EEG	electroencephalogram	ppm	parts per million
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	QPC	alveolar ventilation rate
fMRI	functional magnetic resonance imaging	OR	odds ratio
GABA	gamma-aminobutyric acid	QRTOTC	sum of fractional flows to rapidly perfused tissues, liver, and brain
GD	gestational day	QSTOTC	sum of fractional flows to slowly perfused tissues
GGT	gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase		

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RBC	red blood cell	TOXLINE	Toxicology Literature Online
RD	relative deviation	TWA	time-weighted average
RD <sub>50</sub>	50% respiratory rate decrease	UF	uncertainty factor
REL	recommended exposure limit	UF <sub>A</sub>	interspecies uncertainty factor
RfC	reference concentration	UF <sub>H</sub>	intraspecies uncertainty factor
RfD	reference dose	UF <sub>S</sub>	subchronic-to-chronic uncertainty factor
ROS	reactive oxygen species	UF <sub>L</sub>	LOAEL-to-NOAEL uncertainty factor
SAB	Science Advisory Board	UF <sub>D</sub>	database deficiency uncertainty factor
SCE	sister chromatid exchange	VEP	visual evoked potential
SCI	Science Citation Index	V <sub>max</sub>	½ maximal enzyme rate
SD	standard deviation	VOC	volatile organic compound
SDH	sorbitol dehydrogenase	W	watt
SE	standard error	WBC	white blood cell
SMR	standardized mortality ratio	WOS	Web of Science
SOA	secondary organic aerosol	χ <sup>2</sup>	chi-squared
SVEP	short-latency visual evoked potential		
SWD	spike-wave discharge		
TLV	threshold limit value		
TMB	trimethylbenzene		



## APPENDIX A. RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL PEER REVIEW COMMENTS PROVIDED BY THE CHEMICAL ASSESSMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

The *Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes* (TMBs) has undergone a formal external peer review by the Chemical Assessment Advisory Committee (CAAC) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Science Advisory Board (SAB). An external peer-review workshop was held June 14–16, 2014. The CAAC Panel was tasked with providing written answers to general questions on the overall assessment and on chemical-specific questions in areas of scientific controversy or uncertainty; these comments and answers were then provided to EPA in the form of a Peer Review Report. The following sections present the CAAC Panel's comments on the external peer review draft of the *Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes*; in most cases, the CAAC Panel comments were paraphrased for presentation, but in some situations, the Appendix uses direct language from the CAAC. Each CAAC Panel comment is followed by an EPA response reflecting consideration of the comment and revisions made to the *Toxicological Review* in light of that comment. Given the overall nature of the CAAC comments, based on EPA policy guidance, no additional review by the CAAC is warranted.

### General Charge Questions

SAB Comment 1: In providing comments on the first four charge questions related to how the Agency has implemented recommendations provided by the National Research Council (NRC), the SAB noted that the Agency was implementing a phased approach to address the NRC recommendations for several assessments that were under review. The SAB recognized that the Agency was implementing the first phase of the Agency's efforts to enhance the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) process in the TMB draft assessment and the SAB acknowledged the improvement in the new format for IRIS assessments and commended the Agency for its progress in addressing the NRC recommendations. The SAB noted that it used the peer review of the *Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes* as a case study to provide advice and comments on improving IRIS toxicological assessments by further addressing the NRC recommendations. Specific comments on developing the Preamble and Executive Summary for future assessments, as well as the TMB assessment, were provided in the SAB's report. The SAB noted that it anticipates that after several IRIS reviews are completed, the CAAC will compare the reviews to provide the Agency, through the Chartered SAB, with advice and comments on the Agency's progress to enhance IRIS assessments.

1        EPA Response 1: The SAB noted that it uses the review of the draft TMB assessment as a  
2 case study to provide recommendations on strategies to implement the NRC's recommendations  
3 regarding improvements to the IRIS document structure. Although SAB noted that these  
4 recommendations are intended for future assessments, EPA has implemented some  
5 recommendations, where possible, in order to facilitate the rapid improvement of IRIS products.  
6 Other recommendations, such as full implementation of systematic review methods, are not  
7 implemented in order to prevent undue delays in posting the final IRIS TMB assessment. In  
8 comments below, it is noted that SAB acknowledges and supports this rationale for the phased  
9 implementation of the NRC recommendations.

10        **General Charge Question 1:** [NRC \(2011\)](#) indicated that the introductory section of IRIS  
11 assessments needed to be expanded to describe more fully the methods of the assessment. NRC stated  
12 that they were "not recommending the addition of long descriptions of EPA guidelines to the  
13 introduction, but rather clear, concise statements of criteria used to exclude, include, and advance  
14 studies for derivation of [toxicity values]." Please comment on whether the new Preamble provides a  
15 clear and concise description of the guidance and methods that EPA uses in developing IRIS  
16 assessments.

17        SAB Comment GC.1-1: The SAB noted that "[t]o a substantial degree, the Preamble as  
18 currently written provides a concise and clear description of the process that is followed, its steps,  
19 the places in the process where decisions or judgments are made, the guidance that applies to  
20 making those judgments (with explanation of the main considerations and available choices), and  
21 the process by which the results of each step feed into the next." The SAB further noted that it  
22 presumed that the Preamble "will change from one assessment to the next to reflect newly adopted  
23 procedures" and recommended that the current assessment note where it has not fully  
24 implemented procedures outlined in the Preamble and planned for subsequent assessments. The  
25 SAB also recommended that Section 2 on the IRIS Process include further discussion, as part of the  
26 problem formulation step, on issues needing to be addressed in assessments, including how these  
27 issues will be addressed with the available data and how uncertainties and alternative  
28 interpretations will be considered. The SAB also recommended that the EPA make clear that the  
29 Preamble itself is not guidance and ensure that the Preamble refer users to the appropriate  
30 guidance documents taking care to not imply that it supersedes policy existing guidance. The SAB  
31 helpfully pointed out a number of instances where it might be construed that the Preamble  
32 contradict current guidance. The SAB also noted that Section 5.5 could be confusing as to what  
33 guidelines for assessing causality were used in the TMBs assessment and advised that discussing  
34 the intent of weight-of-evidence descriptors was more advisable.

35        EPA Response GC.1-1: In the time since the SAB External Review meeting for the  
36 Trimethylbenzenes Toxicological Review, the IRIS program has substantially revised the Preamble  
37 based on a number of considerations, including: 1) experience with implementing the new  
38 document structure and systematic review procedures after the trimethylbenzenes assessment was

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

submitted for SAB review in 2013; 2) recommendations from SAB reports on other draft assessments (such as ammonia) and; 3) comments from EPA's program and regional offices, other federal agencies and the Executive Office of the President, and the public.

The revised Preamble reflects recommendations for a shorter Preamble, and some information previously in the Preamble is now discussed in the Toxicological Review (e.g., literature searching, screening, and study evaluation) or in the upcoming IRIS Handbook of Operating Procedures for Systematic Review being developed by the IRIS Program. The Preamble begins with a new statement that it summarizes general principles and systematic review procedures, and specifically states in Section 1 that the "... Preamble summarizes and does not change IRIS operating procedures or EPA guidance". Consistent with SAB recommendations, new text was also added to the Preface to describe where approaches in the trimethylbenzenes assessment differ from those outlined in the Preamble. Additionally, Section 2 of the Preamble has been rewritten to elaborate that through the Problem Formulation step of the IRIS Process, EPA identifies the science questions that will be addressed in an IRIS assessment and that Problem Formulation includes input from the scientific community and public. Problem formulation further includes multiple systematic reviews of the literature. Section 2 in the updated Preamble also delineates that protocols will be established and used by EPA to conduct its literature searches, considerations for evaluating study quality, and extracting data. It is through the Problem Formulation step and application of protocols that EPA will determine how to address the science issues covered by the assessment and how to appropriately consider any uncertainties and plausible alternative interpretations. As stated above, the Preamble now clearly states that it does not change existing EPA guidance and that IRIS assessments follow existing EPA guidance documents. The shortened format of the Preamble no longer includes specific citations to guidance documents, but rather directs users to IRIS's guidance website. With a shorter, refocused Preamble, specific instances where it seemed that the Preamble superseded existing guidance have been removed. Section 5 of the revised Preamble (Integrating the Evidence of Causation for Each Health Outcome) has been rewritten to report that EPA uses standardized hazard descriptors for cancer endpoints and that the "objective is to promote clarity and consistency of conclusions across assessments." EPA still describes briefly what level of evidence is generally required for determination of the individual descriptors. The Preamble further reports that IRIS is currently discussing the potential for development of a causality framework for non-cancer effects.

**General Charge Question 2:** [NRC \(2011\)](#) provided comments on ways to improve the presentation of steps used to generate IRIS assessments and indicated key outcomes at each step, including systematic review of evidence, hazard identification, and dose-response assessment. Please comment on the new IRIS document structure and whether it will increase the ability for assessment to be more clear, concise and easy to follow.

SAB Comment GC.2-1: The SAB recommended that the revised structure for IRIS assessments should allow for three different modes of reading the document: (1) quickly to get the main qualitative and quantitative conclusions; (2) more thoroughly, but still rapidly, to get a complete idea of the types of data and toxicity information that were considered, the main features and issues involved in the interpretation of those data, and the choices that were made and their rationale; and (3) in detail in order to find the particulars of individual study features, data, and analyses. The SAB found that, in general, the structure of the TMB assessment has markedly improved compared to previous IRIS assessments, and the current document structure facilitates all three modes of recommended reading.

EPA Response GC.2-1: No response necessary.

### ***Consistent Presentation of the Studies Considered***

SAB Comment GC.2-2: The SAB recommended that each study used in the assessment should be in a consistently formatted table. The table should be in an appropriate appendix and present the study-specific considerations that bear on evaluation of study quality and pertinence, including shortcomings and assumptions that are needed to interpret the study's outcomes. Consistency of format is important within each document, but it would also be a useful goal to achieve from one IRIS assessment to another.

EPA Response GC.2-2: Currently, a study summary table is included for each study cited in the assessment. These tables are formatted consistently to the extent possible given the varying type, amount, and detail of information provided in the individual studies. Information is provided at the head of each table regarding additional study details important to interpretation of study findings.

As EPA moves forward with implementing systematic review methodology, the SAB's recommendations to include study-specific information such as evaluations of study quality and strengths and weaknesses will be more fully implemented. In the current assessment, the study summary tables provide some information that can be used to judge the overall quality of the study (including numbers of animals, dosing schemes, etc.).

SAB Comment GC.2-3: The SAB suggested that it would be useful for each study to have a short overview section (also in its appendix listing, not repeating tabulated details) of the nature of the study, its examined endpoints, and relevant findings. The goal of the overview is to provide context for the tabulated details, so that the details need not be read in full to gain an idea of the general nature of the study and its importance to the assessment as a whole. This overview should not discuss interpretations.

EPA Response GC.2-3: This information is provided at the head of each study summary table included in Appendix C. Specifically, general information about what effects were observed and at what dose levels those effects occurred are provided in the "Additional study details" section in each study summary table provided in Appendix C. For example, for [Gralewicz and Wiaderna \(2001\)](#), Table C-24, it is noted in a bullet that "1,2,3-TMB-, 1,2,4-TMB-, and 1,3,5-TMB-exposed rats

showed alterations in performance in spontaneous locomotor activity, passive avoidance learning, and paw-lick latencies.”

SAB Comment GC.2-4: SAB recommended that as IRIS makes enhancements to the systematic review process, the overriding issue is transparency regarding study selection criteria. Studies that support a hypothesized human hazard should be included, but studies that are contrary to these hypotheses should also be included as they result in alternative, scientifically supportable conclusions regarding human risk.

EPA Response GC.2-4: The revised Preamble includes discussion of criteria for study selection. In the TMB assessment, studies most relevant to hazard identification and dose-response analyses have been included in the main body of the text, including those data that may seem inconsistent. For example, while an argument of sufficient similarity is used in the assessment to support adopting reference concentrations (RfCs) derived for one isomer as the RfC for another isomer when lacking sufficient-isomer specific data, instances where the toxicities or toxicokinetics appear to differ between isomers are clearly discussed. Additionally, information contained in appendices in the draft TMB assessment regarding the C9 fraction studies, including differences between these studies and isomer-specific studies, have been included in the main body of the assessment consistent with the recommendation of the SAB.

### ***Describing the Literature Search***

SAB Comment GC.2-5: SAB commented that the Literature Search Strategy section is brief and focuses only on identification of pertinent studies from the literature. The SAB was concerned that the general description of the process and the specific implementation for TMBs may be too exclusive, missing potentially informative ancillary studies that could help in interpretation or evaluation of those studies strictly observing toxicity outcomes of the TMBs alone in controlled settings. SAB recommended a more inclusive literature search in which evidence from related compounds are incorporated in order to provide context to evidence gleaned from the chemicals under assessment (i.e., TMBs).

EPA Response GC.2-5: The “primary” (initial) TMB literature search has been re-tagged in the Health and Environmental Research Online (HERO) database such that all of the identified studies are tagged more thoroughly, including those references determined to not be relevant to the assessment. For example, there are now exclusion tags that identify which studies were excluded based on being published in non-relevant journals (e.g., chemical engineering journals) and which studies were excluded based on title and abstract screenings. The “primary” (initial) literature search has also been updated to November, 2015 and the results of this literature search update are reported in a similar fashion.

A secondary, targeted literature search for information pertaining to the effects and properties of similar chemicals has been conducted, and the results of this literature search are also reported. Briefly, the literature search was limited to integrated reviews of the toxicological effects of related compounds (see SAB Comment GC.2-6 below for further details).

1        SAB Comment GC.2-6: SAB recommended that the primary literature search should be  
2 comprehensive and subjected to an orderly process of systematic review, and further commented  
3 that the secondary search is for literature that is useful to provide context, in terms of what might  
4 be expected given the knowledge of other chemicals and of the potential pathways of toxic action.  
5 SAB recommended that the secondary search need not be comprehensive and could include  
6 reviews as well as original experimental studies in order to provide information that can potentially  
7 fill data gaps that exist in the primary TMB literature.

8        EPA Response GC.2-6: In response to the SAB recommendation, a secondary literature  
9 search was conducted to identify studies on related compounds focused primarily on review  
10 articles in order to assess a large body of literature for the pertinent pieces of information that  
11 could serve to fill data gaps in the primary TMB literature. The related chemicals included in this  
12 targeted, secondary literature search were toluene, xylene, styrene, and ethylbenzene; specific  
13 toxicity endpoints included in the secondary literature search included neurotoxicity,  
14 developmental neurotoxicity, respiratory toxicity, developmental toxicity, and hematotoxicity. The  
15 literature search was set up as: (at least one chemical) + (at least one toxicity endpoint) + (review  
16 article). The secondary literature search resulted in approximately 70 review articles that were  
17 manually screened for relevance to provide context for the TMB assessment, and to identify  
18 additional relevant primary literature. The final TMB assessment includes both relevant review  
19 articles and new primary literature identified through the secondary literature search. Information  
20 from the secondary, targeted literature search were used to fill in gaps in the existing TMB  
21 database, and to help inform decisions in setting the value of the database uncertainty factor.

## 22    ***Describing the Hazard Identification Step***

23        SAB Comment GC.2-7: The SAB recommended that the individual endpoint sections of the  
24 Hazard Identification section have some discussion about interpretation across studies and  
25 evaluations of bearing and relevance, though further discussion of interpretation rationales and  
26 consideration of alternatives would be beneficial. The SAB made this recommendation in the  
27 context of the larger process of a systematic review of the literature, stating that it is the middle  
28 section of systematic review—after the studies are chosen but before the interpretation of their  
29 overall bearing gets considered—that does not have a clear home in the current document  
30 structure. The SAB recognized that the implementation of systematic review methods have not  
31 been fully implemented and recommended that the Agency further develop its approach for  
32 systematic review so that the ways for abstracting data, judging study quality, documenting factors  
33 bearing on interpretation and its limits, and considering the impact of related studies have discrete  
34 locations in the updated IRIS document structure.

35        EPA Response GC.2-7: EPA agrees with the SAB's comments regarding the evolving  
36 structure of the systematic review of the literature. It is EPA's intention that, moving forward, the  
37 NRC recommendations will be fully implemented in future assessments and that specific comments

received from SAB on current assessments will be invaluable in the implementation of those recommendations.

In the final TMB assessment, EPA has partially addressed this SAB comment by strengthening the discussion of the interpretation of studies, including the consideration of alternative explanations or conflicting evidence, in the synthesis sections at the end of each organ section. For example, in the write-up for the neurotoxic effects observed in animal toxicology studies, full discussions of the [Douglas et al. \(1993\)](#) neurotoxicity study have been included. Instances where the results of the [Douglas et al. \(1993\)](#) C9 study and individual isomer studies differ in observed effects have been exhaustively discussed, and possible interpretations of those differences are included in the text. This discussion of differing results and possible interpretational issues across studies is also included in other health effects sections, and in Sections 1.2.7 (Similarities among TMB Isomers Regarding Observed Inhalation and Oral Toxicity) and 1.3.1 (Weight of Evidence for Effects Other than Cancer).

SAB Comment GC.2-8: The SAB noted that Preamble has a section (Section 5) on evaluation of causality, which depends on the existence of such a documented review and evaluation process, but that the TMB assessment has no particular place where the Preamble's named considerations—strength, consistency, specificity, temporal relationship, biologic plausibility, coherence, natural experiments, and analogy—are systematically considered or documented.

EPA Response GC.2-8: Although the Preamble lays out the precepts by which human or animal evidence can be evaluated systematically for causality, a systematic causality framework has not been fully implemented in this assessment. However, the evidence was more clearly characterized with respect to the various considerations affecting causality determinations (e.g., strength, consistency, specificity, temporal relationship, biologic plausibility, coherence, natural experiments, and analogy). For example, in evaluating the evidence in the neurotoxicity database, the TMB assessment notes that “[n]eurotoxicity is **strongly** and **consistently** (emphasis added) associated with exposure to TMBs in multiple studies, and these associations are **coherent** in human populations exposed to mixtures containing TMBs and in laboratory animals exposed to individual TMB isomers.” Additionally, the TMB assessment notes that “TMBs are neurotoxic following inhalation or oral exposure, based on **strong** and **consistent** effects in experimental animals that are **coherent** with observations in exposed humans; **biological plausibility** based primarily on similarities to findings from related chemicals; evidence of effects that worsen with increasing duration of exposure; delayed-onset and/or latent neurological effects in animals several weeks following exposure; and observed **exposure-response relationships** in animals tested immediately after exposure.” The considerations that relate to evaluation of causality are also applied to the other health effect domains throughout the document.

SAB Comment GC.2-9: The SAB recommended adding a brief summary of the main features of the assessment—in this case, pharmacokinetics and metabolism—before the section on Hazard Identification. The SAB noted that the aim of this section would not be to replace the fuller



1 treatment of these issues in an appendix, but rather to set the context for the interpretation of  
2 studies bearing on hazard, and the main presentation of pharmacokinetic details should continue to  
3 reside in an appendix. The SAB suggested that the main text's section would note such things as  
4 extent of absorption, rapidity of elimination, main metabolic processes, main means of clearance  
5 (and what part of that is by metabolism), indications of whether metabolic saturation or enzyme  
6 induction might play a relevant role in toxicity studies, and any notable unusual differences  
7 between experimental animals and humans.

8 EPA Response GC.2-9: Previously, all information on the toxicokinetic properties of the  
9 TMB isomers was located in Appendix B of the External Peer Review draft Supplemental  
10 Information document. Given CAAC's recommendation, this section has been moved to Section  
11 1.1.1 of the main body of the final assessment. Section 1.1.2 was added to provide a brief overview  
12 of the available physiologically based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models for TMB isomers.

13 SAB Comment GC.2-10: The SAB noted that the current IRIS document structure in which  
14 the Hazard Identification section is separated into assessments of each endpoint, with relevant data  
15 for that endpoint being reviewed within the section is a great improvement over the past practice  
16 of summarizing study by study. SAB was also impressed that the endpoint-by-endpoint analysis  
17 permits the examination of consistency and sufficiency of data to draw hazard conclusions about  
18 each effect. The SAB commented that there were possible overarching ties among endpoints that  
19 would help in evaluation of the hazard characterization of each that should be discussed in an  
20 appropriate place. SAB further recommended that it would be useful to include considerations that  
21 might indicate a study as the critical study.

22 EPA Response GC.2-10: A short discussion of commonalities between endpoints regarding  
23 possible modes of action has been added to Section 1.3.1. Discussions of important considerations  
24 that might help indicate a study a potential critical study, especially extensive discussions on study  
25 design and its effect on the observation of particular endpoints, have been added throughout  
26 Section 1.

27 SAB Comment GC.2-11: The SAB commented that the tabulation of studies into Evidence  
28 Tables is useful, noting that the inclusion of dose levels and dose-specific responses are important  
29 details to provide. The SAB also noted that providing hyperlinks to the study summary tables in the  
30 Supplemental Information document makes finding relevant data easier, and that the Exposure-  
31 Response arrays provide a valuable overview of the data.

32 EPA Response GC.2-11: No response necessary.

### 33 ***Describing the Dose-Response Steps***

34 SAB Comment GC.2-12: The SAB noted that the tabulation of points of departure (PODs),  
35 human equivalent concentrations (HECs), and applied uncertainty factors (UFs) is useful and allows  
36 for the comparison of endpoints and the distinction between a low POD with few UFs and a high  
37 POD and many UFs.

38 EPA Response GC.2-12: No response necessary.



SAB Comment GC.2-13: SAB noted that the inclusion of discussions of consistencies and inconsistencies among data, relevance of studies for human risk evaluation, knowledge of mode of action (even if it must say that little is known), and alternative interpretations of the available data on potential causation for each endpoint represents an important advance in the Hazard Identification sections. SAB further noted concern that these interpretation passages are too concise and recommended that a consistent way be developed to document these arguments without unduly distracting from the main Hazard Identification discussions.

EPA Response GC.2-13: Discussions in the interpretations of the organ-specific TMB-induced toxicities have been augmented where appropriate to highlight commonalities across effects. As IRIS continues to implement NRC- and SAB-recommended changes to the documents, a more consistent way to present summaries and interpretations will be developed.

### **Presenting Outcomes**

SAB Comment GC.2-14: SAB noted that the both the Hazard Identification and Dose-Response Analysis sections simply dive in to the first endpoint or analysis to be considered, and then have separate sections on each. SAB commented that there is little overview to prepare a reader for what is coming or to point to the parts that are critical versus those that are there for completeness. In general, to help enable a reader to grasp the main lines of argument and only go into detail when needed, the SAB recommended that both the Hazard Identification and the Dose-Response Analysis sections have an initial paragraph setting out the main issues that will be considered and indicating which considerations (to be developed in the subsequent text) are the most notable for the larger assessment process. SAB also recommended a parallel paragraph at the end of each of these chapters to summarize what its contents have provided to the larger assessment process. The aim of these paragraphs would be to make it possible to not only read the document in more detail than provided in the Executive Summary, but also still quickly see the deeper structure of the report and where to focus for more information on particular aspects.

EPA Response GC.2-14: An introductory paragraph has been added to the beginning of the Hazard Identification section. This paragraph summarizes the broad scope and purpose of the Hazard Identification section and analysis/interpretations therein, including highlighting particular sections most important for the assessment conclusions (i.e., the neurotoxicity section, similarities in toxicity between isomers, and the differing results observed in the C9 studies). No new concluding paragraph was added to the Hazard Identification section as such a paragraph would be largely duplicative of Section 1.3 (Summary and Evaluation). An introductory paragraph has also been added to the Dose-Response Analysis section, briefly highlighting what types of benchmark dose (BMD), PBPK, and/or default dosimetric adjustment analyses were performed and the major conclusions of the dose-response section.

**General Charge Question 3:** [NRC \(2011\)](#) states that “all critical studies need to be thoroughly evaluated with standardized approaches that are clearly formulated” and that “strengthened, more integrative, and more transparent discussions of weight of evidence are needed.”

1 *NRC also indicated that the changes suggested would involve a multiyear process. Please comment on*  
2 *EPA's success thus far in implementing these recommendations.*

3 SAB Comment GC.3-1: The SAB found that, in general, a great deal of progress has been  
4 made in restructuring the document to focus the main body on documenting and explaining the  
5 interpretations, choices, and analyses, and relegating the supporting information to appendices.  
6 However, the SAB also noted that the process of systematic review still needs development.  
7 Documentation of the process of identifying literature has progressed, but further development is  
8 needed in establishing standard practices for abstracting relevant data, evaluating study quality,  
9 strengths, and shortcomings, and integrating evidence across studies. In making this  
10 recommendation, the SAB recognized that an important challenge facing the Agency is that  
11 assessments must go ahead even as this further development proceeds and before all aspects are  
12 complete. Ultimately, the SAB recommended that a good principle to follow in conducting  
13 assessments during the process of revision is to consider the reasons behind the recommendations  
14 for change, and to make efforts to address the issues and to explain how the chosen approaches  
15 seek to reflect the NRC recommendations, although the methods may not yet be fully developed and  
16 agreed upon.

17 EPA Response GC.3-1: The SAB acknowledged and agreed with EPA's phased  
18 implementation of the NRC recommendations for improving the IRIS process. As such, EPA is fully  
19 implementing systematic review methods (e.g., including methods to systematically judge study  
20 quality and the consistent application of study exclusion/inclusion criteria) in new IRIS  
21 assessments that are in the Problem Formulation or Draft Development steps. Assessments that  
22 are further along in the IRIS process, such as the TMB assessment, are incorporating elements of  
23 systematic review methods, as well as other document improvements such as streamlining the  
24 document structure and increased incorporation of tables, figures, and exposure-response arrays  
25 for the efficient presentation of data, in order to keep the program at large on track.

26 **General Charge Question 4:** *EPA solicited public comments on the draft IRIS assessment*  
27 *of trimethylbenzenes [May 2012] and has revised the assessment to respond to the scientific issues*  
28 *raised in the comments. A summary of the public comments and EPA's responses are provided in*  
29 *Appendix F of the Supplemental Information to the Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes. Are*  
30 *there scientific issues that were raised by the public as described in Appendix F that may not have been*  
31 *adequately addressed by EPA?*

32 SAB Comment GC.4-1: While the SAB felt that Appendix F (External Peer Review draft)  
33 addressed issues raised in public comments in a transparent manner, the panel was divided on the  
34 adequacy and dispositions that were made as presented in the appendix. Most importantly, the  
35 SAB panel expressed a number of opinions on the role that the C9 fraction studies should play in the  
36 assessment and whether or not the possible reversibility of the critical effect of decreased pain  
37 sensitivity was discussed adequately.

EPA Response GC.4-1: The Agency appreciates that the SAB found that Appendix F in the External Peer Review draft assessment was generally responsive to public comments. Regarding the adequacy and disposition of comments regarding the C9 fraction studies, in the final TMB assessment, the C9 studies are covered more extensively below in EPA Responses C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-6 and -8. The issues surrounding the possible reversibility of decreased pain sensitivity are covered below in EPA Responses E.1-5 and E.4-4; briefly, it was concluded that when the entire pain sensitivity database was taken into consideration (short-term TMB and subchronic TMB or C9 studies), the data clearly indicated that decreased pain sensitivity was not a transient effect, and that exposure TMB isomers resulted in persistent alterations in an organism's ability to correctly process painful stimuli.

## **Chemical-Specific Charge Questions**

**Charge Question A.1:** *The major conclusions of the assessment pertaining to the hazard identification and dose-response analysis have been summarized in the Executive Summary. Please comment on whether the conclusions have been clearly and sufficiently described for purposes of condensing the Toxicological Review information into a concise summary.*

SAB Comment A.1-1: While the SAB commented that the Executive Summary did an adequate job at condensing a large amount of information presented in the TMB assessment, the panel provided a number of recommendations for improving the presentation and flow of information included. The SAB recommended that the Executive Summary be shortened to emphasize the major conclusions of the assessment. Specifically, the panel recommended removing all citations and combining the duplicative sections on "Confidence" into a single succinct section. The SAB also recommended that information not be duplicated in tables and the text of the Executive Summary. Finally, the SAB noted that much of Section 15 of the Executive Summary seemed speculative and should not be included.

EPA Response A.1-2: All recommendations made regarding the Executive Summary have been incorporated. The Executive Summary has been shortened to emphasize major conclusions of the assessments: the available information in the inhalation and oral toxicity databases and the derivation of the RfC and reference dose (RfD). Citations have been removed. The structure of the executive summary has changed to consolidate discussions of particular issues (confidence, etc.) into one section covering all isomers; this follows the restructuring of the Dose-Response Analysis section in the main body of the assessment. All of the discussion regarding Susceptible Populations and Lifestages has been removed from the Executive Summary other than to state "No chemical-specific data that would allow for the identification of populations or lifestages with increased susceptibility to TMB exposure exist."

**Charge Question B.1:** *The process for identifying and selecting pertinent studies for consideration in developing the assessment is detailed in the Literature Search Strategy/Study Selection section. Please comment on whether the literature search approach, screening, evaluation, and selection of studies for inclusion in the assessment are clearly described and supported. Please*

1 *identify any additional peer-reviewed studies from the primary literature that should be considered in*  
2 *the assessment of noncancer and cancer health effects of 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB.*

3 SAB Comment B.1-1: The SAB found that the search strategy was clearly articulated and  
4 that the databases and search terms were clearly defined. However, the SAB noted some concerns  
5 that the way that studies were selected for use in the assessment was not transparent. Specifically,  
6 the SAB noted that while it was clear which papers were included in the assessment, there were no  
7 means of determining which papers were excluded from the assessment and for what reasons. The  
8 SAB recommended that the EPA provide citations for all studies identified via the literature search  
9 and group them according to reasons why they were excluded from consideration.

10 EPA Response B.1-1: As noted above in EPA Response GC.2-5, EPA has provided all of the  
11 identified studies in the HERO database, and has re-tagged all of the references such that all of the  
12 identified studies are tagged more thoroughly, including those references determined to not be  
13 relevant to the assessment. For example, there are now exclusion tags that identify which studies  
14 were excluded based on being published in non-relevant journals (e.g., chemical engineering  
15 journals) and which studies were excluded based on title and abstract screenings. The “primary”  
16 (initial) literature search has also been updated to November 2015 and the results of this literature  
17 search update are reported in a similar fashion.

18 SAB Comment B.1-2: The SAB further commented that in the External Peer Review Draft,  
19 65 references were excluded “based upon manual review of papers/abstracts,” but these papers  
20 were not individually identified. The SAB also commented that excluding papers because they were  
21 not available in English is not a valid reason for exclusion. Lastly, SAB noted that reporting some  
22 papers as being excluded based on being in vitro reports, but including other in vitro reports  
23 elsewhere in the document, was inconsistent.

24 EPA Response B.1-2: The entire “primary” (initial) literature search has been re-tagged in  
25 the HERO database. As such, all studies found via the literature search are now included in the  
26 database, and users can now determine which individual studies were excluded for which reasons  
27 at what step in the process (i.e., some references were excluded based on which journals they were  
28 published in, and some were excluded based on manual screening of titles/abstracts based on  
29 whether they were exposure studies, in nonrelevant in vitro systems [e.g., bacterial systems], etc.).  
30 A number of papers were previously excluded based on being published in foreign language  
31 journals; these foreign language journal articles were re-screened based on their title and/or  
32 abstract. If it was judged that any non-English reference should be excluded on content or subject,  
33 it was binned in the appropriate exclusion bin. If a non-English reference was judged to possibly be  
34 relevant to the assessment, it was placed in the “Considered” bin and reviewed further to determine  
35 whether it should be translated into English. Ultimately, no non-English references were judged to  
36 be critical to the needs of the assessment and correspondingly no references were translated into  
37 English. In re-tagging all of the references in the TMB database, any decision to exclude in vitro

studies has been tagged such that it is clear that the study was excluded because it was unrelated and uninformative to the purposes of the TMB assessment, not for simply being an in vitro study.

SAB Comment B.1-3: The SAB noted that the search strategy did not mention compounds structurally related to TMB isomers, including xylenes or ethylbenzenes, and that this may have resulted in important studies being excluded from the assessment. The SAB recommended a number of human occupational studies investigating the effects of exposure to complex mixtures of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that should be added to the assessment in order to strengthen its conclusions:

1. Chapter 8 on TMBs ([NRC, 2013](#))
2. Health hazards of solvents exposure among workers in paint industry ([El Hamid Hassan et al., 2013](#))
3. Xylene-induced auditory dysfunction in humans ([Fuente et al., 2013](#))
4. Hearing loss associated with xylene exposure in a laboratory worker ([Fuente et al., 2012](#))
5. Visual dysfunction in workers exposed to a mixture of organic solvents ([Gong et al., 2003](#))
6. Ototoxicity effects of low exposure to solvent mixture among paint manufacturing workers ([Juárez-Pérez et al., 2014](#))
7. Short latency visual evoked potentials (SLVEPs) in occupational exposure to organic solvents ([Pratt et al., 2000](#))
8. Auditory brainstem response in gas station attendants ([Quevedo et al., 2012](#))

EPA Response B.1-3: The studies recommended by the SAB for inclusion have been added to the TMB assessment where appropriate. However, it should be noted that these studies either involve human exposures to complex organic solvent mixtures or related alkylbenzene compounds. Therefore, while these studies provide further qualitative support that exposure to TMBs and/or related compounds as part of complex solvent mixtures result in adverse health effects, caveats regarding their interpretations still apply. Namely, it's not possible to attribute the observed effects completely to one specific component of the mixture, and there is some uncertainty that related alkylbenzenes would elicit the exact same health effects as TMBs. Other shortcomings of the human studies involved imprecision in effect estimates due to low statistical power and lack of quantitative exposure assessment. As discussed above in EPA Responses GC.2-5 and GC.2-6, EPA also conducted a targeted secondary literature search of review papers on related compounds in order to identify additional data that would potentially strengthen the conclusions of the assessment.

SAB Comment B.1-4: The SAB recommended that a summary table be included for each human health effect that reports study design, inclusion/exclusion criteria, results, etc. in Appendix B.

EPA Response B.1-4: Instead of including a summary table covering all of the human studies included in the assessment, EPA replaced all of the individual human study summary tables with Table C-16 that provides all of the pertinent study details requested by SAB, as well as study details previously reported in the individual tables.

**Charge Question C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence):** *A synthesis of the evidence for trimethylbenzene toxicity is provided in Chapter 1, Hazard Identification. Please comment on whether the available data have been clearly and appropriately synthesized for each toxicological effect. Please comment on whether the weight of evidence for hazard identification has been clearly described and scientifically supported.*

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-1: The SAB noted that the synthesis of evidence for the three TMB isomers was efficiently divided up into sections corresponding to the various target organs or forms of toxicity, and then by human versus animal studies and route of exposure when possible. The SAB noted that the studies chosen for review were clearly described and that the evidence tables and exposure-response arrays augmented the text effectively. The SAB recommended that an introductory paragraph describing the section layout, including the summary tables for each endpoint, would improve readability.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-1: As noted above in EPA Response GC.2-14, an introductory paragraph has been added to the beginning of the Hazard Identification section. This paragraph briefly outlines the structure of the Hazard Identification section and what types of data are presented.

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-2: The SAB expressed concern that the discussion of individual endpoints was flawed by questionable statistical statements or inferences. Several instances in the document were provided as evidence of these flawed statistical statements. For example, the TMB document notes, regarding decreased performance on the rotarod, that “This impaired function [i.e., failures on the rotarod apparatus] was still evident at 2 weeks post-exposure and, while not statistically significant for 1,2,4-TMB, may indicate long-lasting neuromuscular effects of subchronic exposures to 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB.” The SAB recommended that descriptions of results more closely adhere to the rule that statistical significance provides the criterion of whether an effect has occurred.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-2: It is EPA’s practice that evaluation of evidence should first consider biological significance to the extent possible. The purpose of this evaluation is to understand the extent to which individuals could demonstrate some adverse effect in response to exposure. It is important to note that at the population level, even small changes in the average of a response parameter can result in an increase in the number of people in the “abnormal” or “impaired” range for the particular endpoint. Thus, a relatively small difference can be considered biologically significant. When biological significance is uncertain or understood less clearly (e.g., no suitable normal range), statistical significance testing has been used to augment this evaluation. When suitable, well-designed studies are used, a pattern of statistically significant results for an

effect, or related effects, across such studies generally increases the confidence that the effect is associated with the exposure. It is important to note, however, that statistical significance testing, while a useful tool for the systematic evaluation of data, has limitations, that, when overlooked, can lead to flawed conclusions. Specifically, lack of statistical significance should not automatically be interpreted as evidence of no effect. For example, if an exposure at a particular level leads to a measurable effect, studies with low statistical power are unlikely to produce statistically significant results. It is important to examine patterns in results across all studies that report data for the same endpoint, taking into account relative exposure ranges and variability of effects. The final TMB assessment has been revised such that discussions of observed health effects appropriately note cases of both statistical and biological significance, taking particular care to note trends across studies and isomers. Using the example above (failures on the rotarod apparatus), EPA notes that:

Significant decreases in rotarod performance were observed at 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB (40% response) and ≥493 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB (50–70% response) when tested immediately after exposure for 13 weeks ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#)); a clear exposure duration-dependency for this effect was observed, with less robust, but statistically significant, decreases in performance also reported at 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> after 4 (40 and 30% response) or 8 (60 and 40% response) weeks of exposure to 1,2,3-TMB or 1,2,4-TMB, respectively. This impaired function was still evident at 2 weeks post-exposure, indicating a persistence of this effect. Specifically, failures in 70 and 40% of animals after 13 weeks of exposure to 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB and 1,2,4-TMB, respectively (compared to 0% of animals in control groups at any time), were 50 and 30% at 2 weeks post-exposure, although 30% failures at 15 weeks for 1,2,4-TMB was no longer significantly different from controls (note: statistical comparisons did not appear to include a repeated measures component and comparisons to the 13-week time-point were not performed). The observation of substantial decrements in rotarod performance is interpreted as a biologically relevant response in light of the lack of failures in controls and the similarities in response magnitude across isomers.

It is important to note that this discussion of nonstatistically significant, but possibly biologically significant, decreases in rotarod performance was included in the context of other statistically significant decrements of neuromuscular performance. All discussions of biologically significant, but not statistically significant, effects are included in that context. In other words, when nonstatistically significant effects are included in the discussion, they are used to compare results across studies and isomers in order to provide a fuller account of the pattern of TMB-induced toxicity.

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-3: The SAB recommended that the discussion of respiratory effects should be strengthened by further consideration of the relevance to humans of the effects observed in the high-dose animal studies. SAB noted that while it is clear that respiratory effects are observed and are a relevant endpoint in humans, the distinction between the high-dose animal effects and the human effects could have been made more clearly. The SAB also recommended that the limitations of the human evidence for hematological and clinical chemistry

effect, based on the uncertainties in exposures (mixture components, doses) also be more clearly described. The SAB noted that the TMB assessment clearly communicates the inadequacy of the cancer toxicity database, including the minimal genotoxicity database.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-3: The discussions regarding the human relevance of respiratory effects observed in high-dose animals and the limitations of the human hematological evidence have been augmented in the final TMB assessment.

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-4: The SAB noted that the summary table (page 1-49, Table 1-7 in the External Peer Review draft; page 1-60, Table 1-8 in the current document) was very helpful in understanding the points made with regard to the toxicological similarities across TMB isomers, and recommended that a summary table or scheme regarding toxicokinetics and metabolism would also be useful.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-4: A summary table presenting the similarities in toxicokinetics (absorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion [ADME]) has been added to Section 1.1.1 (Toxicokinetics of TMB Isomers).

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-5: The SAB noted that the synthesis section that provides weight-of-evidence determinations for the noncancer and cancer effects would be a good place for a separate subsection that describes the major uncertainties and gaps present in the TMB toxicological database.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-5: A discussion of the major gaps and uncertainties in the TMB toxicological database has been added to Section 1.3.1 (Weight of Evidence for Effects Other than Cancer).

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-6: The SAB noted that the current synthesis discussions are brief and do not weigh the value of evidence from related chemicals or from studies done on the C9 fraction. The SAB further noted that structurally related alkylbenzenes such as toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene, and styrene have similarities in neurotoxic effect and metabolic disposition and that use of such information is clearly supported in the External Peer Review draft version of the IRIS Preamble, Section 3.1 (lines 11–15) "[s]earches for information on mechanisms of toxicity are inherently specialized and may include studies on other agents that act through related mechanisms" and in Section 5.4, p. xxiii (lines 18–21), "Pertinent information may also come from studies of metabolites or of compounds that are structurally similar or that act through similar mechanisms." SAB therefore recommended that additional animal and human studies on related aromatic solvents be considered in the qualitative and mechanistic interpretations of TMB toxicity. A list of such studies are included in SAB Comment 3 of Charge Question B.1. SAB suggested that these data be used in multiple fashions, including the determination of whether effects seen in TMB-only studies are consistent across related compounds and to inform potential modes of action. The SAB noted that perfect consistency is not required, but major discrepancies should be noted.



EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-6: As noted above in EPA Response B.1-3, the human studies investigating the health effects of related compounds or mixtures containing those substances have been added to the TMB assessment where appropriate. Additionally, a targeted literature search has been conducted to identify review articles on related compounds in order to assess a large body of literature for the pertinent pieces of information that could serve to fill data gaps in the primary TMB literature. Information gleaned from these review articles, and from additional primary literature identified through the evaluation of the review articles, has been included in the TMB assessment to make informed assumptions regarding TMB isomers' potential mode of action and whether it can be reasonably anticipated that TMB isomers could cause certain types of toxicity when isomer-specific data are missing (e.g., developmental neurotoxicity) (see EPA Responses GC.2-5 and GC.2-6).

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-7: SAB noted that the data gaps for the TMB database appear to be the lack of a developmental neurotoxicity study, the lack of a multi-generational reproduction study, and the lack of a chronic noncancer (neurotoxicity) study. The SAB recommended that the EPA could potentially utilize data from these analogous alkylbenzenes to inform these data gaps and inform the selection of the value for the database UF.

EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-7: EPA agrees with the SAB regarding the major limitations in the TMB toxicity database. Information obtained through the secondary literature search has been used to fill in data gaps in the TMB toxicological database, especially regarding the potential mode of action of TMBs and the possibility that gestational exposure to TMB isomers affect neurodevelopment. Consideration of the fuller database, TMB isomer, related alkylbenzene, and C9 fraction studies helped further support EPA's selection of a database uncertainty factor of 3 (see EPA Response E.4-5 below for complete details).

SAB Comment C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-8: SAB recommended that the discussion of the existing C9 mixtures studies be brought into the main document describing their strengths and weaknesses and relevance to the setting of RfDs/RfCs for individual TMB isomers, with particular emphasis on whether they provide evidence to inform the aforementioned data gaps. For example, regarding the developmental neurotoxicity data gap, the SAB noted that a Hungarian study ([Lehotzky et al., 1985](#)) tested a C9 mixture containing TMBs (Aromatol) for developmental neurotoxicity in rats. SAB reported that study had minimal reporting of results, simply stating that there were no effects of Aromatol on dams or offspring at any time point in spite of the fact that the high dose of Aromatol was 2,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, a dose that one would expect to have a neurotoxic effect in dams during and after exposure, based upon results of other testing. SAB concluded that the lack of any toxicity in dams or offspring, combined with the lack of reporting of any data (including Aromatol treatment group neurological testing or Aromatol composition), and the fact that it was a mixture and not a specific TMB, makes this study of limited utility for filling the developmental neurotoxicity data gap. The SAB further noted that other issues relevant to the interpretation of the C9 fraction studies be discussed in the TMB assessment, including issues related to possible

1 differences in metabolic clearance and distribution between TMB isomers and the C9 fraction. SAB  
2 noted that considering this information is relevant for the evaluation of individual TMB isomers  
3 and would help strengthen the Agency's decisions regarding the role of the C9 fraction in the  
4 current assessment.

5 EPA Response C.1 (Synthesis of Evidence)-8: Information on the C9 studies has been  
6 brought into the main body of the text and discussed in the relevant subsections of the Hazard  
7 Identification section. Discussions regarding the utility of the C9 studies for deriving reference  
8 values has also been expanded in the Dose-Response Analysis section, with a particular focus on  
9 whether these studies are suitable for derivation of reference values and whether or not  
10 consideration of these studies and other studies on related compounds (i.e., toluene, etc.) help  
11 inform decisions related to selecting the value for the database UF for TMB isomer-specific  
12 reference values. Ultimately it was determined that the C9 fraction studies were not suitable for  
13 derivation of reference values. However, consideration of the related alkylbenzenes data was  
14 judged to be useful for supporting EPA's selection of the database uncertainty factor (see EPA  
15 Response E.4-5 below for complete details).

16 Two other industry reports regarding the toxicity of mixtures containing the isomers ([IBT](#)  
17 [Labs, 1992](#); [Chevron, 1985](#)), however, were carefully considered but not included in the  
18 Toxicological Review. There were multiple rationales for the exclusion of these studies. Of note,  
19 these studies were not peer-reviewed and did not investigate the toxicity of individual TMB  
20 isomers. EPA generally only includes studies that are peer-reviewed, and will seek out a peer-  
21 review for a non-peer-reviewed reference if it appears to be critical for the needs of the assessment.  
22 Neither of these references were deemed critical for the assessment. The reasons for excluding the  
23 Chevron study included deficiencies in reporting the composition of the test substance, the  
24 conclusion that there was no need for a 1 generation reproduction C9 fraction study when a full  
25 multigenerational reproduction C9 fraction study was already included in the database ([Mckee et](#)  
26 [al., 1990](#)), and that it was a dermal toxicity study. The main rationale for the exclusion of the IBT  
27 Labs study was that it was a short-term inhalation study of a complex mixture containing TMB  
28 isomers not likely to be critical to the needs of the assessment. As such, peer-review was not  
29 sought for either of these references. Another industry report investigating the oral toxicity of  
30 1,2,4-TMB was further considered for inclusion in the Toxicological Review ([Borrington, 1983](#)). In  
31 this study, male F344 rats (N = 10) were exposed to high oral doses of either 0.5 or 2.0 g/kg  
32 1,2,4-TMB daily for 28 days. All rats in the high-dose group and one rat in the low-dose group died  
33 during exposure (no times given). Other reported effects were enlarged adrenal glands, mottled  
34 and red thymuses, and congested lungs. Given the limited toxicological information provided in  
35 this report (other than total mortality in the high-dose group), this report was not included in the  
36 Toxicological Review.

37 **Charge Question C.1 (Summary and Evaluation):** *Does EPA's hazard assessment of*  
38 *noncancer human health effects of trimethylbenzenes clearly integrate the available scientific*

evidence (i.e., human, experimental animal, and mechanistic evidence) to support the conclusions that trimethylbenzenes pose potential hazards to the nervous system, respiratory system, the developing fetus, and the circulatory system (i.e., blood)?

SAB Comment C.1 (Summary and Evaluation)-1: The SAB noted that, while Section 1.3.1 (Weight of Evidence for Effects Other than Cancer) contains a summary description of the toxicological evidence of effects of the TMBs on the nervous, respiratory, circulatory, and developmental systems, the section does not adequately describe the limitations and uncertainties within the database or how the results of the hazard assessment will be utilized in the subsequent dose-response evaluation. The SAB recommended that Section 1.3.1 be revised to include the following: (1) a short summary of the toxicokinetic similarities and differences among the three isomers early in the section to provide context to the subsequent effect summaries; (2) a short summary of the neurological effects database limitations and accompanying uncertainties such as lack of subchronic data for some isomers, lack of chronic data for all isomers, questions of reversibility, and lack of mechanistic data; (3) statement(s) regarding the confidence in the hazard identification results given the limitations of the available database; and (4) inclusion of a concluding paragraph(s) that states how the results of the hazard identification will be utilized in the subsequent dose-response evaluation.

EPA Response C.1 (Summary and Evaluation)-1: All of the SAB-recommended additions to Section 1.3.1 have been incorporated into the text.

**Charge Question C.2 (Summary and Evaluation):** *Does EPA's hazard assessment of the carcinogenicity of trimethylbenzenes clearly integrate the available scientific evidence to support the conclusions that under EPA's Guidelines for Carcinogen Risk Assessment (U.S. EPA, 2005), there is "inadequate information to assess the carcinogenic potential" of trimethylbenzenes?*

SAB Comment C.2 (Summary and Evaluation)-1: The SAB agreed with the EPA's determination that there was "inadequate information to assess the carcinogenic potential" of TMB isomers and concluded that EPA's hazard assessment of the carcinogenicity of TMB isomers did integrate all available scientific evidence. The SAB recommended that EPA incorporate data on related compounds qualitatively to fill data gaps if possible.

EPA Response C.2 (Summary and Evaluation)-1: Information on related alkylbenzene compounds has been incorporated into the cancer hazard assessment to the extent possible.

**Charge Question D.1:** *Data characterizing the toxicokinetics of 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB following inhalation and oral exposures in humans and experimental animals support the use of physiologically-based pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models for 1,2,4-TMB. For the purposes of this assessment, the Hissink et al. (2007) model, originally describing 1,2,4-TMB toxicokinetics following exposure to white spirit (a complex mixture of volatile organic compounds), was modified by EPA to calculate internal dose metrics following exposure to 1,2,4-TMB alone for the derivation of an inhalation RfC for 1,2,4-TMB. Additionally, the model was further modified by the addition of an oral route of exposure for use in a route-to-route extrapolation for the derivation of an oral RfD for*

1,2,4-TMB. Please comment on whether the selected PBPK model ([Hissink et al., 2007](#)) with EPA's modifications adequately describe the toxicokinetics of 1,2,4-TMB (Appendix B [of the TMB Assessment]). Was the PBPK modeling appropriately utilized and clearly described? Are the model assumptions and parameters scientifically supported and clearly described? Are the uncertainties in the model structure adequately characterized and discussed?

**SAB Comment D.1-1:** The SAB found that the selected model did an adequate job of simulating the time-course of TMB in the blood of human subjects during and following acute inhalation exposures. The SAB noted that there was excellent agreement between predicted and measured blood TMB levels, both during and following 4-hour exposures, for the subjects of [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) inhaling 100 ppm white spirit. The SAB noted that the model modestly, but consistently, under-predicted blood levels in volunteers inhaling 30 ppm TMB for 8 hours ([Kostrzewski et al., 1997](#)) and that the model also consistently under-predicted blood levels in persons inhaling 2 or 25 ppm TMB for 2 hours ([Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a; Järnberg et al., 1996](#)), but to a larger degree. The SAB noted that these subjects exercised during exposure, which would increase their systemic uptake of TMB.

**EPA Response D.1-1:** It should be noted that while exercise will increase systemic uptake, as stated by the reviewers (by increasing respiration rate and cardiac output), the accompanying increase in cardiac output would also increase TMB's distribution to the liver, which would therefore also increase the rate of metabolic clearance. It is unclear how the respective increases in both respiration and cardiac output, as well as distribution to the liver due to exercise would influence the ultimate model predictions of TMB blood levels following exercise in humans. However, given that the model did an adequate job of simulating the time-course of TMB in the blood of human subjects, EPA determined there was no need to further investigate the "modest" under-predictions of some of the human data.

**SAB Comment D.1-2:** The SAB concluded that, in most instances, the model over-predicted blood TMB levels in rats subjected to single exposures to white spirit ([Hissink et al., 2007](#)) and TMB ([Swiercz et al., 2003](#)). The differences between predicted and empirical levels typically increased from 1.5–2-fold at lower inhaled concentrations to 4–6-fold at  $\geq 100$  ppm. The accuracy of predictions of brain levels was similar to those for blood. The SAB found that the model reasonably simulated blood and brain levels in rats after repeated TMB exposures, and that disparity between simulated and empirical data also increased with increasing vapor concentration. With the repeated exposure data of [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#), there were ~2- and 3-fold differences for the 25 and 50 ppm exposures, respectively. Differences in brain levels after 606 hours were somewhat greater. SAB found that there was more disparity (4–5-fold) for blood and brain levels in the rats of [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#) inhaling 100 ppm TMB for 3 days.

**EPA Response D.1-2:** In considering these comments on the model fit to the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) data, further attention was given to the discrepancy between the results in Table C-9 and the model fits in Figure C-12. The data in Figure C-12 come from Table 2 of [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#)

and the data in Table C-9 come from Table 4 of that paper, but the results are significantly different. For example, [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) Table 2 lists the 1,2,4-TMB (venous) blood concentration at 3 minutes post-exposure (end of 4<sup>th</sup> week) as  $4.06 \pm 0.46$  mg/L, while Table 4 lists the (arterial) blood concentration after “4 weeks” as  $1.54 \pm 0.32$  mg/L. The model calibration used time-course data from tail-vein sampling, such as in [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) Table 2, and the internal dose being used is venous concentration, so Table C-8 has been updated to provide a numerical comparison of these two. At 25 and 100 ppm, the model results are within 30% of the tail-vein data, mostly within 10%, all within 1 standard deviation (SD). At 250 ppm, the discrepancy ranges from a factor of 1.5 (50% over-prediction) to 6-fold.

In the experimental methods, [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) only state that the samples for Table 4 were collected “after decapitation.” During the time, or range of times, between removal of animals from the exposure chamber and decapitation, and until a tissue sample is chilled, evaporative loss of TMB could occur. Therefore, the table has been revised to compare the data for model results 30–60 minutes post-exposure, rather than immediately after exposure. In contrast, [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#) state that animals were removed from the exposure chamber and tissues were collected within 3 minutes.

SAB Comment D.1-3: SAB noted that the poor model prediction for inhaled concentrations  $\geq 100$  ppm in rats is acknowledged by the EPA authors. SAB further noted that EPA uses the PBPK model to provide simulations for exposures outside its application domain. This is necessitated by the fact that the 100 ppm dose is in the middle of the rat dose-response range used for BMD modeling. SAB concluded that over-predicting rat dosimetry in this range thus has the potential to influence the results of dose-response modeling and extrapolation of potency to humans. Marked over-prediction of high-dose data necessitated the omission of the highest dose for BMD modeling.

The SAB recommended two possible options for alleviating this issue. The first option is to refine the rat PBPK model to improve fits or conduct BMD modeling first using inhaled concentration to identify the POD, and then using the rat and human PBPK models to determine the HEC. SAB noted that refining the PBPK model may require recalibration of some type, such as the addition of a first-order metabolic pathway consistent with the PBPK model of [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#), or changing hepatic blood flow to 25% instead of 17% of cardiac output.

The second option proposed by SAB is for EPA to conduct BMD modeling of the [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) data using air TMB concentration as the dose metric to derive the POD. Subsequently, the PBPK model would be used to convert the POD to the weekly average blood concentration.

EPA Response D.1-3: EPA has chosen to pursue the second option offered by the SAB. When implementing this option, EPA ensured that the resulting lower confidence limits on the BMD (BMDLs) used for HEC estimation were below the 100 ppm ( $492 \text{ mg/m}^3$ ) threshold of model validation.



1        SAB Comment D.1-4: SAB noted that they conducted a quality control/quality assurance  
2 review and confirmed that the model simulations presented in Appendix B of the IRIS document  
3 draft were accurate. SAB noted that aside from a couple of minor technical issues that were  
4 identified, no fundamental flaws or issues were found.

5        EPA Response D.1-4: No response necessary.

6        SAB Comment D.1-5: The SAB found that the EPA's assumptions, in modifying the [Hissink](#)  
7 [et al. \(2007\)](#) model to predict the kinetics of inhaled TMB for repeated exposure scenarios, were  
8 reasonable and appropriate. The major caveats, however, were not identified up-front on  
9 page B-20 (e.g., that the original model and its parameters were for TMB and white spirit, lack of  
10 parameters for the oral route, lack of parameters for pregnancy). The SAB recommended that the  
11 EPA expand the explanation and justification for the modifications of model parameters.  
12 Specifically, the discussion of the input parameters (e.g., human tissue:blood partition coefficients,  
13 cardiac output, liver blood flow) should be justified. Additionally the use of scaled-up rat  $V_{\max}$   
14 values, when human values were available, requires further explanation. Metabolic constants could  
15 be questioned, as they summarily reflect the rate of TMB metabolism during mixed exposures to  
16 white spirits, rather than exposure to TMB alone. The EPA did not attempt any re-estimation or  
17 adjustment of parameters for chronic exposure (e.g., enzyme induction, dose-dependency, growth  
18 dilution). Results of sensitivity analyses can be used to indicate whether the choice of liver blood  
19 flow substantially impacts the model predictions and thus warrants revisiting. It was noted that  
20 human tissue:blood partition coefficients used in modeling were twice those for rats. [Meulenber](#)  
21 [and Vijverberg \(2000\)](#) estimated human brain:blood, fat:blood, and kidney:blood partition  
22 coefficients that were higher for rats than for humans. It was suggested that first-order and  
23 saturable metabolism be incorporated into the model, and the model be run to explore the impact  
24 of the change.

25        EPA Response D.1-5: As recommended by the SAB, the major caveats and concerns for the  
26 [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model have been added to Section C.2.2. Additional points on specific items  
27 have been added at appropriate points in Section C.2.3. A justification statement for revising model  
28 parameters (i.e., to address the caveats and concerns identified above) was added at the beginning  
29 of Section C.2.3.2, with further justification provided at appropriate points in the section. A  
30 sentence was added to the description of the human model fits, and a brief paragraph was added to  
31 the "Summary of Optimization and Validation," to explain that because the scaled  $V_{\max}$  (i.e., rat-  
32 derived  $V_{\max}C$ ) and rat-derived  $K_m$  were found to adequately predict the human data, and numerical  
33 optimization did not provide a significant improvement in the fit, the scaled  $V_{\max}$  and rat  $K_m$  were  
34 used for the human model.

35        Regarding SAB's comment related to fractional blood flow to the liver: if the fractional  
36 blood flow to the liver was increased and no other parameters were changed, then the predictable  
37 result is that the net rate of metabolism would increase. However, the metabolic rate constant  $V_{\max}$   
38 was calibrated using the fractional hepatic blood flow set in model. So to fully evaluate the model

behavior, if hepatic blood flow were increased to 25% of cardiac output for example, there is a need to first make that change and then re-calibrate the  $V_{\max}$  to the available data. It seems likely that doing both of these things in combination would for the most part cancel out any impact of increasing hepatic blood flow alone. The chance of obtaining a significant improvement is uncertain and this sensitivity analysis would entail considerable effort. As the SAB's overall conclusion was that the model was adequate describing TMB blood concentrations as currently parameterized, the significant, additional effort required for this type of sensitivity analysis was not undertaken. Although [Meulenbergh and Vijverberg \(2000\)](#) reported tissue:blood partition coefficients that were higher in rats than in humans, the original partition coefficients (as identified by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#)) used in the original model fitting were retained in the current PBPK model.

**SAB Comment D.1-6:** The SAB did not find a specific discussion of the uncertainties in the model's structure. While these uncertainties may be implicitly included in the uncertainties discussion, SAB recommended that they should be specifically discussed in reference to the PBPK model.

**EPA Response D.1-6:** An extensive discussion of modeling uncertainties was added to Section C.2.3.2.

**SAB Comment D.1-7:** One SAB Panelist noted that there is a published human PBPK model ([Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#)). The SAB acknowledged that the EPA requested the model code through email and was unable to obtain the model. The SAB noted that the model is for TMB alone, and suggested that using this model may have the following benefits over the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model: (1) it avoids the complications and uncertainties of concurrent exposure to other components in white spirit and necessary species-to-species extrapolations; (2) empirical human kinetic data are available from the same laboratory for model parameterization and validation; and (3) human neurobehavioral data are also available in the literature from other research groups. The SAB noted that the results of these studies identify human no-observed-adverse-effect levels (NOAELs)/lowest-observed-adverse-effect levels (LOAELs) for acute irritation and central nervous system (CNS) effects by TMB and white spirit. The SAB noted that EPA policy is to use and consider human data and validated human models when available. Because the EPA could not obtain the [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) model, the SAB provided recommendations to improve the use of the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model and encouraged the EPA to, at a minimum, be more transparent in its discussion of available models and model selection in this and future assessments.

**EPA Response D.1-7:** The EPA has followed its practices for using human toxicokinetic data, including data from [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) and previous studies by these authors, and of using a validated human model (i.e., [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#)) in the TMB assessment. The toxicokinetic data generated from the Järnberg and Johanson studies were used in the validation of the human [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model; these validations are extensively reported and discussed in Section C.2.3.2. Discussions of the other PBPK models (Section C.2.1) were expanded, specifically addressing the lack of availability of the [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) model and that the EPA

generally prefers to use model structures that have been shown to fit both animal and human data, as this consistency is considered a validation of the model structure.

**Charge Question D.2:** *The internal dose metric selected for use in the derivation of the RfC and RfD for 1,2,4-TMB was the steady-state weekly average venous blood concentration (mg/L) of 1,2,4-TMB for rats exposed for 6 h/day, 5 days/week. Please comment on whether the selection of this dose metric is scientifically supported and clearly described. If a different dose metric is recommended for deriving the RfC, please identify this metric and provide scientific support for this choice. Are the uncertainties in the selected dose metric adequately characterized and discussed?*

**SAB Comment D.2-1:** The SAB stated that the use of any dose metric should be guided by the mode of action of the chemical being examined. For the TMBs, the SAB acknowledged that there is a paucity of information on their mode of action, and that the Agency has inferred the mode of action to be similar to that for chemicals such as toluene. Given the uncertainties in the mode of action, the SAB found that the selection of the internal dose metric of the venous blood concentration averaged over a week of exposure is reasonable.

**EPA Response D.2-1:** No response necessary.

**SAB Comment D.2-2:** SAB stated that clarification is needed on how the average weekly venous concentration was determined given that the longer phase half-life of the TMB isomers indicates that an exposure period longer than a week is required for blood levels to achieve a steady state. In addition, the SAB noted that the experimental data for both rats and humans show that steady state is not achieved with only a single week of exposure. Executing the PBPK model over a 4-week period shows that the average blood levels are still continuing to rise slightly. The SAB recommended that the model should be run long enough to come to a weekly steady state and then the associated venous blood concentration should be used as the internal dose metric.

**EPA Response D.2-2:** This discussion has been added to the relevant section (where internal metrics are described). The average weekly venous concentration was calculated by simulating 3 weeks of exposure (6 hours/day, 5 days/week) and calculating the area under the curve (AUC) during the 3rd week, divided by 168 hours. Extending the simulation to 4 weeks and using the 4th week for the calculation changed the results by <0.02%.

**SAB Comment D.2-3:** The SAB noted that the multiple tissues of interest for derivation of an RfC are primarily extrapulmonary tissues. However, the Agency has a goal to establish RfCs for multiple endpoints beyond the critical effect endpoint currently being addressed. If an effect in the respiratory tract is established (such as a change in bronchial alveolar lavage fluid composition) and an RfC is to be determined, then the appropriate dose metric would be based on the mass deposited per unit surface area of the lung rather than on the average venous blood concentration. A mass per unit lung surface area dose metric enables species with significantly different lung sizes than humans to be used in the derivation of the RfC.



EPA Response D.2-3: A dose metric of mass of TMB deposited per unit surface area of the lung was used in the derivation of RfC values for respiratory effects (i.e., increased inflammatory lung lesions) (see Section 2.1.2).

SAB Comment D.2-4: The SAB noted that using the PBPK model-estimated internal dose metrics as the dose inputs for BMD modeling required the Agency to drop the high-dose exposures from all modeling efforts because the venous blood dose metrics consistently over-predicted experimental results for high exposures. This overestimation may be due, in part, to the Agency using minute ventilation as the driver function for internal dose rather than decomposing minute ventilation into its two components, namely tidal volume and breathing frequency. The SAB noted that while the exposure level is high, which may lead to a 50% reduction in respiratory rate, respiratory irritants such as the TMBs cause subtle shifts in the breathing pattern while maintaining the same overall minute ventilation. Shallower breathing leads to a shift upward in the respiratory tract for the site of deposition. In addition, the PBPK modeling for humans did not take into account the periods of exercise that the subjects underwent, which may explain the model's greater deviations from experimental results at high exposure levels. Consistent with previous comments, the SAB noted that external air can be used as the dose metric and then the PBPK model can be used to back-calculate the appropriate venous blood level. If the SAB's suggestions for improvements in the PBPK model do not lead to a better agreement with the high-dose exposures, the SAB recommended that the Agency include the external air dose metric and corresponding venous blood back-calculations.

EPA Response D.2-4: None of the existing PBPK models specifically account for the impact of varying tidal volume versus breathing frequency on regional deposition and uptake in the respiratory tract. While compartmental models exist that do so (e.g., for acetaldehyde), such a revision in model structure would be a very large effort and is beyond the scope of what EPA would consider for this assessment. Given this decision, EPA has redone all of the BMD modeling using the external air concentrations as the dose inputs and then calculated the HEC based on the BMDL values, consistent with SAB recommendations in SAB Comment 3 of Charge Question D.1.

SAB Comment D.2-5: The SAB noted that, while uncertainties concerning model parameters, potential for kinetic changes with repeated exposures, and model estimates of internal dose are discussed, the uncertainties in the selected dose metric (weekly average venous blood concentration) are not adequately characterized or discussed in the TMB assessment.

EPA Response D.2-5: This discussion was added to Appendix C (Section C.2.3.2).

**Charge Question E.1:** *A 90-day inhalation toxicity study of 1,2,4-TMB in male rats ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#)) was selected as the basis for the derivation of the RfC. Please comment on whether the selection of this study is scientifically supported and clearly described. If a different study is recommended as the basis for the RfC, please identify this study and provide scientific support for this choice.*

1 SAB Comment E.1-1: The SAB generally agreed with the choice of the [Korsak and Rydzyński](#)  
2 [\(1996\)](#) study as the basis for derivation of the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB. The study utilized a 90-day  
3 exposure period and, thus, the longest duration exposure study available in the literature; in  
4 addition, it included multiple exposure levels. It was well-conducted and utilized adequate sample  
5 sizes of rats. In addition, it was based on widely-used behavioral assays. An examination of the  
6 study indicates that these behavioral studies were carefully carried out and data from control  
7 animals were consistent with previously published observations. However, the SAB recommended  
8 several ways in which the clarification for this choice could be strengthened (see SAB  
9 Comments E.1-2–E.1-8 below for specifics).

10 EPA Response E.1-1: See EPA Responses E.1-2 through E.1-8 below for detailed responses  
11 to the individual recommendations.

12 SAB Comment E.1-2: The SAB noted that the rationale for the choice of [Korsak and](#)  
13 [Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) is not specifically described and recommends that the reasons for its choice over  
14 other studies (e.g., the 4-week exposure studies) need to be more clearly stated.

15 EPA Response E.1-2: An increased justification for selection of the [Korsak and Rydzyński](#)  
16 [\(1996\)](#) study was added to Section 2.1.5, including the rationale for selection of that study over the  
17 other neurotoxicity studies that utilized a short-term exposure protocol ([Wiaderna et al., 2002](#);  
18 [Gralewicz and Wiaderna, 2001](#); [Wiaderna et al., 1998](#); [Gralewicz et al., 1997b](#)).

19 SAB Comment E.1-3: The SAB expressed concern that the TMB assessment, as currently  
20 written, is confusing regarding the chronicity of exposure versus effects. The SAB recommended  
21 that it would be helpful to modify the terminology particularly related to outcome measures,  
22 perhaps as acute effects versus long-term effects/irreversible effects and retain the use of the word  
23 chronic/subchronic etc. to descriptions of statements related specifically to exposure.

24 EPA Response E.1-3: The Hazard Identification and Dose-Response Analysis sections have  
25 been edited to increase clarity with respect to language describing either the chronicity of exposure  
26 or the nature of the described effects (i.e., acute or long-term/latent effects).

27 SAB Comment E.1-4: The SAB recommended that EPA separate the dose-response write-up  
28 into sections that specifically elaborate on the acute effects and provide a separate section related  
29 to effects observed post-exposure. The SAB also recommended that, given the commonality of the  
30 trends in data across these studies, some mention of the biological significance in the absence of  
31 statistical significance should be mentioned.

32 EPA Response E.1-4: The discussion of acute and post-exposure effects has been  
33 reorganized in the Dose-Response Analysis section to the extent possible. A discussion of the  
34 biological significance of the post-exposure data was also included in the assessment. However,  
35 acute and long-term/latent/post-exposure effects have not been separated into distinct sections as  
36 each type of data, when considered in tandem, informs the larger decisions made in the assessment  
37 regarding the suitability of the decreased pain endpoint for derivation of the RfC. As such, EPA  
38 concluded that, while more clearly delineating the types of effects was possible within a single

1 section, separating the effects into individual sections would possibly obscure the rationales behind  
2 EPA's conclusions.

3 SAB Comment E.1-5: The SAB recommended that the text, where applicable, could include  
4 additional qualifications as to “reversibility of effects” at the 2-week post-exposure time point. This  
5 assessment of reversible effects of failures on the rotarod is based on the finding of lack of  
6 statistical difference between treated and control groups at 1 week post-exposure following a  
7 13-week exposure period for one of two isomers. Some TMB Panel members felt that this was  
8 sufficient evidence for reversibility, while other members did not feel that this provided sufficient  
9 evidence. Specifically, this interpretation of a reversal relied on a reduction from 40% rotarod  
10 failure during the final week of exposure compared to 35% 1 week post-exposure, as compared to  
11 0% rates for controls. There was no such statistical reversal for the other isomer, and for both  
12 isomers, the magnitude of the reduction post-exposure was minimal. Further, it was not clear that  
13 the statistical analyses of these data incorporated a repeated measures component that would be  
14 required by the experimental design. Thus, while a case was stated for a statistically significant  
15 reversal, several TMB Panel members felt that it was not consistent nor did it appear to be  
16 biologically meaningful.

17 EPA Response E.1-5: Additional qualifications on the determination of whether the  
18 decreased pain sensitivity endpoint was reversible have been added to Sections 1.2.1, 1.3.1, and  
19 2.1.5. In particular, it is noted throughout the section that all of the available evidence, especially  
20 considering information from the short-term studies, strongly indicates that the pain sensitivity  
21 endpoint is not immediately reversible upon termination of exposure, and that persistent changes  
22 to the nervous system occur due to TMB exposure. It should be noted that the SAB focused solely  
23 on decreased rotarod performance in their comment, which is not used in the RfC derivation. The  
24 data for decreased rotarod performance, as a measure of decreased neuromuscular function, were  
25 determined by EPA to not be appropriate for consideration for derivation of the RfC (Section 2.1.1)  
26 due to the manner in which the data were reported. Failures on the rotarod were recorded as  
27 quantal data (percent of animals “failing” on the rotarod due to latencies of up to 119 seconds)  
28 rather than being recorded as a continuous variable (i.e., latency to falling off rotarod apparatus).  
29 Therefore, as the rotarod data were not considered for derivation of the RfC, extensive discussions  
30 regarding the possible reversibility of this endpoint were not added to the assessment. However,  
31 where possible, evidence from all effects has been discussed in the context of overall alterations of  
32 neurological function due to TMB exposure.

33 SAB Comment E.1-6: SAB recommended that the EPA re-calculate the RfC as if the study  
34 were subchronic (i.e., UF converts to 1 from 3) and report these subchronic RfC values as well.

35 EPA Response E.1-6: EPA has calculated and included these subchronic RfC values in  
36 Section 2.1.8 of the Dose-Response Analysis section.

SAB Comment E.1-7: SAB recommended that more specific mention of the potential cumulative neurotoxicity that is suggested by the repeated measurement finding of rotarod performance failures across the course of exposure be included in the document.

EPA Response E.1-7: As the rotarod data were not considered for derivation of the RfC, this discussion was not added to the assessment. Data on decreased pain sensitivity were not provided in the same manner as rotarod data (i.e., measures of effect provided at multiple intervening time points during the period of exposure) and therefore, a discussion of the possible cumulative effects regarding decreased pain sensitivity was likewise not added to the document.

SAB Comment E.1-8: The SAB recommended including more specific descriptions of the similarity of the animal behavioral endpoints to what has been observed in humans.

EPA Response E.1-8: A discussion of the similarity of animal neurobehavioral endpoints to the measures of neurotoxicity observed in human studies has been added to Section 2.1.5.

**Charge Question E.2:** *Decreased pain sensitivity (measured as an increased latency to pawlick response after a hotplate test) in male Wistar rats was concluded by EPA to be an adverse effect on the nervous system and was selected as the critical effect for the derivation of the RfC. Please comment on whether the selection and characterization of this critical effect is scientifically supported and clearly described. If a different endpoint(s) is recommended as the critical effect(s) for deriving the RfC, please identify this effect and provide scientific support for this choice.*

SAB Comment E.2-1: The SAB agreed that the reduction in pain sensitivity as indicated by an increased latency to paw-lick response in a hot plate test, is a valid adverse nervous system effect and appropriately selected as a critical effect for the derivation of the RfC. This effect was variously seen in response to short-term, 4-week, and 90-day studies. The associated U-shaped dose-effect curves seen with these isomers, moreover, are highly consistent with the effects of various other pharmacological agents (e.g., opioids) on this response and likely reflective of the mechanisms by which these isomers act. This assay is widely used in the behavioral pharmacology literature and particularly in the study of pain nociception and opioid pharmacology.

EPA Response E.2-1: No response necessary.

SAB Comment E.2-2: The SAB agreed that the observation of prolonged latency in the hot plate test 24-hour post-footshock delivery that was observed in studies by Gralewicz and colleagues ([Gralewicz and Wiaderna, 2001](#); [Gralewicz et al., 1997b](#)) also constitutes an adverse effect. The administration of footshock immediately after the hot plate test trial strains the capabilities of the nervous system and, thus, provides a type of nervous system probe that then unmasks a prolonged latency to a hot plate stimulus 24 hours later. It shows that when the nervous system is maximally stressed, it cannot respond/recover in a normal timeframe.

EPA Response E.2-2: No response necessary.

SAB Comment E.2-3: SAB, in addition to making the recommendations above for the document related to the nervous system effects, also noted that this section could benefit from some additional description of the hot plate procedures, including the rationale/approach for using

the footshock intervention in the post-exposure behavioral assessments carried out after the 4-week exposures.

EPA Response E.2-3: Additional details on the hot plate procedure have been added to the Hazard Identification and Dose-Response Analyses sections. Additional rationale for the inclusion of the footshock challenge in the short-term studies has also been added to the assessment.

**Charge Question E.3:** *In order to characterize the observed dose-response relationship comprehensively, benchmark dose (BMD) modeling was used in conjunction with dosimetric adjustments for calculating the human equivalent concentration (HEC) from a rat and human PBPK model (Hissink et al., 2007) to identify the point of departure (POD) for derivation of the RfC. Please comment on whether this approach is scientifically supported for the available data, and clearly described.*

*A. Has the modeling been appropriately conducted and clearly described, based on EPA's Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance [U.S. EPA \(2012\)](#)?*

*B. Has the choice of the benchmark response (BMR) for use in deriving the POD (i.e., a BMR equal to 1 standard deviation change in the control mean for the latency to pawlick response) been supported and clearly described?*

SAB Comment E.3-1: SAB expressed concern over EPA's decision to omit the high-dose group from the [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) study before BMD modeling. However, an BMD analysis conducted by the SAB on the same dataset using air concentration as the dose metric results in the same POD air concentration as BMD modeling based on internal dose and using the low- and mid-dose groups. As a result, the SAB agreed that the overall results for the POD generated by the EPA are adequate, but strongly suggested that the Agency provide a more robust explanation of any analyses. The SAB also considered Appendix C-2 in the TMB Assessment (External Review Draft) as inappropriate and recommended deleting it. If the EPA is so inclined, they could replace it with the BMD analysis using air concentration as the dose metric.

EPA Response E.3-1: In SAB's analysis above, they ran one model (Exponential M4) against the data as that was the model that was selected in External Peer Review draft. It is true that this model returns the same POD regardless of if air concentrations or internal dose is used. However, the method SAB used doesn't take into account other model fits and the model selection protocols EPA uses in BMD modeling. When all available continuous models were run against the decreased pain sensitivity endpoint, the HEC generated for decreased pain sensitivity due to exposure to 1,2,4-TMB using the SAB-suggested modeling method (model air concentrations and then convert to HEC using the PBPK model) differs slightly from the POD included in the External Peer Review Draft of the TMB assessment (18.1 versus 15.8 mg/m<sup>3</sup>). However, SAB's larger point stands in that it is appropriate to model the TMB toxicity endpoints using the external air concentrations as the dose inputs and then convert the resultant BMDLs into HECs using the available PBPK model. This methodology obviates the need for extensive revisions to the PBPK model code, and ensures that any HECs generated from the PBPK model originate from BMDLs that fall within the model's range

1 of validation. As such, all BMD modeling has been redone according to SAB's recommendations.  
2 EPA also agrees with the SAB regarding Appendix C-2 (External Peer Review draft); this appendix  
3 has been removed from the document.

4 SAB Comment E.3-2: The SAB recommended that the EPA provide better justification for  
5 applying the "one standard deviation" from the mean of the control group for the neuro-  
6 toxicological endpoint than using the Agency default value. The EPA should also provide better  
7 explanation of the issues associated with the homogeneity of variance across dose groups in the  
8 [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) study, its implications for BMD modeling, and how the EPA  
9 addressed this in their BMD modeling.

10 EPA Response E.3-2: A more robust justification for the selection of 1 control group SD as  
11 the BMR for modeling some continuous endpoints has been added to Section 2.1.2, and a brief  
12 discussion regarding the uncertainty around the BMR selection has been added to Section 2.1.6.  
13 The observation of differential variance estimates across dose groups, and how this was handled  
14 when performing BMD modeling, was also discussed more extensively in Section 2.12. For  
15 example, the variances reported for decreased pain sensitivity were clearly non-constant, with the  
16 reported variances at 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup> being lower (1,2,4-TMB) or higher (1,2,3-TMB) compared to  
17 other dose groups. This heteroscedasticity could reflect measurement error (e.g., different lab  
18 technicians recording responses differently), experimental error (e.g., the hot plate apparatus may  
19 not have held a constant temperature), or may reflect that the latency response may be log-  
20 normally distributed rather than the assumed normal distribution. The latter possibility does not  
21 seem to be the case as the approximation of geometric means and SDs from the reported arithmetic  
22 means and SDs did not reduce the heterogeneity in reported variances. In order to account for data  
23 with reported heteroscedasticity, BMD modeling was performed using variance estimates that were  
24 modeled as a power function of the reported mean value.

25 **Charge Question E.4:** *Please comment on the rationale for the selection of the uncertainty*  
26 *factors (UFs) applied to the POD for the derivation of the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB. Are the UFs appropriate*  
27 *based on the recommendations described in Section 4.4.5 of A Review of the Reference Dose and*  
28 *Reference Concentration Process* [U.S. EPA \(2002\)](#), *and clearly described? If changes to the selected*  
29 *UFs are proposed, please identify and provide scientific support for the proposed changes.*

30 SAB Comment E.4-1: The SAB agreed with the UF<sub>A</sub> of 3 and its rationale. The default UF<sub>A</sub> of  
31 10 can be divided into two half-log UF components of 3 each to account for species differences in  
32 toxicokinetics and toxicodynamics, respectively. In developing the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB, the EPA used  
33 PBPK modeling to convert estimated internal doses in rats in toxicity studies of 1,2,4-TMB to  
34 corresponding applied doses in humans. PBPK modeling substantially reduces uncertainty  
35 associated with extrapolating animal exposures to humans based upon toxicokinetic differences,  
36 justifying elimination of one of the half-log components of the default UF<sub>A</sub> of 10 ([U.S. EPA, 2002](#)).  
37 Uncertainty regarding possible toxicodynamic differences among species (i.e., different sensitivity



to toxicity at equivalent internal doses) remains, justifying keeping the other half-log component of 3.

EPA Response E.4-1: No response necessary.

SAB Comment E.4-2: The SAB agreed with the  $UF_H$  of 10 and its rationale, although one TMB Review Panel member thought that a  $UF_H$  of 3 would be adequate. This  $UF$  is intended to account for potential differences among individuals in susceptibility to toxicity. The EPA concluded that no information on potential variability in human susceptibility to 1,2,4-TMB toxicity exists with which to justify using a value other than the default of 10. It was noted during discussion that numerous clinical studies have demonstrated that humans, including pediatric and geriatric patients, differ by only about 2-fold in their susceptibility/sensitivity to inhaled lipophilic anesthetics (e.g., chloroform, halothane), indicating to one Panel member that a  $UF_H$  of 3 would be scientifically defensible given the neurotoxicity endpoint used to establish the POD. Other TMB Panel members disagreed, stating that the mode of action of neurotoxicity of 1,2,4-TMB is unknown and that the actions of general anesthetics may have little or no bearing on variability in TMB susceptibility. In their opinion, the full  $UF_H$  of 10 is warranted.

EPA Response E.4-2: EPA agrees with the majority of the SAB Panel members in that, given the lack of information regarding TMB's mode of action, limited information exists that could predict the potential for variation in human susceptibility to TMB exposure. Therefore, the value of  $UF_H = 10$  is retained in the TMB assessment.

SAB Comment E.4-3: The SAB agreed with the EPA's choices for  $UF_L$  values (i.e., a  $UF_L$  of 1 for all endpoints except increased bronchoalveolar lung cells, for which a  $UF_L$  of 10 was selected). However, the SAB suggested that the justification for the  $UF_L$  be strengthened. This  $UF$  is intended to be used when the POD is a LOAEL rather than a NOAEL. In conducting BMD modeling, a BMD equal to 1 SD change in the control mean for modeled endpoints was selected. The document would be improved by adding an explanation of the reasoning for selection of 1 SD (versus 0.5 SD) along with a clearer discussion of why this is expected to lead to a POD for which a  $UF_L$  of 1 is appropriate.

EPA Response E.4-3: A stronger justification for selection of a BMR = 1 control SD has been added to the text. The LOAEL to NOAEL  $UF$ ,  $UF_L$ , of 1 was applied for endpoints modeled with the EPA Benchmark Dose Software (BMDS) because the current approach is to address this factor as one of the considerations in selecting a BMR for BMD modeling. In other words, when selecting a BMR value, care should be taken to select a response level that constitutes a minimal, biologically significant change so that the estimated BMDLs can be assumed to conceptually correspond to a NOAEL. In the case of TMBs, BMRs were preferentially selected based on biological information on what constitutes a biologically significant change for these effects. For example, a 5% reduction in fetal body weight was selected as the BMR for that endpoint based on the fact that a 10% reduction in adult body weight is considered adverse, the assumption that fetuses are a susceptible population and thus more vulnerable to body weight changes, and the fact that decreases in fetal

weight in humans are associated with a number of chronic diseases such as hypertension and diabetes. For endpoints for which there was no information available to make assumptions about what constitutes a minimal, biologically significant response, a BMR equal to a 1 SD change in the control mean was selected. In both cases, the BMR selected was assumed to return BMDL values that conceptually correspond to a NOAEL, thus obviating the need for a LOAEL to NOAEL UF.

SAB Comment E.4-4: The SAB agreed with the UF<sub>s</sub> of 3, although one TMB Panel member thought that a UF<sub>s</sub> of 10 would be more appropriate. When the data used to generate a chronic RfC are from subchronic studies, a UF<sub>s</sub> is used to address uncertainty around whether longer exposures might lead to effects at lower doses. The EPA justified using less than a full default factor of 10 for this UF based on evidence suggesting possible reversibility of neurotoxicity and hematotoxicity endpoints. Most of the SAB Panel members were satisfied with this justification, but some members of the TMB Panel disputed the evidence for reversibility of effects. In addition, several TMB Panel members noted that reversibility following cessation of exposure was irrelevant since the chronic RfC is applicable to lifetime exposure (i.e., there is no post-exposure period). The discussion regarding reversibility of neurotoxic effects is presented in response to the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB (see Section 2.2.5). The TMB Review Panel discussed that some hematologic effects considered by the EPA appeared to resolve when exposure ceased, but other effects did not resolve, and that inflammatory pulmonary effects can lead to persistent injury. The SAB noted that factors other than reversibility could contribute to selection of a UF<sub>s</sub> less than 10, such as evidence from PBPK modeling that 1,2,4-TMB does not accumulate in the body over time and empirical evidence that the POD does not appear to decrease when results from subchronic studies are compared with studies of shorter duration. One TMB Panel member thought that none of these considerations had sufficient merit to justify using less than the full default UF<sub>s</sub> of 10.

EPA Response E.4-4: Upon reconsideration of the neurotoxicity, hematological toxicity, and respiratory toxicity data contained in the TMB database, EPA agrees with members of the SAB Panel recommending a UF<sub>s</sub> of 3. Given that the adaptive responses of the nervous system appear to be impaired several weeks after short-term exposure, including prolongation of decreased pain sensitivity phenotypes following environmental challenge using a footshock, the concern that chronic exposures may more thoroughly overwhelm adaptive responses in the nervous system, and thus lead to more severe responses, remains. In addition, there is evidence that neurotoxicity worsens with continued exposure, and thus, effects are expected to be more severe following chronic exposure. For example, decrements in rotarod function were shown to increase in magnitude as a function of exposure duration, worsening from 4 to 8 weeks of exposure, and worsening further from 8 to 13 weeks of exposure ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#)). Although a similar time-course is not available for reduced pain sensitivity, reduced pain sensitivity is observed at approximately 5-fold lower concentrations following subchronic exposure, as compared to acute exposure (see discussion in Section 1.2.1 of the Toxicological Review). However, there does not seem to be an exacerbation of other neurotoxic effects at lower doses when



comparing subchronic exposures to short-term exposures. Further, evidence from toxicokinetic studies indicates that blood and organ concentrations of TMBs are similar following repeated vs. acute exposures (approximately 600 hours vs. 6 hours, respectively; see Table C-9) and the PBPK model predicts less than a 5% increase between the first day and subsequent days of repeated exposures. By extension, it can be reasonably assumed that TMB isomers would not accumulate to an appreciably greater degree following a longer chronic exposure and thus may not lead to effects at lower doses compared to shorter duration studies. Taken together, the toxicokinetic and toxicological data support the application of a  $UF_s$  of 3 for neurotoxic, hematological, and respiratory endpoints. The text regarding the selection of the  $UF_s$  has been revised in Section 2.1.3 to reflect these conclusions, and a  $UF_s$  of 3 has been applied to all endpoints other than fetal weight. Additionally, as previously discussed in EPA Response E.1-5, a more extensive discussion of the possible reversibility of the decreased pain endpoint has been added to Sections 1.2.1, 1.3.1, and 2.1.5.

SAB Comment E.4-5: The SAB was divided on whether the  $UF_D$  should be 3, as selected by the Agency, or 10. The purpose of this UF is to account for overall deficiencies in the database of studies available to assess potential toxicity. The EPA cited strengths in the database in terms of availability of information on multiple organ/systems from three well-designed subchronic toxicity studies in justifying not using the full default factor of 10. In retaining a half-log factor of 3, the EPA noted the absence of a multi-generation reproductive/developmental toxicity study as a weakness in the database, and specifically concern for the absence of a developmental neurotoxicity study for 1,2,4-TMB given the importance of neurotoxicity in establishing the RfC. Among those who agreed with a  $UF_D$  of 3, some found the justification provided by the EPA to be satisfactory, while others thought that toxicity data available for C9 mixtures should contribute to the rationale to lower the value from the default of 10. Others disagreed with including C9 mixture data as relevant to the database UF. Panel members who thought that the  $UF_D$  should be 10 cited various reasons, including the absence of data in other species and the absence of a multi-generational reproductive study, as well as the opinion that the absence of a developmental neurotoxicity study alone warranted a full factor of 10. One TMB Panel member pointed out that analogy with toluene suggests that the perinatal exposure could lead to neurodevelopmental effects at doses 10-fold lower than the NOAEL for effects in adults. An additional point made by another Panel member was that the RfCs for all of the isomers are being set at the same value, whereas the database is severely limited for the 1,2,3- and 1,3,5-TMB isomers and the latter two compounds deserve a  $UF_D$  of 10. Therefore, for consistency, a factor of 10 should be used for all the isomers.

EPA Response E.4-5: After careful consideration of the available TMB toxicity database, and the database for mixtures containing TMB isomers (i.e., the C9 fraction) and information pertaining to related alkylbenzenes, EPA determined that a  $UF_D$  of 3 was the most appropriate value. This decision was further supported by the restructuring of the TMB RfC derivation section into an overarching section covering all three TMB isomers, rather than three individual RfC sections

covering a single isomer. In this manner, the entirety of the TMB toxicity database for all isomers could be considered in total. Strengths of this database include three well-conducted subchronic studies that investigated effects in multiple organ/systems in Wistar rats (nervous, respiratory, and hematological systems) and a well-conducted developmental toxicity study that investigated maternal and fetal toxicity in a different strain of rats (Sprague-Dawley). Consideration of developmental toxicity studies investigating the effects of mixtures containing TMB isomers ([Mckee et al., 1990](#); [Ungvary and Tatrai, 1985](#)) supports the general observation of the developmental toxicity of individual TMB isomers. In these studies, developmental toxicity was observed in rats, mice, and rabbits, but only at doses  $\geq 500$  mg/m<sup>3</sup>, which is higher than the lowest LOAEL for neurotoxicity effects in rats (i.e., 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for decreased pain sensitivity following exposure to 1,2,3-TMB). Identified gaps in the TMB database include the lack of a multi-generational reproductive study and the lack of a developmental neurotoxicity study. Regarding the lack of a reproductive study, information from a C9 fraction study investigating reproductive and developmental toxicity in rats provided suggestive evidence of reproductive toxicity (decreased male fertility in the F<sub>1</sub> generation and a possible intergeneration effect on body weight in which fetal/pup/adult body weights were decreased at lower doses in later generations compared to earlier generations) ([Mckee et al., 1990](#)). However, the lowest concentration of TMB isomers that elicited these results was 1,353 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (as part of the total mixture), which is much greater than TMB concentrations that elicit neurotoxicity in adult animals (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for 1,2,3-TMB and 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for 1,2,4-TMB).

Another gap in the TMB database is the lack of a developmental neurotoxicity study. Current [U.S. EPA \(2002\)](#) guidance, EPA's *A Review of the Reference Dose and Reference Concentration Processes*, recommends that the database UF take into consideration where there is concern from the available toxicity database that the developing organism may be particularly susceptible to effects in any organ/system. Given the observations that exposure to all three TMB isomers elicits strong and consistent markers of neurotoxicity, that exposure to TMB isomers results in developmental toxicity, as well as explicit information that TMB isomers can cross the placenta, there exists a concern that exposure to TMB isomers may result in developmental neurotoxicity. However, evidence from the toluene literature indicates that, while toluene does cross the placenta and that toluene levels in the placenta, amniotic fluid, and fetal brains increased with increasing exposures, concentrations in the amniotic fluid were less than those in maternal tissues. Although this fails to account for potential differences in sensitivity of the developing organism to induced effects, or for differences in metabolism, it does suggest that gestational exposure to TMBs might result in lower exposure concentrations to the fetus, which raises uncertainty in the TMB and related compound database regarding whether sufficient amounts of the toxic agent crosses the placenta to elicit effects, and whether the concentrations necessary to elicit effects are lower than those that result in neurotoxicity in the adult organism. Further, while there is clear evidence from the human and animal literature that exposure to related

alkylbenzenes results in developmental neurotoxicity, much of this evidence comes from epidemiological studies of inhalant abuse or animal studies using exposure paradigms intended to approximate inhalant abuse patterns (i.e., high exposure concentrations and intermittent and noncontinuous exposures). Therefore, there is some uncertainty whether the concentrations necessary to cause developmental neurotoxicity are lower than those that result in neurotoxicity in the adult organism.

However, evidence from perinatal exposures (during a period of postnatal brain development that continues processes begun early in embryogenesis, including synaptogenesis and myelination) indicates that the developing organism is at some risk of early life exposures (and possibly prenatal exposures). These studies ([Win-Shwe et al., 2012](#); [Win-Shwe and Fujimaki, 2010](#)) demonstrated that low-level exposures early in life (5 ppm toluene, postnatal days [PNDs] 4–12) altered the expression of neurotransmitter receptors and increased the expression of neuroimmune markers in the hippocampus of mice. Additionally, early postnatal exposure to 5 ppm toluene produced decrements in spatial learning compared to higher adult doses (50 ppm) that induced the same effect. Ultimately, it is difficult to parse out exactly how the database UF should account for this. Sensitive subpopulations, including children, are protected against the effects of exposure to environmental toxicity through the application of the human variability UF. However, as the processes that are perturbed in the Win-Shwe studies ([Win-Shwe et al., 2012](#); [Win-Shwe and Fujimaki, 2010](#)) begin during gestation, residual uncertainty exists concerning developmental susceptibility to the neurotoxic effects of TMB isomers. As such, EPA determined that a 3-fold database UF should be applied to the POD<sub>HEC</sub> in order to account for the lack of a developmental neurotoxicity study in the available toxicity database for TMB isomers.

**Charge Question F.1:** *A 90-day inhalation toxicity study of 1,2,3-TMB in male rats ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#)) was selected as the basis for the derivation of the RfC. Please comment on whether the selection of this study is scientifically supported and clearly described. If a different study is recommended as the basis for the RfC, please identify this study and provide scientific support for this choice.*

**SAB Comment F.1-1:** The SAB agreed with the EPA's conclusion not to base the RfC derivation for 1,2,3-TMB on isomer-specific data. The justification for this conclusion is supported and clearly described. The SAB was not aware of chronic or subchronic studies that could be used to support an RfC derivation for 1,2,3-TMB with neurotoxicity as the critical endpoint, similar to the [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) study used to develop the 1,2,4-TMB RfC. As with 1,2,4-TMB, the SAB found that the clarification of this choice, however, could be greatly improved by expanding the assessment on the same points discussed for 1,2,4-TMB (see SAB Comments 2–8 under Charge Question E.1).

**EPA Response F.1-1:** Contrary to SAB's statement regarding the RfC for 1,2,3-TMB, the EPA did use isomer-specific data on decreased pain sensitivity observed in [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) to derive the RfC for 1,2,3-TMB in the External Peer Review Draft for TMBs (i.e., both

1 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB isomer-specific data were available in this study). This analysis is  
2 retained in the current assessment. In the revised TMB assessment, the RfC derivation sections for  
3 all isomers have been combined into a unified section. Therefore, in responding to SAB  
4 Comments 2–8 under Charge Question E.1 (and most other comments made under Charge  
5 Questions F and G), the recommendations made under this comment have been achieved in  
6 reorganizing the overall section (see EPA Responses E.1-2 through E.1-8).

7 **Charge Question F.2:** *Decreased pain sensitivity (measured as an increased latency to*  
8 *pawlick response after a hotplate test) in male Wistar rats was concluded by EPA to be an adverse*  
9 *effect on the nervous system and was selected as the critical effect for the derivation of the RfC. Please*  
10 *comment on whether the selection and characterization of this critical effect is scientifically supported*  
11 *and clearly described. If a different endpoint(s) is recommended as the critical effect(s) for deriving*  
12 *the RfC, please identify this effect and provide scientific support for this choice.*

13 SAB Comment F.2-1: The SAB agreed that reduction in pain sensitivity as indicated by an  
14 increased latency to paw-lick response in a hot plate test was a valid adverse nervous system effect  
15 and was appropriately selected as a critical effect for RfC derivation of 1,2,3-TMB. The SAB noted  
16 that the Agency appropriately uses the same rationale to derive the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB, and as such,  
17 the comments provided under Charge Question E.2 pertain to the derivation of the RfC for  
18 1,2,3-TMB.

19 EPA Response F.2-1: In the revised TMB assessment, the RfC derivation sections for all  
20 isomers have been combined into a unified section. Therefore, in responding to the comments  
21 under Charge Question E.2, the recommendations made under this comment have been achieved in  
22 reorganizing the overall section (see responses to Charge Question E.2).

23 **Charge Question F.3:** *In order to characterize the observed dose-response relationship*  
24 *comprehensively, benchmark dose (BMD) modeling was used in conjunction with default dosimetric*  
25 *adjustments ([U.S. EPA, 1994b](#)) for calculating the human equivalent concentration (HEC) to identify*  
26 *the point of departure (POD) for derivation of the RfC. Please comment on whether this approach is*  
27 *scientifically supported for the available data, and clearly described.*

28 *A. Has the modeling been appropriately conducted and clearly described, based on EPA's*  
29 *Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance [U.S. EPA \(2012\)](#)?*

30 *B. Has the choice of the benchmark response (BMR) for use in deriving the POD (i.e., a BMR*  
31 *equal to a 1 standard deviation change in the control mean for the latency to pawlick response) been*  
32 *supported and clearly described?*

33 SAB Comment F.3-1: The SAB response to this charge question deals with the same issues  
34 as charge question for 1,2,4-TMB and did not identify any issues specific to 1,2,3-TMB; see Charge  
35 Question E.3 for specific comments.

36 EPA Response F.3-1: See EPA Response E.3-2 for details regarding providing a more robust  
37 justification for use of 1 SD change as the BMR for BMD modeling purposes. SAB Comment 1 to

Charge Question E.3 does not pertain to 1,2,3-TMB, as the available PBPK model was not used to generate HEC values for 1,2,3-TMB; default dosimetric methods were employed.

**Charge Question F.4:** *Please comment on the rationale for the selection of the uncertainty factors (UFs) applied to the POD for the derivation of the RfC for 1,2,3-TMB. Are the UFs appropriate based on the recommendations described in Section 4.4.5 of A Review of the Reference Dose and Reference Concentration Process [U.S. EPA \(2002\)](#), and clearly described? If changes to the selected UFs are proposed, please identify and provide scientific support for the proposed changes.*

**SAB Comment F.4-1:** The SAB noted that the UF values selected by the EPA for 1,2,3-TMB are identical to those selected for 1,2,4-TMB, and that the justifications are the same. Thus, all recommendations made by SAB under Charge Question E.4 pertain to the derivation of the RfC for 1,2,3-TMB as well.

**EPA Response F.4-1:** As all of the individual RfC sections for each isomer have been combined into a unified RfC section; please refer to EPA Responses E.4-1 through E.4-5 for full details on EPA's response.

**Charge Question G.1:** *One developmental toxicity study ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#)) following inhalation exposure to 1,3,5-TMB was identified in the literature and was considered as a potential principal study for the derivation of the RfC for 1,3,5-TMB. However, the candidate RfC derived for 1,3,5-TMB based on this study (and the critical effect of decreased maternal weight gain) was 20-fold higher than the RfC derived for 1,2,4-TMB (based on decreased pain sensitivity). Given the available toxicological database for 1,2,4-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB, there are several important similarities in the two isomers' neurotoxicity that support an RfC for 1,3,5-TMB that is not substantially different than the RfC derived for 1,2,4-TMB. Additionally, the available toxicokinetic database for the two chemicals indicates that internal dose metrics would be comparable. Thus, EPA concluded that deriving such disparate RfCs for these two isomers was not scientifically supported. Rather, EPA concluded that given the similarities in toxicokinetics and toxicity between the two isomers, there was sufficient evidence to support adopting the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB as the RfC for 1,3,5-TMB.*

*Please comment on EPA's conclusion to not base the RfC derivation for 1,3,5-TMB on isomer-specific data. Is the scientific justification for not deriving an RfC based on the available data for 1,3,5-TMB supported and has been clearly described?*

**SAB Comment G.1-1:** The SAB agreed with the EPA conclusion not to base the RfC derivation for 1,3,5-TMB on isomer-specific data. The justification for this conclusion is supported and clearly described. The SAB was not aware of chronic or subchronic studies that could be used to support an RfC derivation for 1,3,5-TMB with neurotoxicity as the critical endpoint, similar to the [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#) study used to develop the 1,2,4-TMB RfC. The candidate inhalation values for 1,3,5-TMB, based on maternal and fetal toxicity from the study of [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#), are presented by EPA, but were not chosen as the overall RfC. Although the SAB took issue with the PODs selected by EPA in their analysis of the [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#) study, as discussed below in SAB Comments G.1-2 and G.1-3, it nevertheless agreed with the decision not to use this study to

1 derive the overall RfC for 1,3,5-TMB. The SAB concurred with EPA that the best approach under the  
2 circumstances is to adopt the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB, based on decreased pain sensitivity, as the overall  
3 RfC for 1,3,5-TMB.

4 EPA Response G.1-1: As detailed above, EPA has significantly restructured the RfC  
5 derivation section for the three TMB isomers. Whereas before, a single RfC section was provided  
6 for each individual TMB isomer, the revised draft includes a unified RfC derivation section that  
7 covers all three TMB isomers. EPA restructured the RfC section in this way to reduce the difficulty  
8 of reading three separate RfC sections, and to make more apparent the scientific decisions that  
9 were reached in deriving RfCs for the individual TMBs. In the old RfC section structure, a final RfC  
10 value was selected in each RfC section for the individual RfC isomers. This led to the situation  
11 where the “final” RfC for 1,3,5-TMB, based on isomer-specific data on decreased maternal weight  
12 gain, was 20-fold higher than the “final” RfC for 1,2,4-TMB (based on decreased pain sensitivity). In  
13 this situation, EPA made the justification that the toxicokinetic and toxicological databases for 1,2,4-  
14 TMB and 1,3,5-TMB did not support such disparate RfCs for the two isomers. Thus, EPA provided a  
15 justification for adopting the RfC for 1,2,4-TMB as the RfC for 1,3,5-TMB. However, the structure for  
16 the new RfC section in the revised draft is streamlined such that all of the RfCs for the TMB isomers  
17 are presented together, and then one final RfC value is selected that applies to all three isomers.

18 SAB Comment G.1-2: SAB noted that EPA incorrectly identified the appropriate effects for  
19 maternal toxicity and the NOAEL values for decreased maternal weight gain in the External Peer  
20 Review Draft TMB assessment. [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#) selected 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for the  
21 maternal NOAEL for 1,3,5-TMB with 300 ppm (1,476 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) as the maternal LOAEL based on  
22 decreased maternal weight gain and food intake. In the External Peer Review Draft TMB  
23 Assessment, the EPA set the maternal NOAEL at 300 ppm (1,476 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) and the maternal LOAEL  
24 at 600 ppm (2,952 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) based on decreased corrected body weight gain and higher exposure  
25 levels than [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#). The SAB found that this is not a correct interpretation of a  
26 maternal NOAEL for the [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#) paper. Decreased corrected body weight gain was  
27 measured only at one time point (C-section) 1 day after cessation of exposure. Statistically  
28 significant decreased maternal weights were observed at gestational days (GDs) 13–21 when the  
29 fetuses would be contributing far less to the mother’s weight and at GDs 6–21 (entire treatment  
30 period). Reduced maternal body weights correspond exactly with the statistically significant  
31 decreased food consumption values recorded at GDs 6–13, 13–21, and 6–21 (entire treatment  
32 period). The SAB recommended that EPA use decreased maternal body weight gain data from  
33 GDs 6–13 and 6–21 as the basis of the maternal endpoint POD and RfC rather than corrected  
34 maternal weight gain data. If BMD modeling is unsuccessful, the SAB recommended that EPA use  
35 the maternal NOAEL of 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as the POD.

36 EPA Response G.1-2: EPA agrees with the SAB comments and has revised the RfC  
37 derivations for 1,3,5-TMB. In the revised draft, EPA selected decreased maternal weight gain from



GDs 6–21 as the basis for the maternal endpoint, and used a NOAEL of 497 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (measured concentration) as the basis for derivation of the RfC.

**SAB Comment G.1-3:** SAB found that EPA incorrectly identified 2,974 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as the NOAEL for decreased male fetal weight. [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#) identified the developmental NOAEL in the study as 300 ppm (1,476 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) and the developmental LOAEL as 600 ppm (2,952 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) based on decreased mean male fetal body weights. The SAB recommended using the NOAEL of 1,476 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as the POD for derivation of a developmental endpoint RfC. The SAB also suggested that EPA consider increasing the UF<sub>D</sub> from 3 to 10, to address the lack of neurodevelopmental testing, in the derivation of the developmental RfC. The SAB noted that this approach may not fully address neurological effects that serve as the basis for the other isomers. However, the revised developmental endpoint RfC calculation will be based on a more appropriate POD and improve the justification for using the extrapolation from the lower neurological-based RfC from 1,2,4-TMB.

**EPA Response G.1-3:** EPA used the correct NOAEL of 1,471 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (measured concentration) as the basis for derivation of the RfC for decreased male fetal weight. As stated above (see EPA Response E.4-5 for details), EPA revised the RfC section for TMB isomers to cover all three isomers simultaneously rather than have three separate RfC sections for each individual isomer. This allows the whole TMB toxicity database to be considered holistically. As such, EPA determined that a UF<sub>D</sub> of 3 was appropriate to account for the lack of a developmental neurotoxicity study in the TMB toxicity database.

**SAB Comment G.1-4:** In addition to the above analysis and considerations, the SAB noted the following minor errors in the description of the 1,3,5-TMB inhalation data: (1) in Table 2-12, the female fetal body weight average for the 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) group should be 5.47 ± 0.21 and not 5.74 ± 0.21 (it is correct in other tables of the document); (2) the level of significance for decreased maternal body weight gain for the 600 ppm (2,952 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) group should have two (\*\*) and not one (\*) asterisk to indicate  $p < 0.01$ ; and (3) the table also states with a footnote (b) that numbers of live fetuses were not explicitly reported. However, [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#) did report them in Table 3 of their manuscript. The total numbers of fetuses were 297, 314, 282, 217, and 236, for the control and exposure groups, respectively, and should be included in Tables 2-2 and 2-12 of the draft TMB Review document.

**EPA Response G.1-4:** The minor errors in Tables 2-2 and 2-12 have been corrected; the correct information is now presented in Table 2-3 in the unified RfC section.

**Charge Question G.2:** *Please comment on whether EPA's approach to developing the RfC for 1,3,5-TMB is scientifically supported for the available data and clearly described.*

**SAB Comment G.2-1:** The SAB acknowledged that the Agency's approach to developing the overall RfC (based on neurological effects) for 1,3,5-TMB based on a structurally and toxicologically related isomer is scientifically appropriate. However, the SAB recommended that the Agency strengthen the justification for using this approach for 1,3,5-TMB by: (1) following the recommendations provided above regarding recalculating the maternal- and developmental-based

RfCs from [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#); and (2) discussing the differences as well as similarities in physical and toxicological parameters (i.e., Henry's Law constant and toxicokinetics) for 1,3,5-TMB as compared with the other isomers.

EPA Response G.2-1: As noted above (EPA Responses F.2-1 and G.1-1), EPA has completely restructured the RfC section for the TMB assessment. This restructuring has, in a large part, removed the necessity to set RfCs for one isomer as that for other data-poor isomers. In the new structure, RfCs are derived for each isomer-endpoint combination, and then a single, overarching RfC is selected for TMBs as a whole (this is detailed in Section 2.1.5 in the assessment). However, following SAB's recommendations above, EPA has: (1) recalculated all of the maternal- and developmental-based RfCs for 1,3,5-TMB; and (2) discussed the similarities and differences between the physical and toxicokinetic properties for the individual isomers (see Section 1.1.1)

**Charge Question H.1:** *The oral database for 1,2,4-TMB was considered inadequate for derivation of an RfD. However, available evidence demonstrates similar qualitative profiles of metabolism and patterns of parent compound distribution across exposure routes (i.e., oral and inhalation). Furthermore, there is no evidence that would suggest the toxicity profiles would differ to a substantial degree between oral and inhalation exposures. Therefore, route-to-route extrapolation, from inhalation to oral, using the modified [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) PBPK model was used to derive a chronic oral RfD for 1,2,4-TMB. In order to perform the route-to-route extrapolation, an oral component was added to the model, assuming a constant infusion rate into the liver. Specifically, in the absence of isomer-specific information, an assumption was made that 100% of the ingested 1,2,4-TMB would be absorbed by constant infusion of the oral dose into the liver compartment. The contribution of first-pass metabolism was also evaluated. Please comment on whether EPA's conclusion that the oral database for 1,2,4-TMB is inadequate for derivation of an RfD is scientifically supported and clearly described. Please comment on whether oral data are available to support the derivation of an RfD for 1,2,4-TMB. If so, please identify these data.*

SAB Comment H.1-1: The SAB agreed that the primary toxicological endpoints for 1,2,4-TMB (neurotoxicity, hematotoxicity) can be extrapolated across dose routes from the inhalation data with the assistance of PBPK modeling. There is ample precedent with IRIS assessments to use this approach to derive a reference value for a chemical with missing data by a particular dose route.

EPA Response H.1-1: No response necessary.

SAB Comment H.1-2: The SAB noted that they were not aware of adequate repeat-dose studies for 1,2,4-TMB via the oral dose route. The available acute exposure studies offer limited support in developing an RfD. The SAB recognized that this represents a data gap and that one potential way to fill this data gap is to use oral data for a closely related TMB isomer such as the subchronic gavage toxicology data available for 1,3,5-TMB ([Adenuga et al., 2014](#); [Koch Industries, 1995b](#)). The SAB disagreed with EPA's decision to not use the [Koch Industries \(1995b\)](#)/[Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) study for derivation of an RfD due to the lack of neurotoxicity data. The SAB



recommended that the EPA derive RfD(s) for endpoints observed in the oral 1,3,5-TMB study, such as liver and kidney weight changes. The SAB commented that this would be consistent with EPA's goal to derive RfD values for multiple endpoints (such as what was done with the RfC). The SAB then stated that these RfDs could then be considered for extrapolation to other TMB isomers. The SAB commented that the EPA should consider the appropriateness of applying a database UF to the oral POD to compensate for the data gap of not having an oral neurotoxicity endpoint in the current approach. Finally, the SAB noted that by comparing the RfD(s) generated from the oral studies and from the extrapolation from the RfC through using route-to-route extrapolation, the EPA can provide a clear explanation for why the use of the PBPK route-to-route-based RfD for 1,2,4-TMB may be preferable to application of a database UF to an oral POD.

EPA Response H.1-2: Upon further consideration of the [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) study, EPA agreed with SAB that it was suitable for derivation of a candidate oral value for increased monocytes. This is a hematological effect that is consistent with effects seen following inhalation exposures to 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB. A full discussion of the appropriateness of this endpoint for derivation of an RfD has been included in Section 2.2.1. However, the EPA further determined that the changes in kidney and liver weight would not support RfD derivations, as no accompanying histopathological changes were noted in these organs following examination. Given that organ weight changes occurring in the absence of histopathological lesions or other evidence of clear adversity may be compensatory or adaptive changes, the liver and kidney weight changes observed in subchronic inhalation studies for 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB were similarly discounted; no RfD values were derived for these endpoints. To support the decision to not consider the organ weight changes as suitable for reference value derivations text was added in multiple places in the assessment. First, Section 1.2.5 (General Toxicity) was added to the Hazard Identification section to discuss the observation of organ weight changes. Secondly, Sections 2.1.1 and 2.2.1 in the Dose-Response Analysis section more thoroughly covered the Agency's rationale behind the determination that these endpoints were not suitable for reference value derivations.

After consideration of the oral TMB toxicity data, and by extension the inhalation database as well, EPA determined that the application of a 3-fold database UF was suitable to account for the lack of an oral neurotoxicity or developmental neurotoxicity study. EPA's rationale for this decision regarding the lack of developmental neurotoxicity study is the same as was used for the derivation of the RfC for TMB isomers (see EPA Response E.4-5 for details). EPA determined that there was no need to increase the UF<sub>D</sub> to 10-fold to account for the lack of an oral neurotoxicity study as the derived RfCs for neurotoxicity and hematotoxicity endpoints were equal, indicating that RfDs calculated for these endpoints might also be assumed to be equivalent. However, in order to fully explore this possibility, EPA used the available PBPK model to perform a route-to-route extrapolation on the decreased pain sensitivity endpoint for 1,2,4-TMB. In doing so, EPA subsequently derived an RfD of  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mg/kg-day for decreased pain sensitivity, equal to the RfD derived for decreased monocytes. As with the RfC derivations, this result indicates that some

endpoints in the hematological system are equivalently as sensitive to exposure to TMB isomers as endpoints in the nervous system. This determination is further supported by the derivation of an RfD of  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mg/kg-day for 1,2,4-TMB based on decreased clotting time via a route-to-route extrapolation. Ultimately, EPA decided to select the RfD based on the route-to-route extrapolation of the decreased pain sensitivity endpoint given the confidence in the PBPK model extrapolations and that neurotoxicity endpoints are the most consistently observed effects in the TMB toxicity database.

**SAB Comment H.1-3:** The SAB noted that there were limitations in the Koch Industries study (primarily that it didn't involve neurotoxicity endpoints) and that use of the study would involve an extrapolation across congeners. Presented with those limitations, the SAB determined that the Koch Industries study does not provide a superior alternative to the PBPK approach for dose route extrapolation that the EPA implemented. As discussed in SAB Comment 1 of Charge Question H.1, the SAB noted that the Koch Industries study may provide a means to derive RfDs for several additional endpoints (e.g., liver, kidney) for 1,3,5-TMB. The SAB recommended that EPA consider such additional RfDs and whether they are potentially useful for 1,2,4-TMB based upon extrapolation across congeners.

**EPA Response H.1-3:** EPA agrees that the [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) study does not provide a clearly superior alternative to the route-to-route extrapolation that has been used to derive the RfD for TMB isomers. However (as discussed above in EPA Response H.1-1), the EPA derived an RfD from data on increased monocytes reported in [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#), and has compared this isomer-route-specific RfD to the RfD derived from the route-to-route extrapolation. As thoroughly discussed in Section 2.2.3, use of the monocyte data results in an RfD of  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mg/kg-day, compared to an RfD of  $1 \times 10^{-2}$  mg/kg-day for decreased pain sensitivity when using the route-to-route approach. Ultimately, the EPA chose the RfD based on the route-to-route extrapolation given the increased confidence in using the validated PBPK model to conduct the route-to-route extrapolation and numerous lines of evidence indicating the similarities in the toxicological and toxicokinetic properties of the TMB isomers.

**Charge Question H.2:** *A route-to-route extrapolation from inhalation to oral exposure using the modified [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) PBPK model has been used to derive an oral RfD for 1,2,4-TMB. Please comment on whether the PBPK modeling been appropriately utilized and clearly described. Are the model assumptions and parameters scientifically supported and clearly described? Are the uncertainties in the model structure adequately characterized and discussed? Please comment on whether this approach is scientifically supported and clearly described in the document.*

**SAB Comment H.2-1:** The SAB noted that the EPA adapted the modified [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model for dose route extrapolation of internal dose by adding an oral delivery component (continuous gastric infusion, instantaneous and complete absorption). The [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) inhalation human model is a reasonable starting point as it simulated the available human toxicokinetic data fairly well. The SAB concluded that, while the incorporation of the oral dose

route is simplistic, it is acceptable for the current purposes in that the dose metric used for dose-response modeling (parent compound average weekly venous concentration) is not sensitive to peaks and valleys of a more normal oral intake pattern. A constant infusion averages out the exposure over the course of the day, thus creating an average venous concentration that is compatible with the dose metric without further calculation. Overall, the SAB determined that the modified [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model adapted for the oral route is likely to adequately predict human oral exposures and be useful for dose-response modeling and the derivation of the RfD.

**EPA Response H.2-1:** Although the SAB concluded that an assumption of constant infusion was acceptable, albeit simplistic, for the route-to-route extrapolation, EPA, upon further consideration of the data, implemented a more realistic pattern of human oral exposure. In this new scenario, ingestion was simulated as an idealized pattern of six events, each lasting 30 minutes. Twenty-five percent of the total daily dose was assumed to be ingested at each of three events beginning at 7 am, 12 pm (noon), and 6 pm (total of 75%). Ten percent of the daily dose was assumed to be ingested at events beginning at 10 am and 3 pm (total of 20%). The final 5% was assumed to be ingested in an event beginning at 10 pm.

**Charge Question H.3:** *Please comment on the rationale for the selection of the uncertainty factors (UFs) applied to the POD for the derivation of the RfD for 1,2,4-TMB. Are the UFs appropriate based on the recommendations described in Section 4.4.5 of A Review of the Reference Dose and Reference Concentration Processes, and clearly described? If changes to the selected UFs are proposed, please identify and provide scientific support for the proposed changes.*

**SAB Comment H.3-1:** The SAB agreed with the UFs selected in the development of the oral RfD for 1,2,4-TMB. As discussed in the SAB Comment 1 of Charge Question H.2, the oral RfD for 1,2,4-TMB was derived by incorporating an oral intake component into the PBPK model for 1,2,4-TMB to obtain a human equivalent oral dose POD and then used the same UFs for the oral RfD as were used in the development of the inhalation RfC. Given that the oral RfD was based upon the same endpoint and derived from the same study as the RfC, the SAB agreed that it is logical to use the same UFs. Thus, the comments and recommendations regarding UFs for the RfC derivations (Charge Questions E.4 and F.4) are applicable to this charge question as well.

**EPA Response H.3-1:** No response necessary.

**SAB Comment H.3-2:** The SAB discussed whether there is additional uncertainty associated with incorporation of the oral intake component in the PBPK model, and specifically regarding assumptions made with that component regarding oral absorption of 1,2,4-TMB and first-pass metabolism. Unlike modeling of internal concentrations from inhalation exposure that can be verified with existing experimental data, there are no data with which to assess model predictions of internal doses following oral 1,2,4-TMB exposures. The SAB ultimately did not consider this additional uncertainty sufficient to increase the composite UF for the oral RfD, largely because the nature of the uncertainty (possible lower absorption by the oral route) would add extra health

1 protection. The SAB recommended that the potential uncertainties associated with oral  
2 bioavailability of 1,2,4-TMB be discussed more clearly in the document.

3 EPA Response H.3-2: A discussion of the uncertainty surrounding the assumption of 100%  
4 bioavailability of ingested TMB isomers has been added to Section 2.2.4.

5 **Charge Question I.1:** *The oral database for 1,2,3-TMB was considered to be inadequate for*  
6 *derivation of an RfD. Based on the similarities in chemical properties, toxicokinetics, and toxicity*  
7 *profiles between the 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB isomers, EPA concluded that there was sufficient*  
8 *evidence to support adopting the 1,2,4-TMB RfD as the RfD for 1,2,3-TMB. Please comment on whether*  
9 *EPA's conclusion that the oral database for 1,2,3-TMB is inadequate for derivation of an RfD is*  
10 *scientifically supported and clearly described. Please comment on whether oral data are available to*  
11 *support the derivation of an RfD for 1,2,3-TMB. If so, please identify these data. Please comment on*  
12 *whether EPA's approach to developing the RfD for 1,2,3-TMB is scientifically supported and clearly*  
13 *described.*

14 SAB Comment I.1-1: The SAB was not aware of adequate repeat-dose studies for 1,2,3-TMB  
15 via the oral dose route. The available acute exposure studies offer limited support in developing an  
16 RfD. The SAB agreed that the primary toxicological endpoints used for 1,2,4-TMB (neurotoxicity,  
17 hematotoxicity) and extrapolated across dose routes from the inhalation data with the assistance of  
18 PBPK modeling are appropriate for 1,2,3-TMB. There is ample precedent within the IRIS system for  
19 this approach to derive a reference value for a chemical with missing data by a particular dose  
20 route. The SAB noted that the Agency appropriately uses the same rationale to derive the RfD for  
21 1,2,4-TMB.

22 EPA Response I.1-1: It should be noted that, as with the RfC section, the individual isomer  
23 RfD sections have been combined into a unified RfD section for all of the isomers. As such, given  
24 SAB comments on both the 1,2,4-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB RfD sections, the unified RfD section covers  
25 extensive discussion and quantitation of RfDs based on increased monocytes (1,3,5-TMB oral-  
26 specific data) and decreased pain sensitivity (1,2,4-TMB route-to-route extrapolation), including  
27 the ultimate adoption of the route-to-route-derived RfD as the RfD for TMBs. Thus, while an  
28 explicit discussion of adoption of 1,2,4-TMB's RfD as the RfD for 1,2,3-TMB no longer is included in  
29 the document, the discussion regarding the ultimate adoption of 1,2,4-TMB's RfD as the RfD for all  
30 isomers still covers the issues identified by SAB above.

31 **Charge Question J.1:** *The oral database for 1,3,5-TMB was considered to be inadequate for*  
32 *derivation of an RfD. EPA concluded that given the similarities in the chemical properties,*  
33 *toxicokinetics, and toxicity profiles between the two isomers, there was sufficient evidence to support*  
34 *adopting the RfD for 1,2,4-TMB as the RfD for 1,3,5-TMB. Please comment on whether EPA's*  
35 *conclusion that the oral database for 1,3,5-TMB is inadequate for derivation of an RfD is scientifically*  
36 *supported and clearly described. Please comment on whether oral data are available to support the*  
37 *derivation of an RfD for 1,3,5-TMB. If so, please identify these data.*

1        SAB Comment J.1-1: The SAB agreed with the EPA’s approach to extrapolating the RfD of  
2 1,2,4-TMB to 1,3,5-TMB. However, the SAB was aware of an isomer-specific study ([Koch Industries](#)  
3 [1995b](#)) and the recently released data on 1,3,5-TMB ([Adenuga et al., 2014](#)) provided by public  
4 commenters.

5        EPA Response J.1-1: EPA incorporated data from [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) in the RfD  
6 derivation section as outlined below.

7        SAB Comment J.1-2: The SAB commented that the [Koch Industries \(1995b\)](#) study was the  
8 only isomer-specific and route-specific study available in the peer-reviewed literature for oral  
9 exposure to 1,3,5-TMB when the TMB assessment was drafted in 2013. Although EPA’s rationale  
10 for not using this study for RfD derivation is clearly described (i.e., it did not assess the potential for  
11 neurological effects and “presented limited toxicological information”), the SAB disagreed and  
12 considered the [Koch Industries \(1995b\)](#) study suitable for development of one or more candidate  
13 oral values for 1,3,5-TMB.

14        EPA Response J.1-2: The [Koch Industries \(1995b\)/Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) study has been  
15 used in the current draft to derive an RfD based on increased monocytes.

16        SAB Comment J.1-3: The SAB found that the Koch Industries study of 1,3,5-TMB toxicity  
17 after subchronic (90-day) gavage treatment was consistent with good laboratory practices and  
18 requirements and, when submitted for an EPA Office of Water test rule, was peer-reviewed by three  
19 senior scientists ([Versar, 2013](#)). Although the study does not include neurological endpoints, it  
20 does provide information on toxicity to other organs such as liver and kidney. The SAB concluded  
21 that this study is suitable for providing candidate oral values for one or more endpoints in the same  
22 way that, for example, candidate values based upon a variety of endpoints were developed and  
23 presented for 1,2,4-TMB (see Table 2-4 of the draft TMB Toxicological Review).

24        EPA Response J.1-3: As noted above, the [Koch Industries \(1995b\)/Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#)  
25 study has been used to derive an RfD for increased monocytes in the current draft. One note of  
26 clarification, the Koch Industries study was not peer-reviewed when submitted for an EPA Office of  
27 Water test rule, but was peer-reviewed in order to include it in the IRIS *Toxicological Review of*  
28 *Trimethylbenzenes*.

29        SAB Comment J.1-4: The SAB noted that, given the importance of neurotoxicity as a critical  
30 endpoint for inhalation exposure to TMB isomers, there should be confidence that any value  
31 selected as the RfD for 1,3-5-TMB is adequately protective of this type of effect. In order to produce  
32 an RfD protective of neurotoxicity using PODs from the Koch Industries study, a large UF<sub>D</sub> (e.g., 10)  
33 could be used to account for the absence of isomer- and route-specific neurotoxicity data. However,  
34 the SAB concluded that there is stronger scientific support for use of a PBPK-extrapolated RfD for  
35 1,2,4-TMB based on a neurotoxic endpoint as the overall RfD for 1,3,5-TMB. Thus, while the SAB  
36 recommended use of the Koch Industries data and [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#) to develop candidate oral  
37 values for comparison purposes, it agrees with the overall RfD for 1,3,5-TMB as proposed by EPA.

38        EPA Response J.1-4: No response necessary.

**Charge Question K.1:** *The draft Toxicological Review of Trimethylbenzenes did not conduct a quantitative cancer assessment for any isomer due to the lack of available studies. Please comment on whether data are available to support the derivation of a quantitative cancer risk estimate.*

SAB Comment K.1-1: The SAB found that the evidence for carcinogenicity of TMBs is limited and that this fact was well presented by the EPA in the draft toxicological review.

EPA Response K.1-1: No response necessary.

SAB Comment K.1-2: The SAB agreed with the Agency that TMBs do not appear to be genotoxic when assessed in a standard battery of genotoxicity assays. The one exception was 1,2,3-TMB in the Ames assay in the absence of S9. The SAB concluded that the significance of the finding was uncertain because it was not clear what mechanism could lead to such a response.

EPA Response K.1-2: No response necessary.

SAB Comment K.1-3: The SAB was not aware of any human studies on carcinogenicity of TMBs, but noted that a number of biomarker studies and their association with cancer of various sites have been published. These biomarker studies should be reviewed and included. Some examples are: (1) solid-phase microextraction, mass spectrometry, and metabolomic approaches for detection of potential urinary cancer biomarkers—a powerful strategy for breast cancer diagnosis ([Silva et al., 2012](#)); (2) investigation of urinary volatile organic metabolites as potential cancer biomarkers by solid-phase microextraction in combination with gas chromatography-mass spectrometry ([Silva et al., 2011](#)); and (3) cellular responses after exposure of lung cell cultures to secondary organic aerosol particles ([Gaschen et al., 2010](#)).

EPA Response K.1-3: Information gleaned from studies on biomarkers of exposure and their association with cancers at various sites in humans has been added the Carcinogenicity section (Section 1.2.6) of the Hazard Identification section where applicable.

SAB Comment K.1-4: Based upon the deficiencies of the [Maltoni et al. \(1997\)](#) study, the lack of bioassays with 1,2,3-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB, and the lack of human studies, the SAB agreed that the EPA could not conduct a quantitative cancer assessment for any isomer due to the lack of appropriate studies.

EPA Response K.1-4: No response necessary.

## **Additional SAB Recommendations**

### **1. Candidate Reference Values**

SAB Comment AR.1-1: The SAB noted that Section 7.6 of the Preamble (External Peer Review draft version) describes how IRIS assessments derive candidate values for each suitable data set and effect that is credibly associated with an agent. These results are arrayed, using common dose metrics, to show where effects occur across a range of exposures using guidance on methods to derive RfCs and RfDs. The assessment process develops an organ- or system-specific reference value for each organ or system affected by the agent and selects an overall RfD and an overall RfC for the agent to represent lifetime human exposure levels where effects are not



1 anticipated to occur. Providing these organ/system-specific reference values, IRIS assessments  
2 may facilitate subsequent risk assessments that consider the combined effect of multiple agents  
3 acting at a common site or through common mechanisms.

4 EPA Response AR.1-1: No response necessary.

5 SAB Comment AR.1-2: The SAB encountered an issue where further clarification by EPA is  
6 strongly encouraged. Interest by the EPA in developing PODs and RfCs/RfDs for multiple endpoints  
7 in new IRIS profiles is noted. As shown in this toxicological review, one of the uses of RfCs/RfDs for  
8 various endpoints is as candidates for selection as the overall toxicity value. The overall toxicity  
9 value is one that is intended to be protective of toxicity of all types, and this is taken into  
10 consideration when selecting the  $UF_D$ . Another use of these RfCs/RfDs is to better understand the  
11 effects of combined chemical exposures. Risks from combined or cumulative exposures to  
12 chemicals is generally of greatest concern when the chemicals affect the same target organs. While  
13 an overall RfC or RfD is based upon one effect chosen as the critical effect, that chemical may  
14 produce other types of toxicity at doses that are only marginally higher than the selected overall  
15 toxicity value. To illustrate the problem, consider the situation in which individuals are exposed to  
16 three chemicals, each with an RfC based upon a different endpoint, but all have the potential to  
17 affect the liver. For the risk assessor, the combined effect of the three chemicals on the liver may be  
18 greater concern than the effects of the individual chemicals on other organ/systems. In order to  
19 evaluate the risk of liver injury from combined exposure, the risk assessor needs a liver RfC for each  
20 compound. Conceivably, this information could come from RfCs for the chemicals, if available for  
21 the liver, but there is a difference in the way that an RfC for this use would be developed versus an  
22 RfC suitable for selection as the overall RfC. The difference is in the way that the  $UF_D$  is selected—  
23 on one hand to ensure that the RfC is protective against all forms of toxicity and on the other that it  
24 is reliably protective of toxicity to a specific target organ. Conceivably, the  $UF_D$  values selected for  
25 those two purposes, and the resulting RfC/RfD values, could be quite different. The SAB was  
26 unaware of any discussion of this issue by EPA or clear description of how organ/system-specific  
27 RfC/RfD values are to be developed and used. As the IRIS process moves forward, it will be  
28 important to provide much greater clarity on this subject.

29 EPA Response AR.1-2: EPA agrees that as the IRIS Program moves forward, the process by  
30 which organ/system-specific RfCs/RfDs are derived must be clearly defined and presented  
31 transparently to the public. In the current assessment, however, the RfCs/RfDs were derived via  
32 the application of a composite UF that took into account database uncertainties ( $UF_D = 3$  for lack of  
33 developmental neurotoxicity information). Calculation of RfCs/RfDs associated with systems that  
34 are likely not affected by the lack of additional developmental neurotoxicity information could use a  
35 composite  $UF = 100$  ( $UF_A = 3$ ,  $UF_H = 10$ ,  $UF_S = 3$ ,  $UF_L = 1$ ,  $UF_D = 1$  [hematological, respiratory, or  
36 maternal endpoint]) or  $UF = 30$  ( $UF_A = 3$ ,  $UF_H = 10$ ,  $UF_S = 1$ ,  $UF_L = 1$ ,  $UF_D = 1$  [developmental  
37 endpoints]).

**2. Sensitive Lifestages and Vulnerable Populations**

SAB Comment AR.2-1: The draft TMB assessment provided only one paragraph on this subject. While the SAB found that it correctly identified various types of immaturity (metabolism, renal clearance) as potentially leading to greater vulnerability in early life, the Panel felt that this section could provide a better outline of the kinds of information needed to understand the potential vulnerabilities in early life, including key aspects of TMB mode of action and key developmental features.

EPA Response AR.2-1: This section was expanded according to the specific comments that SAB provided below.

SAB Comment AR.2-2: Regarding mode of action, the SAB noted that it is important to know: (1) whether it is the parent compound or metabolites (or both) that contribute to toxic effect; (2) which metabolic systems are responsible for removing the parent compound and creating important metabolites; and (3) the role of distributional phenomena (e.g., uptake into brain; partitioning into fat) and other clearance mechanisms in determining chemical fate and access to target sites. Based upon the available mode-of-action information, the developmental factors that may influence toxicokinetics can be discussed in this section. For TMBs, the draft document assumes that the parent compound is responsible for toxicity with modeling assuming that a saturable Phase I oxidative cytochrome P450 (CYP450) process is responsible for decreasing parent compound levels in venous blood. This section should state whether it is known which CYP450(s) are responsible for TMB saturable metabolism, as different CYP450s have different developmental patterns. Analogy may be drawn with other alkylbenzenes that do have toxicokinetic modeling data in early life such as toluene. Toluene has already been referred to in the mode-of-action section of the document; it is also neurotoxic and its mode of action is based upon parent compound, with the level getting to the brain determined by saturable CYP450 metabolism. If the EPA determines these parallels to provide a useful analogy, then early life modeling papers for toluene by [Pelekis et al. \(2001\)](#) and [Nong et al. \(2006\)](#) may be useful for describing the degree of toxicokinetic uncertainty presented by early lifestage exposure to TMBs.

EPA Response AR.2-2: A more detailed discussion of what is known regarding the mode of action for TMB isomers and whether information exists on what CYP450 isozyme is responsible for metabolizing parent compound has been added to Section 1.3.3 (Susceptible Populations and Lifestages). Information from early-life modeling on toluene was also incorporated into the discussion to support the conclusion that early life may be a susceptible lifestage for the neurotoxic effects of TMB exposure.

SAB Comment AR.2-3: The SAB concluded that some discussion was warranted concerning what is known about early life vulnerability to aromatic solvent neurotoxicity. Several studies are available suggesting a vulnerable window of brain development in mice to the neurotoxic effects of toluene ([Win-Shwe et al., 2012](#); [Win-Shwe et al., 2010](#)). The SAB recommended that the EPA evaluate this evidence relative to other developmental neurotoxicity studies that may be available



for toluene and other related alkylbenzenes to determine whether this data gap represents a large uncertainty.

EPA Response AR.2-3: A discussion of the possible developmental neurotoxicity of toluene as a surrogate for TMB was added to Section 1.3.3 (Susceptible Populations and Lifestages) to support the decision that early life is a window of susceptibility for the neurotoxic effects of TMB exposure.

SAB Comment AR.2-4: The SAB noted that this section should conclude with a statement as to whether any specific data exist for TMBs that would show the extent of early life vulnerability based upon toxicokinetic and toxicodynamics considerations and the degree to which such data for related alkylbenzenes help to fill these data gaps.

EPA Response AR.2-4: A concluding statement was added to this section.

### **3. Developing Subchronic RfCs and RfDs**

SAB Comment AR.3-1: The SAB noted that the EPA and other environmental regulatory agencies are frequently required to address the risks associated with exposures lasting less than a lifetime. Because the toxic endpoint(s) of concern for a given chemical, as well as threshold doses or concentrations for toxicity, can change with exposure duration, the toxicity value used in risk assessment should be matched to the extent possible to the length of exposure associated with the scenario of interest. Recognizing the need for toxicity values for less-than-lifetime exposures, the EPA Risk Assessment Forum recommended that the Agency develop such values and incorporate them into the IRIS database ([U.S. EPA, 2002](#)).

EPA Response AR.3-1: No response necessary.

SAB Comment AR.3-2: In the case of the TMBs, the SAB noted that the principal studies used to create the proposed RfCs and RfDs are all subchronic in duration, and the analysis needed to support a robust set of subchronic toxicity values has, in effect, already been done for these chemicals. The SAB acknowledged that the derivation of subchronic RfCs and RfDs may not always be appropriate. However, the toxic endpoints and dose-response relationships for the TMBs in the draft report are clearly relevant for subchronic exposure, and the same PODs and the same UFs—except UFs, which is used to generate a chronic toxicity value from subchronic study data—would apply to the development of a set of subchronic RfCs and RfDs.

EPA Response AR.3-2: No response necessary.

SAB Comment AR.3-3: Given the potential usefulness of these toxicity values for risk assessment, the importance of having the values available on IRIS, and the very small amount of additional work required to add them to the TMB assessment, the SAB suggested that the EPA consider including subchronic RfCs and RfDs for 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB. These values would be calculated using the same inputs as for the chronic toxicity values, but omitting the UFs. The SAB anticipated that incorporation of these values would require minimal edits to existing tables and text.

## ***Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes***

- 1        EPA Response AR.3-3: EPA has provided a set of subchronic RfCs and RfDs (both the  
2 candidate and final values) for the TMB isomers in Sections 2.1.8 and 2.2.6 (respectively).

## APPENDIX B. HEALTH ASSESSMENTS AND REGULATORY LIMITS BY OTHER NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL HEALTH AGENCIES

**Table B-1. Other national and international health agency assessments for trimethylbenzenes (TMBs)**

Agency	Toxicity value
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health ( <a href="#">NIOSH, 1992, 1988</a> )	Recommended Exposure Limit (REL) for TMBs: 25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) time-weighted average (TWA) for up to a 10-hr workday and a 40-hr work week, based on the risk of skin irritation, central nervous system (CNS) depression, and respiratory failure ( <a href="#">Battig et al., 1956</a> )
National Advisory Committee for Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGs) for Hazardous Substances ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2007</a> )	Acute Exposure Guideline Level (AEG)-1 (nondisabling): – 180 ppm (890 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) to 45 ppm (220 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) (10 min to 8 hrs, respectively) ( <a href="#">Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996</a> ) AEG-2 (disabling): – 460 ppm (2,300 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) to 150 ppm (740 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) (10 min to 8 hrs, respectively) ( <a href="#">Gage, 1970</a> )

## APPENDIX C. INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND DOSE-RESPONSE ANALYSIS

### C.1. TOXICOKINETICS

There has been a significant amount of research conducted on the toxicokinetics of 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene (TMB), 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB in experimental animals and humans. In vivo studies have been conducted to evaluate the adsorption, distribution, metabolism, and excretion (ADME) of all isomers following exposure via multiple routes of exposure in rats ([Swiercz et al., 2006](#); [Tsuji moto et al., 2005](#); [Swiercz et al., 2003](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#); [Tsuji no et al., 2002](#); [Tsuji moto et al., 2000](#); [Eide and Zahlsen, 1996](#); [Zahlsen et al., 1990](#); [Huo et al., 1989](#); [Dahl et al., 1988](#); [Mikulski and Wiglusz, 1975](#)) and volunteers ([Swiercz et al., 2016](#); [Janasik et al., 2008](#); [Jones et al., 2006](#); [Järnberg et al., 1997a](#); [Järnberg et al., 1997b](#); [Kostrzewski et al., 1997](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#); [Kostrewski and Wiaderna-Brycht, 1995](#); [Fukaya et al., 1994](#); [Ichiba et al., 1992](#)). The following sections provide a summary of the toxicokinetic properties for all three isomers. For complete details regarding the toxicokinetics of TMB isomers in humans and animals, see Tables C-47–C-66 in Appendices C.6–C.8.

#### C.1.1. Absorption

Both humans and rats readily absorb 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB into the bloodstream following exposure via inhalation. Humans (N = 9–10, Caucasian males) exposed to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB for 2 hours exhibited similar maximum capillary blood concentrations (6.5 ± 0.88 and 6.2 ± 1.6 µM, respectively [digitized data]), whereas absorption for 1,2,3-TMB was observed to be higher (7.3 ± 1.0 µM [digitized data]) ([Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#)). [Kostrzewski et al. \(1997\)](#) observed equivalent maximal capillary blood concentrations in humans (N = 5) exposed to 30.5 ppm (150 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB for 8 hours (8.15 ± 1.4 and 6.3 ± 1.0 µM, respectively). In the same study, volunteers exposed to 100 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (20.3 ppm) 1,2,3-TMB had capillary blood concentrations of 4.3 ± 1.1 µM. In humans (N = 4, 2 male, 2 female) exposed to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,3,5-TMB for 4 hours, venous blood concentrations were markedly lower (0.85 µM, no standard deviation [SD] reported), but this may be related to measurement of 1,3,5-TMB in the venous blood ([Jones et al., 2006](#)). 1,3,5-TMB has a higher blood:fat partition coefficient (230) than 1,2,4-TMB (173) or 1,2,3-TMB (164) ([Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#)) and therefore, much of the 1,3,5-TMB absorbed into capillary blood may preferentially distribute to adipose tissue before entering into the venous blood supply.

Measurements of respiratory uptake of 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB are similar in humans (N = 10, Caucasian males) ( $60 \pm 3$ ,  $48 \pm 3$ , and  $55 \pm 2\%$ , respectively).

In rats, rapid absorption into the bloodstream was observed in many studies following single exposures to 1,2,4-TMB, with maximal blood concentrations of  $537 \pm 100$ , 221 (no SD reported), and  $64.6 \pm 13.6$   $\mu\text{M}$  observed after exposures to 1,000 ppm (4,920  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 12 hours, 450 ppm (2,214  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 12 hours, and 250 ppm (1,230  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$ ) for 6 hours (Swiercz et al., 2003; Eide and Zahlse, 1996; Zahlse et al., 1990). Zahlse et al. (1990) observed a decrease in blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB following repeated exposures, which they attribute to induction of metabolizing enzymes; a similar decrease in 1,2,4-TMB blood concentrations following repeated exposures was not observed in Swiercz et al. (2003). Using a four-compartment toxicokinetic model, Yoshida (2010) estimated that a rat exposed to 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB for 2 hours would absorb 6.6  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  body weight (no SD reported). Using this same model, the authors estimated that humans exposed to 24  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB for 2 hours would absorb 0.45  $\mu\text{g}/\text{kg}$  body weight (no SD reported). 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB have also been observed to be absorbed and distributed via blood circulation following oral and dermal exposures in rats (Tsujino et al., 2002; Huo et al., 1989). Lastly, calculated blood:air partition coefficients for 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB (59.1 [56.9–61.3], 66.5 [63.7–69.3], and 43.0 [40.8–45.2], respectively) were similar in humans (N = 10, 5 male, 5 female), indicating that the two isomers would partition similarly into the blood (Järnberg and Johanson, 1995). Additionally, the blood:air partition coefficients between humans and rats were very similar for all three isomers: 1,2,4-TMB (59.1 versus 57.7), 1,2,3-TMB (66.5 versus 62.6), and 1,3,5-TMB (43.0 versus 55.7) (Meulenberg and Vijverberg, 2000). This further indicates that patterns of absorption would be similar across species.

### C.1.2. Distribution

No information exists regarding the distribution of any isomer in adult humans. However, experimentally calculated tissue-specific partition coefficients were similar for all three isomers across a number of organ/systems (fat, brain, liver, muscle, and kidney) (Meulenberg and Vijverberg, 2000). This strongly indicates that 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB can be expected to partition similarly into these various organ/systems. TMBs (unspecified isomer) have also been detected in cord blood, and can therefore be expected to partition into the fetal compartment (Cooper et al., 2001; Dowty et al., 1976). In rats, 1,2,4-TMB was observed to distribute widely to all examined organ/systems following oral exposure, with the highest concentrations found in the stomach ( $509 \pm 313$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$ ) and adipose tissue ( $200 \pm 64$   $\mu\text{g}/\text{g}$ ) (Huo et al., 1989). Following inhalation exposures, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB were observed to distribute to all tissues examined, with tissue-specific concentrations dependent on the external exposure concentration (Swiercz et al., 2016; Swiercz et al., 2006; Swiercz et al., 2003; Eide and Zahlse, 1996). 1,2,4-TMB distributed to the adipose tissue to a much higher degree than to the brain, liver, or kidneys (Eide and Zahlse, 1996). Venous blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB and liver concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB were observed to be significantly

lower in repeatedly exposed animals versus animals exposed only once to higher concentrations ([Świercz et al., 2016](#); [Swiercz et al., 2006](#); [Swiercz et al., 2003](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#)). Kidney concentrations of 1,3,5-TMB were observed to be lower in repeatedly exposed animals versus animals exposed once, but only at the lowest exposure concentration. However, kidney concentrations of 1,2,3-TMB were observed to be higher in repeatedly exposed animals versus those exposed only once at low and medium doses, but not high doses ([Świercz et al., 2016](#)). The authors suggest that lower tissue concentrations of TMB isomers observed in repeatedly-exposed animals is mostly likely due to induction of metabolizing enzymes at higher exposure concentrations. This hypothesis is supported by the observation of cytochrome P450 (CYP450) enzyme induction in the livers, kidneys, and lungs of rats exposed to 1,200 mg/kg-day 1,3,5-TMB for 3 days ([Pyykko, 1980](#)).

1,2,4-TMB was also observed to distribute to individual brain structures, with the brainstem and hippocampus having the highest concentrations following exposure ([Swiercz et al., 2003](#)). [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#) also observed decreasing blood, brain, and adipose tissue concentrations following repeated exposures versus single-day exposures in rats exposed to 1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>). The only studies to investigate distribution following dermal exposure utilized kerosene as the test agent. In one study, 1,2,4-TMB preferentially distributed to the kidneys ([Tsuji no et al., 2002](#)). Concentrations in the blood, brain, liver, and adipose tissue were similar to one another, but 1,2,4-TMB concentrations only increased in a dose-dependent manner in adipose tissue, and continued to accumulate in that tissue following the termination of exposure. Similar results were reported for 1,2,3-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB, but specific data were not presented. Other studies simply reported that 1,2,4-TMB was detected in blood following dermal exposure to kerosene ([Kimura et al., 1991](#); [Kimura et al., 1988](#)).

### **C.1.3. Metabolism**

The metabolic profiles for each isomer were qualitatively similar between humans and rats, although in some cases, quantitative differences were reported. In humans (N = 10, Caucasian males), all three isomers are observed to be metabolized to benzoic and hippuric acids. Approximately 22% of inhaled 1,2,4-TMB was collected as hippuric acid metabolites in urine 24 hours after 2-hour exposures to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB ([Järnberg et al., 1997b](#)). 3,4-Dimethylhippuric acid (DMHA) comprised 82% of the DMHAs collected after exposure to 1,2,4-TMB, indicating that steric factors are important in the oxidation and/or glycine conjugation of 1,2,4-TMB in humans. Approximately 11% of inhaled 1,2,3-TMB was collected as hippuric acid metabolites ([Järnberg et al., 1997b](#)). As with 1,2,4-TMB, steric influences seem to play an important role in the preferential selection of which metabolites are formed: 2,3-DMHA comprised 82% of all hippuric acid metabolites collected. Urinary hippuric acid metabolites for 1,3,5-TMB following the same exposure protocol accounted for only 3% of inhaled dose. The lower levels of hippuric acids recovered in urine following exposure to 1,3,5-TMB may be a result of differing pK<sub>a</sub> values. The DMHA metabolite of 1,3,5-TMB has the highest pK<sub>a</sub> value of any DMHA metabolite, indicating that it

ionizes to a lesser degree in urine. This may lead to increased reabsorption in the kidney tubules, consequently lowering the total amount of DMHA metabolite excreted within 24 hours ([Järnberg et al., 1997b](#)). Greater amounts of urinary benzoic and hippuric acid metabolites (73%) were observed in humans (N = 5) following exposure to higher amounts of 1,3,5-TMB (up to 30.5 ppm) for 8 hours ([Kostrzewski et al., 1997](#); [Kostrewski and Wiaderna-Brycht, 1995](#)). Following occupational exposure to 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB, urinary benzoic acid and hippuric acid metabolites in workers (N = 6–12) were highly correlated with TMB isomer air concentrations ([Jones et al., 2006](#); [Fukaya et al., 1994](#); [Ichiba et al., 1992](#)).

Following oral exposures in animals, the quantitative metabolic profiles of the three isomers appears to differ. [Mikulski and Wiglusz \(1975\)](#) observed that 73% of the administered dose of 1,3,5-TMB was recovered as glycine (i.e., hippuric acid,  $59.1 \pm 5.2\%$ ), glucuronide ( $4.9 \pm 1.0$ ), or sulfate ( $9.2 \pm 0.8\%$ ) conjugates in the urine of rats within 48 hours after exposure. However, the total amount of metabolites recovered following exposure to 1,2,3-TMB and 1,2,4-TMB was much less (33.0 and  $\sim 37\%$ , respectively). The major terminal metabolites for 1,2,4-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB are DMHAs ( $23.9 \pm 2.3$  and  $59.1 \pm 5.2\%$  total dose, respectively). DMHA metabolites represent a smaller fraction ( $10.1 \pm 1.2\%$ ) of the metabolites produced following 1,2,3-TMB exposure. When an estimate of the total amount of metabolite was calculated, differences between isomers remained, but were in closer agreement: 93.7% (1,3,5-TMB), 62.6% (1,2,4-TMB), and 56.6% (1,2,3-TMB) (no SD reported). It is important to note that [Mikulski and Wiglusz \(1975\)](#) did not measure other TMB metabolites, such as mercapturic acid conjugates, trimethylphenols (TMPs), or dimethylbenzoic acids (DMBAs). [Huo et al. \(1989\)](#) reported that the total amount of metabolites (phenols, benzyl alcohols, benzoic acids, and hippuric acids) recovered with 24 hours following exposure to 1,2,4-TMB was  $86.4 \pm 23\%$  of the administered dose ( $\sim 100$  g/kg).

Similar profiles in metabolism were observed in rabbits: DMBAs and DMHAs were observed following oral exposure of rabbits to either 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB ([Laham and Potvin, 1989](#); [Cerf et al., 1980](#)). Specifically for 1,3,5-TMB, 68.5% of the administered oral dose was recovered as the DMHA metabolite, with only 9% recovered as the DMBA metabolite. Additionally, a minor metabolite not observed in rats, 5-methylisophthalic acid, was observed following exposure of rabbits ([Laham and Potvin, 1989](#)). Additional terminal metabolites for the three isomers include: mercapturic acids ( $\sim 14$ – $19\%$  total dose), phenols ( $\sim 12\%$  total dose), and glucuronides and sulphuric acid conjugates (4–9% total dose) for 1,2,4-TMB; mercapturic acids ( $\sim 5\%$  total dose), phenols ( $< 1$ – $8\%$  total dose), and glucuronides and sulphuric acid conjugates (8–15% total dose) for 1,2,3-TMB; and phenols ( $\sim 4$ – $8\%$  total dose) and glucuronides and sulphuric acid conjugates ( $\sim 59\%$  total dose) for 1,3,5-TMB ([Tsujimoto et al., 2005](#); [Tsujimoto et al., 2000, 1999](#); [Huo et al., 1989](#); [Wiglusz, 1979](#); [Mikulski and Wiglusz, 1975](#)).

Phenolic metabolites were also observed in rabbits following oral exposures to 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB, although the amounts recovered were quite small (0.05–0.4 % of total dose) ([Bakke](#)



and Scheline, 1970). As observed in humans, the influence of steric factors appeared to play a dominant role in determining the relative proportion of metabolites arising from oxidation of benzylic carbons: the less sterically hindered 3,4-DMHA comprised 79.5% of the collected hippuric acid metabolites (Huo et al., 1989). Steric factors appear to be minimal regarding oxidation of the aromatic ring itself: the most hindered phenol metabolites of 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB were either formed in equal or greater proportions compared to less sterically hindered metabolites (Tsujimoto et al., 2005; Huo et al., 1989). The proposed metabolic schemes for 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB are shown in Figures C-1, C-2, and C-3, respectively.

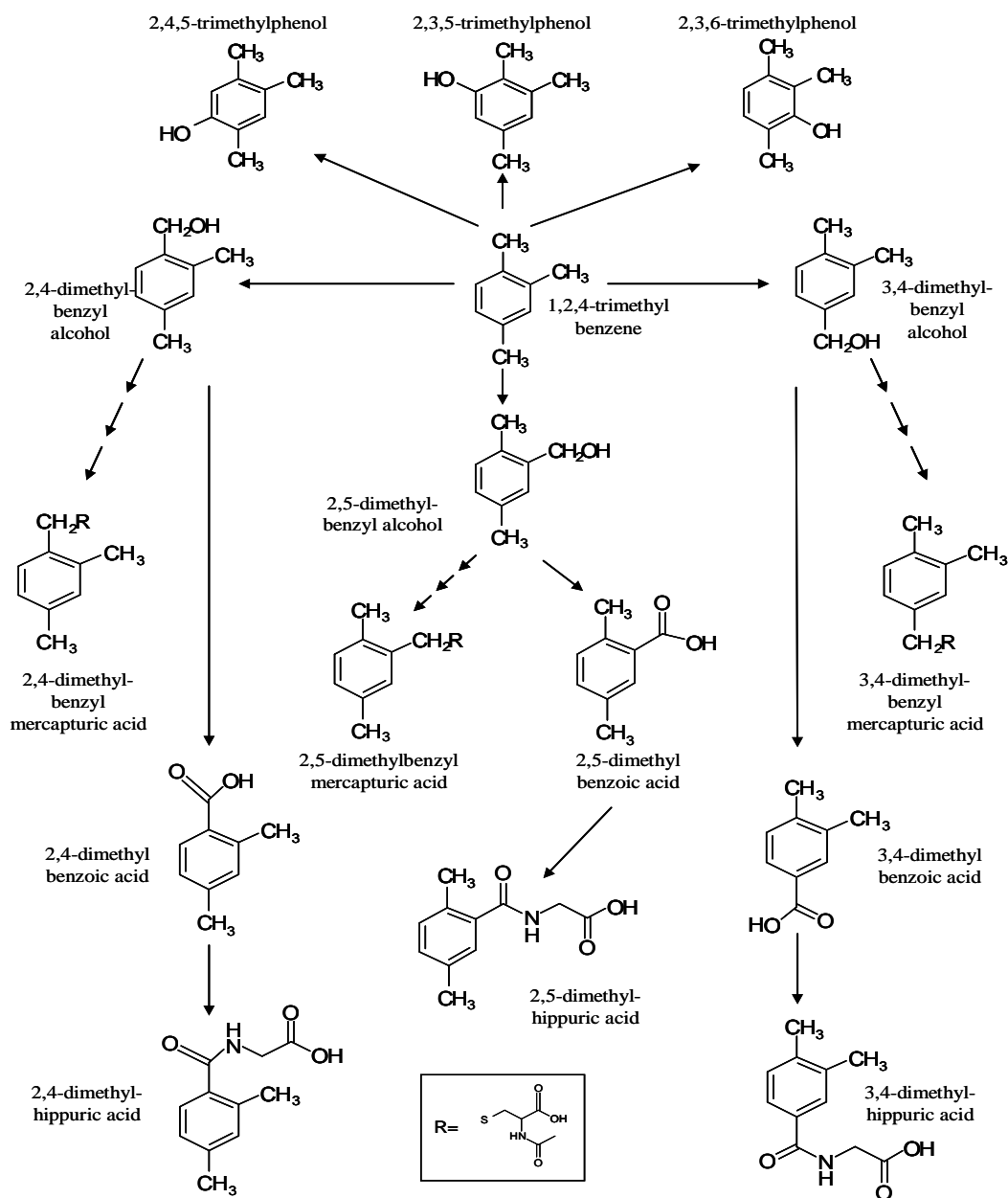
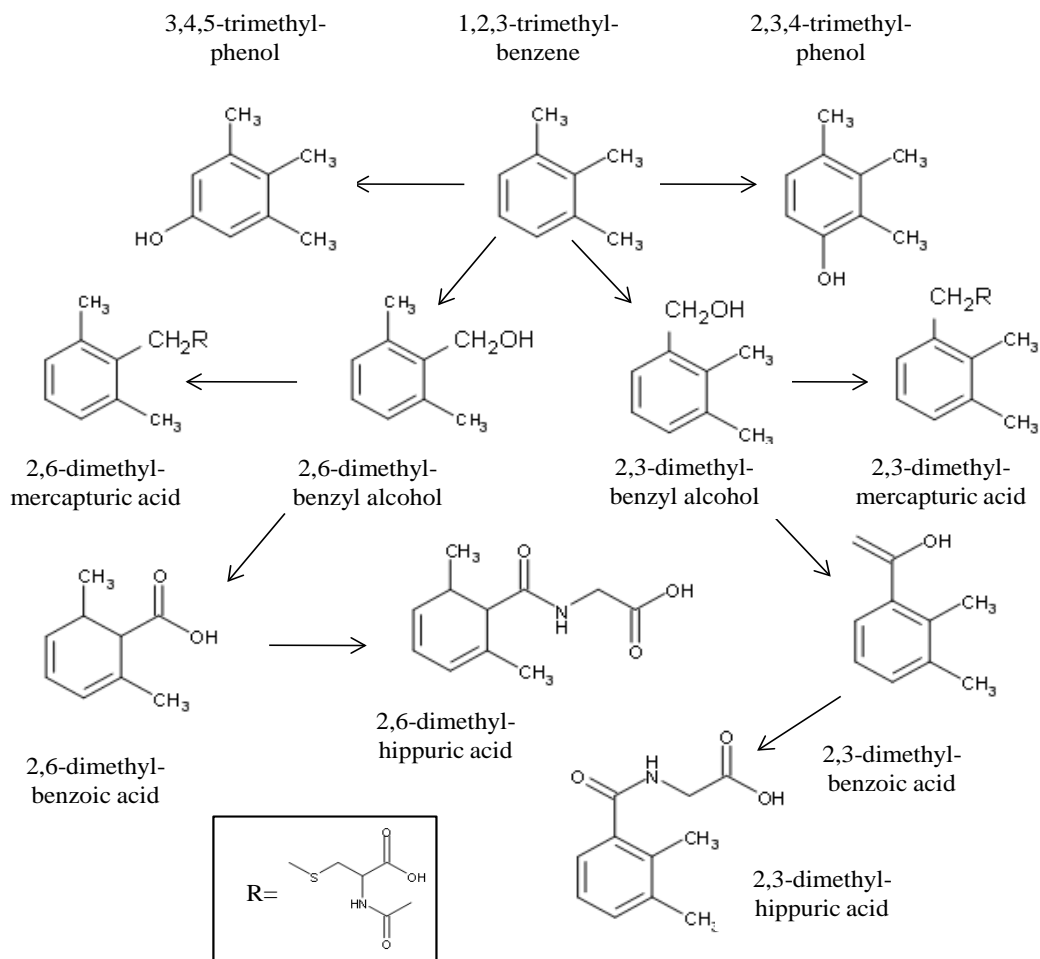


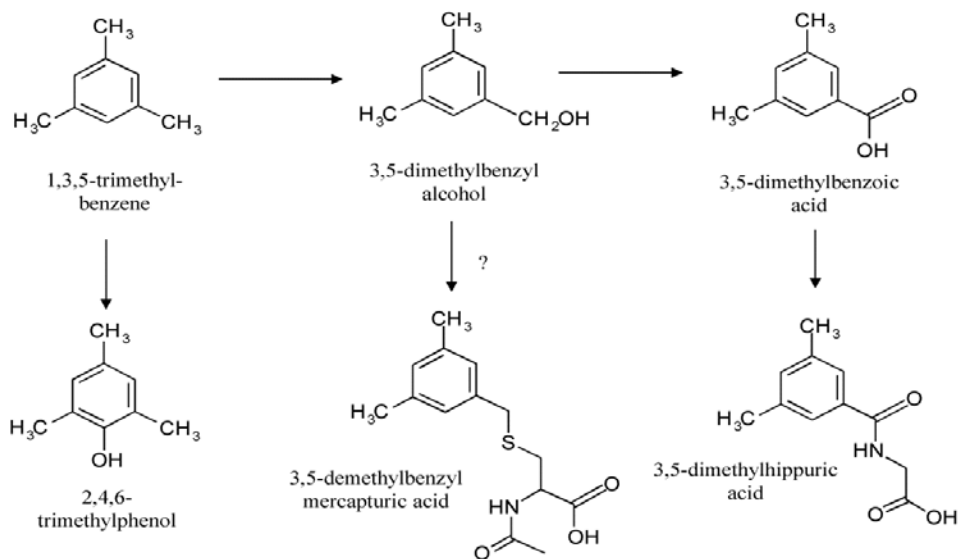
Figure C-1. Metabolic scheme for 1,2,4-TMB.



## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes



**Figure C-2. Metabolic scheme for 1,2,3-TMB.**



**Figure C-3. Metabolic scheme for 1,3,5-TMB.**

#### C.1.4. Excretion

In humans (N = 10, Caucasian males) at low doses (25 ppm [123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]), half-lives of elimination from the blood of all TMB isomers were split into four distinct phases, with the half-lives of the first three phases being similar across isomers: 1,2,4-TMB (1.3 ± 0.8 minutes, 21 ± 5 minutes, 3.6 ± 1.1 hours), 1,2,3-TMB (1.5 ± 0.9 minutes, 24 ± 9 minutes, 4.7 ± 1.6 hours), and 1,3,5-TMB (1.7 ± 0.8 minutes, 27 ± 5 minutes, 4.9 ± 1.4 hours) ([Järnberg et al., 1996](#)). 1,3,5-TMB had a higher total blood clearance value compared with 1,2,4-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB (0.97 ± 0.06 versus 0.68 ± 0.13 or 0.63 ± 0.13 L/hour/kg, respectively). The half-life of elimination for 1,3,5-TMB in the last and longest phase is much greater than those for 1,2,4-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB (120 ± 41 versus 87 ± 27 and 78 ± 22 hours, respectively). Urinary excretion of unchanged parent compound was extremely low (<0.002%) in humans (N = 6–10, male) for all three isomers ([Janasik et al., 2008](#); [Järnberg et al., 1997b](#)). The half-life of elimination of hippuric acid metabolites from the urine was also greater for 1,3,5-TMB, compared to 1,2,4-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB (16 versus 3.8–5.8 and 4.8–8.1 hours, respectively) ([Järnberg et al., 1997b](#)).

Differences in the values of terminal half-lives may be related to interindividual variation in a small sample population (N = 8–10) and difficulty measuring slow elimination phases. All three isomers were eliminated via exhalation: 20–37% of the absorbed dose of 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB was eliminated via exhalation during exposure to 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup> (25 ppm) for 2 hours ([Järnberg et al., 1996](#)) and elimination of 1,3,5-TMB via breath was biphasic with an initial half-life of 60 minutes, and a terminal half-life of 600 minutes ([Jones et al., 2006](#)). Following exposure of rats to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB for 6 hours, the terminal half-life of elimination of 1,3,5-TMB from the blood (2.7 hours) was shorter than that for 1,2,4-TMB (3.6 hours) or 1,2,3-TMB (3.1 hours) ([Świercz et al., 2016](#); [Swiercz et al., 2006](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#)). As dose increased, the half-lives for elimination from blood following single exposures to 1,2,4-TMB (17.3 hours) became much longer than those for 1,3,5-TMB (4.1 hours) or 1,2,3-TMB (5.3 hours). Following repeated-dose experiments (4 weeks), the terminal half-lives of elimination of TMB isomers in venous blood were similar for 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,3-TMB (9.9 and 8.0 hours, respectively), but larger than that of 1,3,5-TMB (4.6) ([Świercz et al., 2016](#); [Swiercz et al., 2006](#); [Swiercz et al., 2003](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#)).

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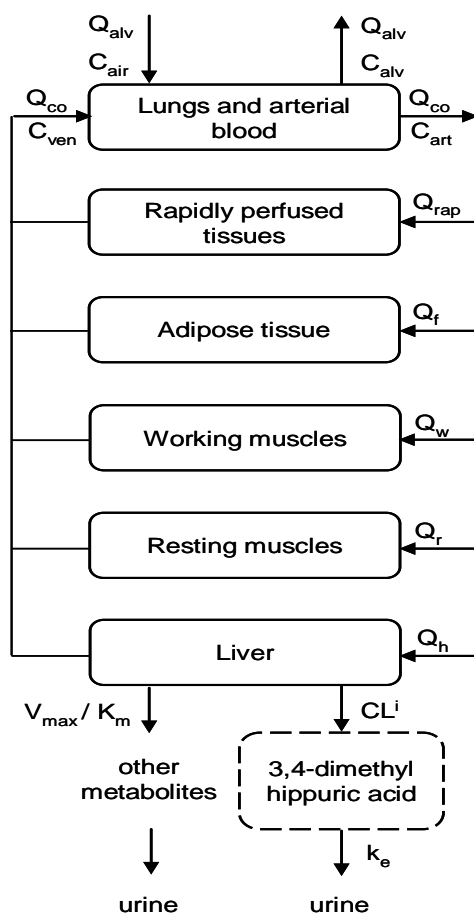
## C.2. PHYSIOLOGICALLY-BASED PHARMACOKINETIC MODELS

### C.2.1. Summary of Available Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Models for 1,2,4-TMB

[Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#)

[Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) described a PBPK model for inhalation of 1,2,4-TMB in humans. The model is composed of six compartments (lungs, adipose, working muscles, resting muscles, liver, and rapidly perfused tissues) for the parent compound and one (volume of

distribution) for the metabolite, 3,4-DMHA (see Figure C-4). The lung compartment includes lung tissue and arterial blood. Excretion of parent compound is assumed to occur solely by ventilation. As 1,2,4-TMB has a pronounced affinity to adipose tissue, a separate compartment for fat is incorporated into the model. Remaining non-metabolizing compartments are rapidly perfused tissues, comprising the brain, kidneys, muscles, and skin.



C = concentration of 1,2,4-TMB;  $C_{air}$  = concentration in ambient air;  $C_{art}$  = concentration in arterial blood;  $C_{ven}$  = concentration in venous blood;  $Q_{alv}$  = alveolar ventilation;  $Q_{CO}$  = cardiac output;  $Q_i$  = blood flow to compartment i (where i = rap = rapidly perfused tissues; f = adipose tissue; w = working muscles, r = resting muscles, h = liver);  $V_{max}$  = maximum rate of metabolism, pathway I;  $K_m$  = Michaelis-Menten constant for metabolic pathway I;  $CL^I$  = intrinsic hepatic clearance of metabolic pathway II;  $k_e$  = excretion rate constant of 3,4-DMHA.

Source: [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#).

**Figure C-4. Physiologically based toxicokinetic model for 1,2,4-TMB in humans.**

Because previous experimental data were gathered during exercise (Järnberg et al., 1997a; Järnberg et al., 1996), the muscle compartment was divided into two equally large compartments, resting and working muscles. Two elimination pathways (a saturable Michaelis-Menten pathway for all metabolites other than 2,4-DMHA [pathway I] and a first-order pathway [pathway II] for formation of 3,4-DMHA) from the hepatic compartment were included. Metabolism was assumed to occur only in the liver compartment. Tissue:blood partition coefficients of 1,2,4-TMB were calculated from experimentally determined blood:air, water:air, and olive oil:air partition coefficients (Järnberg and Johanson, 1995) (Table C-1).

**Table C-1. Measured and calculated partition coefficients for TMB isomers at 37°C**

Substance	Measured values <sup>a</sup>			Calculated values
	$P_{\text{saline:air}}$ N = 42	$P_{\text{oil:air}}$ N = 25	Human $P_{\text{blood:air}}$ N = 39	Human $P_{\text{blood:air}}$ <sup>b</sup>
1,3,5-TMB	1.23 (1.11–1.35)	9,880 (9,620–10,140)	43.0 (40.8–45.2)	60.3
1,2,4-TMB	1.61 (1.47–1.75)	10,200 (9,900–10,400)	59.1 (56.9–61.3)	62.2
1,2,3-TMB	2.73 (2.54–2.92)	10,900 (10,500–11,300)	66.5 (63.7–69.3)	67.5

<sup>a</sup>Mean values and 95% confidence interval (CI).

<sup>b</sup>Calculated as  $(0.79 \times P_{\text{saline:air}}) + (0.006 \times P_{\text{oil:air}})$ , where 0.79 is the relative content of saline in blood and 0.006 is the relative content of fat in blood (Fiserova-Bergerova, 1983).

Source: Järnberg and Johanson (1995).

The model was used to investigate how various factors (work load, exposure level, fluctuating exposure) influence potential biomarkers of exposure (end-of-shift and prior-to-shift concentrations of parent compound in blood and 3,4-DMHA in urine). Biomarker levels estimated at end-of-shift remained fairly constant during the week, whereas biomarker levels prior-to-shift gradually increase throughout the week. This indicates that end-of-shift values represent the same day's exposures, whereas prior-to-shift values reflect cumulative exposure during the entire work week. Increased work load increased uptake of 1,2,4-TMB. For example, a work load of 150 W over an exposure period of 8 hours increased the level of 1,2,4-TMB in the blood more than 2-fold, compared to levels of 1,2,4-TMB in the blood after an 8-hour exposure at rest. Simulated 8-hour exposures at air levels of 0–100 ppm (0–492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) shows that overall metabolism is saturable, and that the metabolic pathway yielding 3,4-dimethylbenzene becomes more important as exposure concentrations increase.

Previously performed experimental human exposures to 1,2,4-TMB were used to estimate the metabolic parameters and alveolar ventilation (Järnberg et al., 1997a; Järnberg et al., 1996). Individual simulated arterial blood concentrations and exhalation rates of 1,2,4-TMB, as well as the

urinary excretion rate of 3,4-DMHA, were simultaneously adjusted to the experimentally obtained values by varying the alveolar ventilation at rest. One individual's compound-specific and physiological parameters were then used for subsequent model predictions (Table C-2).

**Table C-2. PBPK model parameters for 1,2,4-TMB toxicokinetics in humans using the [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) model structure**

Parameters	Rest	Both <sup>a</sup>	50 W
Body height (m)		1.78	
Body weight (kg)		75.5	
V <sub>max</sub> (μmol/min)		3.49	
K <sub>m</sub> (μM)		4.35	
CL <sup>i</sup> (L/min)		0.149	
Elimination rate constant (min <sup>-1</sup> )		0.0079	
Alveolar ventilation (L/min)	9.05		20.2
<b>Compartment volumes (L)</b>			
Lungs and arterial blood		1.37	
Liver		1.51	
Fat		25.0	
Brain and kidneys		1.49	
Working muscles		16.6	
Resting muscles		16.6	
<b>Blood flows (L/min)</b>			
Cardiac output	5.17		9.16
Liver	1.67		
Fat	0.55		
Brain and kidneys	1.86		
Working muscles	0.55		
Resting muscles	0.55		
<b>Partition coefficients</b>			
Blood:air		59	
Fat:blood		125	
Liver:blood		5	
Rapidly perfused tissues:blood		5	
Muscle:blood		5	

<sup>a</sup>Parameters used for both working and resting conditions.

Source: [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#).

While based on the published results, the [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) model appears to provide a good description of 1,2,4-TMB kinetics in humans, the model code could not be obtained from the authors. Based on previous experience with other PBPK models, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has determined that attempting to reproduce (and thereby validate) a model based only on the published description is nearly impossible. Therefore, because the model code is not available, this model is not considered further in the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) TMB Assessment.

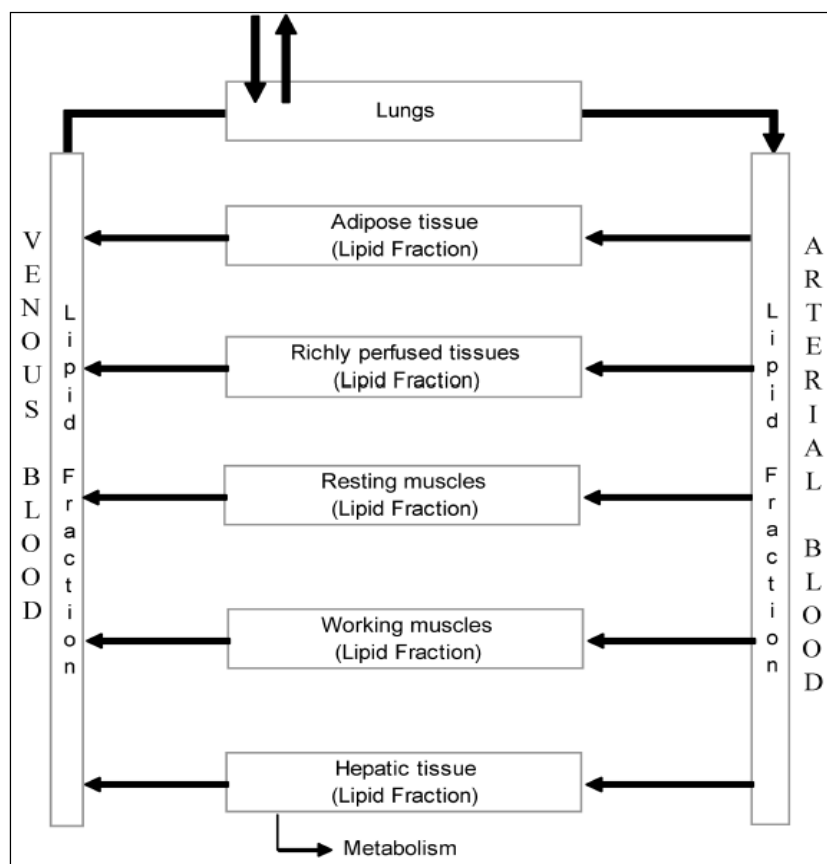
#### **[Emond and Krishnan \(2006\)](#)**

The [Emond and Krishnan \(2006\)](#) model was not developed specifically for 1,2,4-TMB, but rather to test a modeling concept. The PBPK model developed was to test the hypothesis that a model could be developed for highly lipophilic volatile organic chemicals (HLVOCs) using the neutral lipid-equivalent (NLE) content of tissues and blood as the basis. This NLE-based modeling approach was tested by simulating uptake and distribution kinetics in humans for several chemicals including  $\alpha$ -pinene, d-limonene, and 1,2,4-TMB. The focus of this model review is the use of the model for the prediction of 1,2,4-TMB kinetics and distribution.

This model consisted of five compartments (see Figure C-5) with systemic circulation, where the tissue volumes corresponded to the volumes of the neutral lipids (i.e., their NLEs), rather than actual tissue volume as more commonly found. NLE is the sum of the neutral (nonpolar) lipids and 30% of the tissue phospholipid (fraction of phospholipids with solubility similar to neutral lipids) content. The model describes inhalation of 1,2,4-TMB using a lumped lung/arterial blood compartment. Clearance of 1,2,4-TMB is described in the model with exhalation, but more significantly through first-order hepatic metabolism. First-order metabolism is appropriate in the low-dose region ( $<100$  ppm [ $<492$  mg/m<sup>3</sup>]), where metabolism is not expected to be saturated.

In the study description, the mixed lung/arterial blood compartment is not a standard structure for the lung/blood/air interface. The concentration in lung tissue is assumed equal to alveolar blood, and the exhaled air concentration is equal to the lung/blood concentration divided by the blood:air partition coefficient. This approach is appropriate, and appears to be accurately represented mathematically by the authors.

Physiological parameters appear to be within ranges normally reported. The calculation of the NLE fraction is clearly explained and values used in the calculations are clear and transparent. Other model parameters (e.g., alveolar ventilation, cardiac output, blood flows, and volumes of compartments) were taken from [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) and converted to the approximate NLE. Hepatic clearance rates were taken from literature on in vivo human clearance calculations and then expressed in terms of NLE. The NLE-based model was able to adequately predict human blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB following inhalation of 2 or 25 ppm (9.8 or 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for 2 hours without alteration to model parameters obtained from literature.



Note: Arrows represent blood flows, gas exchange, and metabolism as indicated.

Source: [Emond and Krishnan \(2006\)](#).

**Figure C-5. Schematic of human model structure for 1,2,4-TMB using the NLE-based model approach.**

The PBPK model developed by [Emond and Krishnan \(2006\)](#) is used to test the hypothesis that a model could be developed for HLVOCs using the NLE content of tissues and blood as the basis. To test this NLE-based approach, the uptake and distribution kinetics in humans for several chemicals, including 1,2,4-TMB, were simulated. The model appeared to accurately reflect experimental data; however, a rodent model is needed for this assessment for animal-to-human extrapolation, and no known rodent NLE model for 1,2,4-TMB is available. The EPA generally prefers to use a consistent model structure for both experimental animals and humans when conducting animal-to-human extrapolation, since this consistency is considered a validation of the model structure. Therefore, use of the [Emond and Krishnan \(2006\)](#) model for human predictions alone was considered less preferable than use of a model that has been developed for, and shown to describe, dosimetry in both rats and humans.



[Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#)

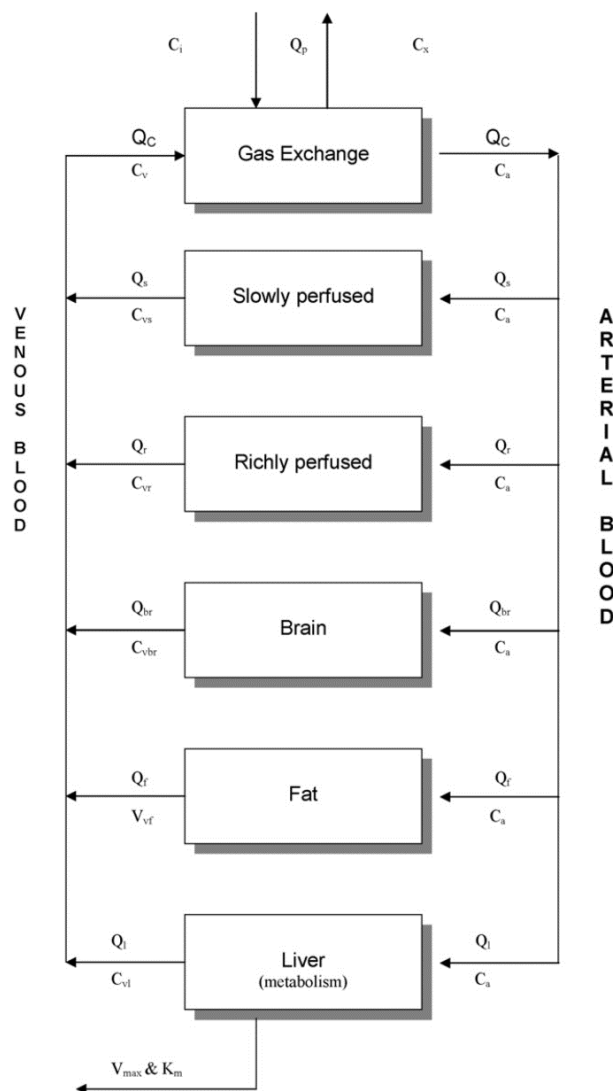
This model was developed to characterize internal exposure following white spirit inhalation. Since white spirit is a complex mixture of hydrocarbons, including straight and branched paraffins, two marker compounds were used including 1,2,4-TMB and *n*-decane. The rat models were developed to predict the levels of 1,2,4-TMB and *n*-decane in blood and brain, and the rat model was then scaled allometrically to obtain estimates for human blood following inhalation. Toxicokinetic data on blood and brain concentrations in rats of two marker compounds, 1,2,4-TMB and *n*-decane, together with in vitro partition coefficients, were used to develop the model. The models were used to estimate an air concentration that would produce human brain concentrations similar to those in rats at the no-observed-effect-level (NOEL) for central nervous system (CNS) effects.

This is a conventional five-compartment PBPK model for 1,2,4-TMB similar to previously published models for inhaled solvents. The five compartments are: liver, fat, slowly perfused tissues, rapidly perfused tissues, and brain (Figure C-6).

All compartments are described as well mixed/perfusion limited. A lung compartment is used to describe gas exchange. The liver was the primary metabolizing organ where 1,2,4-TMB metabolism was described as saturable using Michaelis-Menten kinetics. Since the brain is the target organ for CNS effects due to exposure to hydrocarbon solvents, it was included as a separate compartment. For the rat, the authors reported that  $K_m$  and  $V_{max}$  values were obtained by fitting predicted elimination time courses to observed blood concentration profiles at three different exposure levels (obtained from the rat exposure portion of the study). For the human model, rat  $V_{max}$  data were scaled to human body weight ( $BW^{0.74}$ ) and  $K_m$  values were used unchanged.

The model appears to effectively predict blood concentrations in rats and humans and in the brains of rats following inhalation of white spirit. Changes to the rat model parameters to fit the human data were as expected. The model is simple and includes tissues of interest for potential dose metrics.

In rats, the model-predicted blood and brain concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB were in concordance with the experimentally derived concentrations. In humans, experimental blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB were well predicted by the model, but the predicted rate of decrease in air concentration between 4 and 12 hours was lower compared to measured values. The authors did not provide information on how model predictions compared to data from animals or humans exposed to pure 1,2,4-TMB. Based on good model fits of experimental data in both rats and humans, the model was valid for the purpose of interspecies extrapolation of blood and brain concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB as a component of white spirit. Moreover, the fact that the model was demonstrated to adequately fit or predict both rat and human data with a single model structure is considered a degree of validation of the model structure that does not exist for the other published models described above.



Boxes represent tissue compartments, while solid arrows represent blood flows, gas exchange, and metabolism as indicated.

Source: [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#).

**Figure C-6. Schematic of rat and human PBPK model structure.**

### C.2.2. 1,2,4-TMB PBPK Model Selection

All available 1,2,4-TMB PBPK models were evaluated for potential use in this assessment. Of the three deterministic PBPK models available for 1,2,4-TMB ([Hissink et al., 2007](#); [Emond and Krishnan, 2006](#); [Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#)), the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model was chosen to utilize in this assessment because it was the only published 1,2,4-TMB model that included parameterization for both rats and humans, for which the model code was available, and for which the model adequately predicted experimental data in the dose range of concern. The [Hissink et al.](#)

(2007) model was thoroughly evaluated, including a detailed computer code analysis (details follow in Section C.2.3).

While the Hissink et al. (2007) model had the noted advantages, it did have the following shortcomings and sources of uncertainty that EPA needed to address:

- 1) the model was developed and calibrated only for inhalation exposure;
- 2) the rat model used a different value for the maximum metabolic capacity,  $V_{\max}$ , for each exposure level, which makes extrapolation or interpolation of the model problematic;
- 3) the model describes a typical adult and is not parameterized for pregnancy;
- 4) some physiological parameter values were not consistent with published sources, in particular, values more commonly used today; and
- 5) data used to calibrate the model were from inhalation exposure to white spirits, a complex mixture, and the model does not include all of the resulting potential interactions.

In particular, the metabolic parameters calibrated against white-spirit data could reflect metabolic interactions from the mixture, and not accurately predict dosimetry for exposure to 1,2,4-TMB alone. For this reason, model predictions were compared to additional pharmacokinetic data, a single value of  $V_{\max}$  was identified and used for consistency across the dose range, and some other model parameters were revised to better match those data, or make better use of existing biochemical and physiological data. The changes made and specific justifications are detailed in the following sections, including more minor issues not mentioned here.

### **C.2.3. Details of Hissink et al. (2007) Model Analysis**

#### **C.2.3.1. Review and Verification of the Hissink et al. (2007) 1,2,4-TMB PBPK Model**

##### **Verification of accuracy of the model code**

In general, the model code and the description of the model in Hissink et al. (2007) were in agreement. The one significant discrepancy was that the model code contained an element that changed the metabolism rate ( $V_{\max}$ ) during exposure in a manner that was not documented in the paper. This additional piece of model code, when used in 8-hour rat simulations with a body weight of 0.2095 kg, resulted in  $V_{\max}$  holding at 1.17 from the beginning of exposure to  $t = 1$  hour, then increasing linearly to 1.87 by the end of the exposure and to 2.67 by the end of the post-exposure monitoring period ( $t = 16$  hours, 8 hours after the end of exposure). The published rat simulations, however, did not appear to be entirely consistent with the inclusion of these  $V_{\max}$  adjustments, raising questions as to whether the code that was verified was the code that was actually used in the final analyses done for the published simulations. Further, this type of time-dependence is not based on a predictable or verifiable factor (e.g., dose-dependent metabolic induction); hence, it is

inconsistent with the intention to extrapolate the model to bioassay conditions. The impact of this deviation from the published  $V_{\max}$  value is described below with regard to the verification of the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model.

Other minor issues were identified by examining the code and comparing it to the model documentation in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#). The code contained some elements that were not necessary (e.g., intravenous dosing, repeated exposure, interruptions in daily exposure), but since these do not hinder proper functioning of the model, these elements were not removed or modified. The mass balance equation omitted one term, the amount of 1,2,4-TMB in the brain (ABR); this term has been added. The coding for the blood flow was not set up so as to ensure flow/mass balance. That is, values of sum of fractional flows to rapidly perfused tissues, liver, and brain (QRTOTC) and sum of fractional flows to slowly perfused tissues (QSTOTC) were selected such that their sum equals one, but if one value were to be changed, the model code would not automatically compensate by changing the other. Therefore, the code was modified so that  $QSTOTC = 1 - QRTOTC$ , to facilitate future sensitivity analyses.

Human exhaled breath concentrations were compared to CXEQ (= CV/PB based on the model code and consistent with the description of the experiment), which would be equivalent to the end-exhaled alveolar air after breath holding, but the method used to calculate CXEQ was not noted in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#). This is important because there can be different definitions of exhaled breath depending on the measurement technique. For example, mixed exhaled breath is typically calculated as 70% alveolar air and 30% “inhaled” concentration, due the mixing of air exiting the alveolar region with air that has only entered the pulmonary dead space.

Comparisons between the computer .m files and published descriptions ([Hissink et al. 2007](#)) indicated minor discrepancies and uncertainties in exposure concentrations and body weight. Exposure concentrations in the simulations were set at the nominal exposure levels, rather than analytically determined levels. The maximum deviation between the nominal level and analytically determined levels occurred in the rat high exposure group, with a nominal exposure of 4,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit (7.8% [38.4 mg/m<sup>3</sup>] 1,2,4-TMB) and mean analytical concentrations ranging from 4,440 to 4,769 mg/m<sup>3</sup>—as much as 9.2% lower. Rat body weights at time of exposure were reported as 242–296 g ([Hissink et al., 2007](#)), but the .m files used values of 210.01, 204.88, and 209.88 g in the low-, mid-, and high-exposure groups, respectively. Volunteer body weights reportedly ranged from 69 to 82 kg, and the text states that the fitted  $V_{\max}$  and  $K_m$  were obtained for a 70-kg male ([Hissink et al., 2007](#)), but a body weight of 74.9 kg was used in the .m file. No changes to these parameters were made in the model code, based on the assumption that additional data were available to the model authors.

Measured human blood concentrations were compared to the average of arterial and venous blood concentrations (CMIX), while the protocol states that blood was taken from the cubital vein, so a more appropriate measure may have been venous blood exiting the slowly perfused tissues compartment (CVS). This choice of dose metric is unlikely to have contributed

significantly to any errors in parameterizing the model (i.e., estimating best-fit metabolism parameters) because the difference between the two values is generally small. Revised model code and modeling results are provided on EPA's Health Effects Research Online (HERO) database ([U.S. EPA, 2016a](#)).

## **Verification of model parameter plausibility**

### **Anatomical and physiological parameters**

The anatomical physiological parameters used by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) were taken from [U.S. EPA \(1988\)](#), but the more current convention is to use the parameters in [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#). Comparisons of the rat anatomical and physiological parameters in these sources are found in Table C-3. Many disagreements in values were identified, particularly with respect to the blood flows. In interpreting the blood flow percentages, it should be noted that the percentages enumerated by [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#) do not sum to 100%, which is both a physiological requirement and a computational requirement to ensure that conservation of mass holds for the model. Perfusion rates of various depots of fat may differ, so the single value or fractional blood flow to fat given by [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#) of 7% may be deemed sufficiently uncertain that the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) value of 9% is considered acceptable. [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#) report substantially higher blood flow percentages to slowly perfused tissues (skin: 5.8% and muscle: 27.8%, for a total of 33.6%) than the value of 15% used by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#). The difference cannot be due to a smaller set of tissues being "lumped" into this compartment, because [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) assigned a larger volume fraction of tissue to this compartment. [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) also assigned a higher percentage of blood flow to the liver than indicated by [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#). Because no sensitivity analyses were conducted by the authors, it is unclear what impact these discrepancies may have had on the predicted 1,2,4-TMB kinetics and visual optimization of metabolism parameters.

Comparisons of the human anatomical and physiological parameters in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) and [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#) are found in Table C-4. In general, the agreement was better for humans than it was for rats. [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#) proposed a higher default body fat percentage than was used by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), but [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) used values derived from measurements of the volunteers participating in the study. Because these volunteers had relatively low percentages of body fat, it is appropriate that the volume of slowly perfused tissue (including muscle) should be increased to compensate.

**Table C-3. Comparison of rat anatomical and physiological parameters in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) to those of [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#)**

Parameter	<a href="#">Hissink et al. (2007)</a> <sup>a</sup>	Range from <a href="#">Brown et al. (1997)</a>	Values in agreement?
Alveolar ventilation rate (L/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	20	12–54 <sup>b</sup>	Yes
Total cardiac output (L/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	20	9.6–15	No
Blood flow (% cardiac output)			
Liver (total)	25	13.1–22.1	No
Fat	9	7	Acceptable <sup>c</sup>
Brain	1.2	1.5–2.6	No
Rapidly perfused (total)	49.8	15.3–27.4	No
Adrenals		0.2–0.3	
Heart		4.5–5.1	
Kidneys		9.5–19	
Lung		1.1–3	
Slowly perfused (total)	15	33.6	No
Muscle		27.8	
Skin		5.8	
Total	100	70.5–92.7	
Tissue volume (% body weight)			
Liver	4	2.14–5.16	Yes
Fat	7	3.3–20.4	Yes
Brain	0.72	0.38–0.83	Yes
Rapidly perfused	4.28	3.702–6.11	Yes
Adrenals		0.01–0.31	
Stomach		0.4–0.6	
Small intestine		0.99–1.93	
Large intestine		0.8–0.89	
Heart		0.27–0.4	
Kidneys		0.49–0.91	
Lungs		0.37–0.61	
Pancreas		0.24–0.39	
Spleen		0.13–0.34	
Thyroid		0.002–0.009	
Slowly perfused	75	51.16–69.1	Acceptable <sup>c</sup>
Muscle		35.36–45.5	
Skin		15.8–23.6	
Total	91		

<sup>a</sup>Values from [U.S. EPA \(1988\)](#).

<sup>b</sup>Assuming a standard 250-g rat.

<sup>c</sup>[Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) value outside of literature range, but acceptable (see discussion in text).

**Table C-4. Comparison of human anatomical and physiological parameters in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) to those of [Williams and Leggett \(1989\)](#) as reported by [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#)**

Parameter	<a href="#">Hissink et al. (2007)</a> <sup>a</sup>	Range from <a href="#">Brown et al. (1997)</a>	Values in agreement?
Alveolar ventilation rate (L/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	20	15	Acceptable
Total cardiac output (L/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	20	16	Acceptable
Blood flow (% cardiac output)			
Liver (total)	26	11–34.2	Yes
Fat	5	3.7–11.8	Yes
Brain	14	8.6–20.4	Yes
Rapidly perfused (total)	30	19.9–35.9	Yes
Adrenals		0.3	
Heart		3–8	
Kidneys		12.2–22.9	
Lung		2.5	
Thyroid		1.9–2.2	
Slowly perfused (total)	25	9–50.8	Yes
Muscle		5.7–42.2	
Skin		3.3–8.6	
Total	100	52.2–153.1	
Tissue volume (% body weight)			
Liver	2.6	2.57	Yes
Fat	14.6	21.42	Acceptable (measured) <sup>a</sup>
Brain	2	2	Yes
Rapidly perfused	3	3.77	Acceptable
Adrenals		0.02	
Stomach		0.21	
Small intestine		0.91	
Large intestine		0.53	
Heart		0.47	
Kidneys		0.44	
Lungs		0.76	
Pancreas		0.14	
Spleen		0.26	
Thyroid		0.03	
Slowly perfused	66.4	43.71	Acceptable
Muscle		40	
Skin		3.71	
Total	88.6	73.47	

<sup>a</sup>The [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) value differs from [Brown et al. \(1997\)](#), but is acceptable (see discussion in text).

## Chemical-specific parameters

The chemical-specific model parameters, partition coefficients, and metabolic parameters are summarized in Table C-5.



**Table C-5. Comparison of chemical-specific parameters in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) to literature data**

Parameter	<a href="#">Hissink et al. (2007)</a>		Literature		Values in agreement?
	Value	Technique	Value	Technique	
Partition coefficients					
Saline:air	3	In vitro	1.47–1.75 <sup>a</sup>	In vitro	Acceptable
Olive oil:air	13,200	In vitro	9,900–10,400 <sup>a</sup>	In vitro	Acceptable
Blood:air, human	85	In vitro	59.6–61.3 <sup>a</sup>	In vitro	Acceptable
Blood:air, rat	148	In vitro	–		
Rapidly perfused:blood	2.53	Calculated	–		
Slowly perfused:blood	1.21	Calculated	–		
Fat:blood	62.7	Calculated	63 <sup>b</sup>	In vivo	Yes
Brain:blood	2.53	Calculated	2 <sup>b</sup>	In vivo	Acceptable
Liver:blood	2.53	Calculated	–		
Metabolism					
V <sub>max</sub> C, rat (mg/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	3.5	Visual optimization	–		
V <sub>max</sub> C, human (mg/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	3.5	Assumed equal to rat	1.2–21 <sup>c</sup>	Optimization	Yes
K <sub>m</sub> , rat (mg/L)	0.25	Visual optimization	–		
K <sub>m</sub> , human (mg/L)	0.25	Assumed equal to rat	0.42–4.0 <sup>c</sup>	Optimization	No
V <sub>max</sub> C/K <sub>m</sub> , human (L/hr/kg <sup>0.7</sup> )	14	Assumed equal to rat	2.6–15 <sup>c</sup>	Optimization	Yes

<sup>a</sup>[Järnberg and Johanson \(1995\)](#).

<sup>b</sup>[Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#).

<sup>c</sup>[Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#).

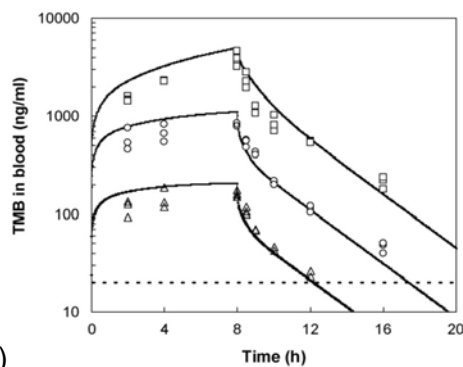
Source: [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#).

Where data were available, the agreement is generally acceptable. While the rat-derived  $K_m$  is less than the lower 95% confidence interval (CI) value for the human  $K_m$ , the human  $V_{\max}C/K_m$  ratio is in acceptable agreement with the published range. When considering sufficiently low exposure concentrations, the performance of the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) human model metabolism parameters would be consistent with the [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) value.

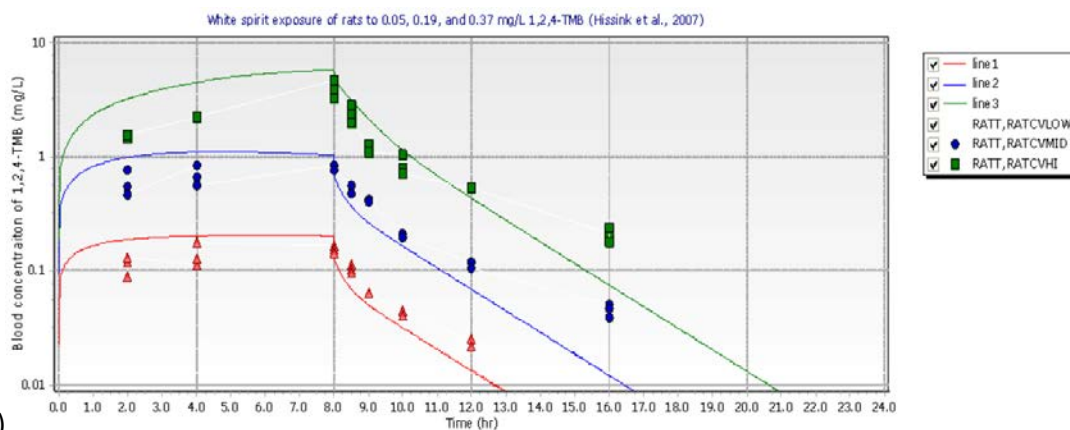
#### **Verification that the model can reproduce all figures and tables in the publication by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#)**

The experimental data in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) were estimated by use of Plot Digitizer (version 2.4.1) to convert the symbols on the relevant figures into numerical estimates. The model

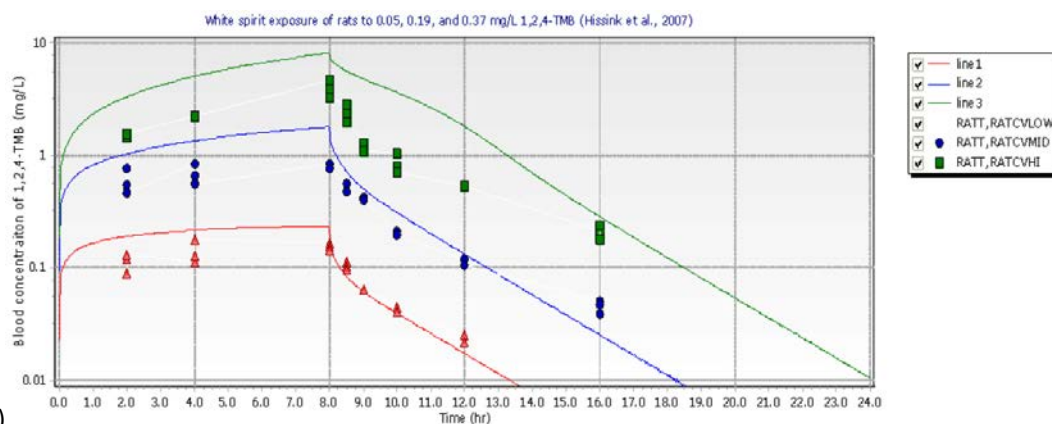
code provided (adapted for acslX), with a variable value for  $V_{\max}$ , does not appear to perfectly reproduce the rat simulations in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) (Figures C-7a and b and C-8a and b) (please note that the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) figures have been “stretched” to produce approximately the same x-axis scale found in the acslX figures). It appears to yield end-of exposure blood and brain concentrations that are about the same as in the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) simulations, but the post-exposure clearance appears faster in EPA’s calculations (see, for example, the 16-hour time points for the high exposures). When the simulations were run with  $V_{\max}$  constant (Figures C-7c and C-8c), as documented in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), the rat simulations yield higher blood and tissue concentrations than depicted in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), most notably at the high exposure concentration. Similar results were obtained for the rat brain concentrations (Figure C-8). The human simulations of blood and exhaled air appear to be faithfully reproduced by the model (Figure C-9). The predicted brain concentration for humans exposed to 600 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit (45 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB) for 4 hours was reported as 721 ng/g (0.721 mg/L) in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), whereas the current simulation predicts a concentration of 0.818 mg/L.



(a)



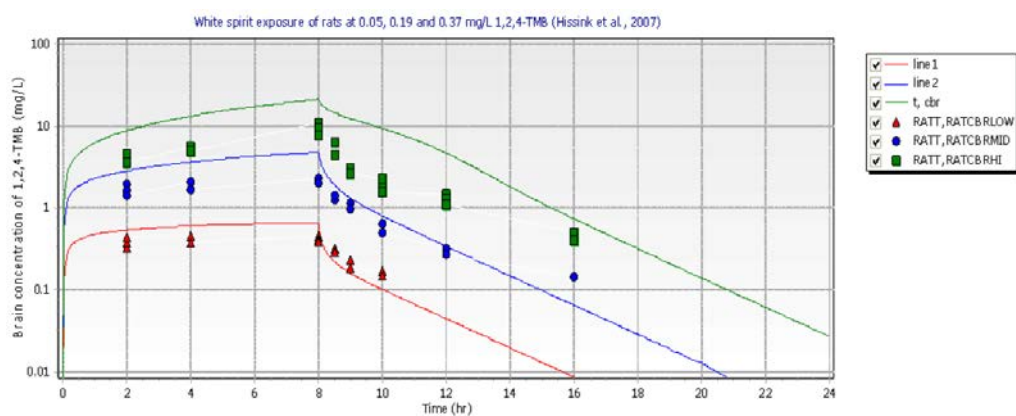
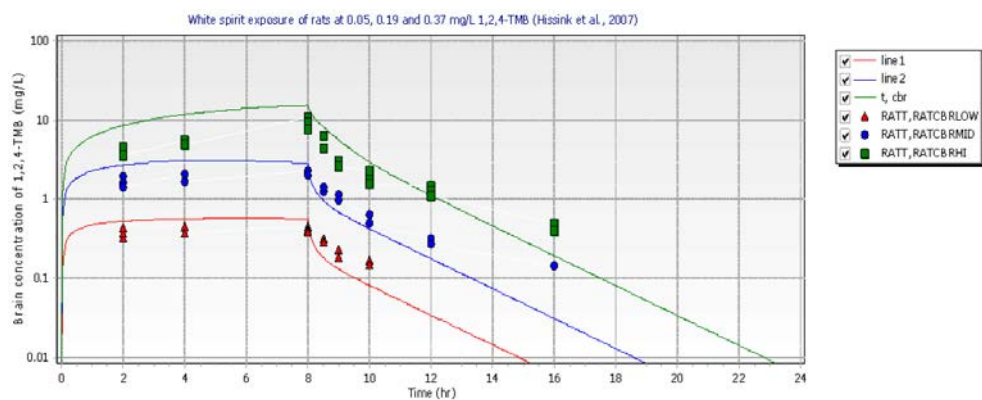
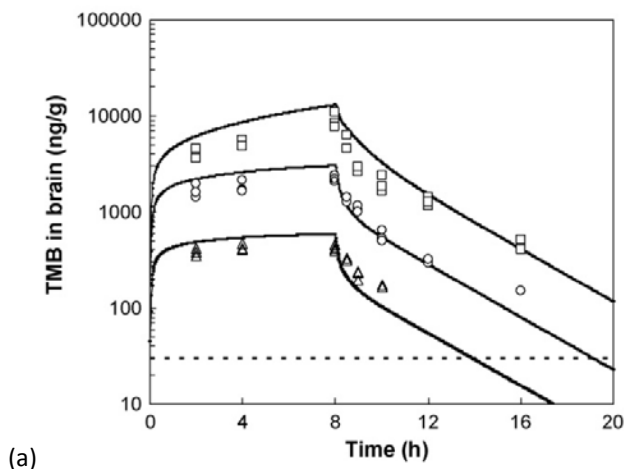
(b)



(c)

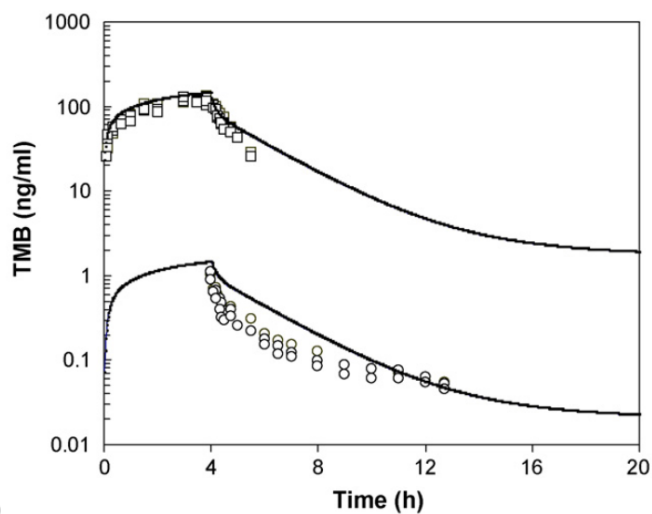
(a) [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), Figure 2, lower panel (b) variable  $V_{max}$ , (c) constant  $V_{max}$ .

**Figure C-7. Simulated and measured blood concentrations of 1,2,4,-TMB in rats exposed to 600, 2,400, or 4,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit for 8 hours.**

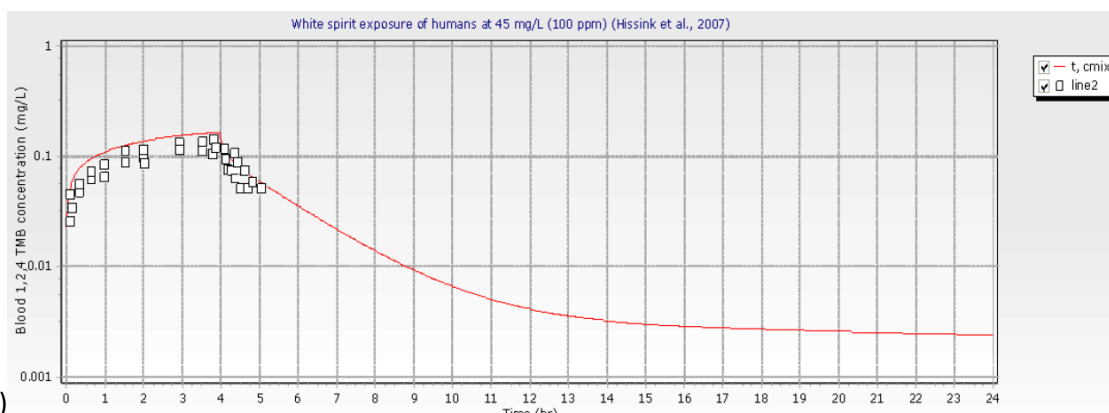


(a) [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), Figure 3, lower panel. (b) variable  $V_{max}$  (c) constant  $V_{max}$ .

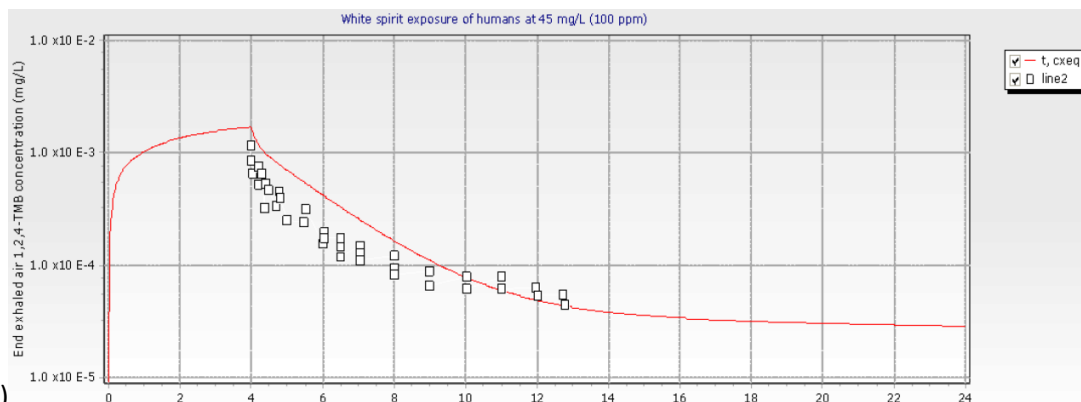
**Figure C-8. Simulated and measured brain concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in rats exposed to 600, 2,400, or 4,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit for 8 hours.**



(a)



(b)



(c)

(a) [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), Figure 4 (b) model simulation during exposure, and (c) model simulation after exposure.

**Figure C-9. Simulated and measured exhaled air concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in three volunteers exposed to 600 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit for 4 hours.**

### C.2.3.2. PBPK Model Optimization and Validation

Because of the various issues described above for the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model, including inconsistency of physiological parameters, non-mechanistic dose-dependence in metabolic parameters, and the inability to exactly reproduce the model simulation figures in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#), model parameters were revised as described below. The EPA attempted to minimize the number of parameters that were changed, focusing on those which were most discrepant from other published literature or to which model predictions were most sensitive.

### Methods and Background

For all optimizations, the Nelder-Mead algorithm was used to maximize the log-likelihood function (LLF). A constant heteroscedasticity value of 2 (i.e., relative error model) was assumed. Statistical significance of an increase in the LLF was evaluated for 95% confidence per [Collins et al. \(1999\)](#). All kinetic studies were conducted with adult animals or adult volunteers. In many cases, blood and tissue concentration data in a numerical form were available from the literature ([Swiercz et al., 2003](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#); [Kostrzewski et al., 1997](#); [Eide and Zahlse, 1996](#); [Zahlse et al., 1992](#); [Dahl et al., 1988](#)). The 1,2,4-TMB blood, brain, and exhaled breath concentration data in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) were published in graphical format and a colleague of Dr. Hissink also provided these in numerical form to EPA for use in this analysis.

Average estimates of the blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB (average and SD) in humans exposed only to 1,2,4-TMB as presented in graphs (see [Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#)) were used in this evaluation. Estimates of the blood and tissue 1,2,4-TMB concentrations in rats presented in graphs in [Zahlse et al. \(1990\)](#) were also used in this evaluation. Prior to model optimization, physiological parameters were modified from those in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) to better reflect a more recent literature compilation ([Brown et al., 1997](#)) than the references cited by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) (Table C-6). Where possible, study-specific body weights and measured concentrations (rather than nominal concentrations) have been used, as detailed in the .m files ([U.S. EPA, 2016a](#)). For the [Zahlse et al. \(1990\)](#) 14-day study, body weights for exposures after the first exposure were estimated based on European growth curves for male Sprague-Dawley rats (linear regression of weights for weeks 6–9) ([Harlan Laboratories, 2012](#)).

**Table C-6. Parameter values for the rat and human PBPK models for 1,2,4-TMB used by EPA**

Parameter	Rat	Human (at rest)
Body weight (kg)	0.230–0.390 <sup>a</sup>	70
Alveolar ventilation rate (L/hr/kg <sup>0.70</sup> )	14	15
Total cardiac output (L/hr/kg <sup>0.70</sup> )	14	16
Blood flow (% of total cardiac output)		
Liver	17.6	17.5
Fat	9	8.5
Brain	2.0	11.4
Rapidly perfused	37.8	37.7
Slowly perfused	33.6	24.9
Volume (% of body weight)		
Liver	4	2.6
Fat	7	21.42
Brain	0.57	2
Rapidly perfused	4.43	3
Slowly perfused	75	59.58
Partition coefficients (dimensionless)		
Blood: air	148	85
Rapidly perfused: blood	2.53	4.4
Slowly perfused: blood	1.21	2.11
Fat: blood	62.7	109
Brain: blood	2.53	4.4
Liver: blood	2.53	4.4
Liver metabolism		
V <sub>max</sub> C (mg/hr/kg <sup>0.70</sup> )	4.17	
K <sub>m</sub> (mg/L)	0.322	

<sup>a</sup>Study-specific.



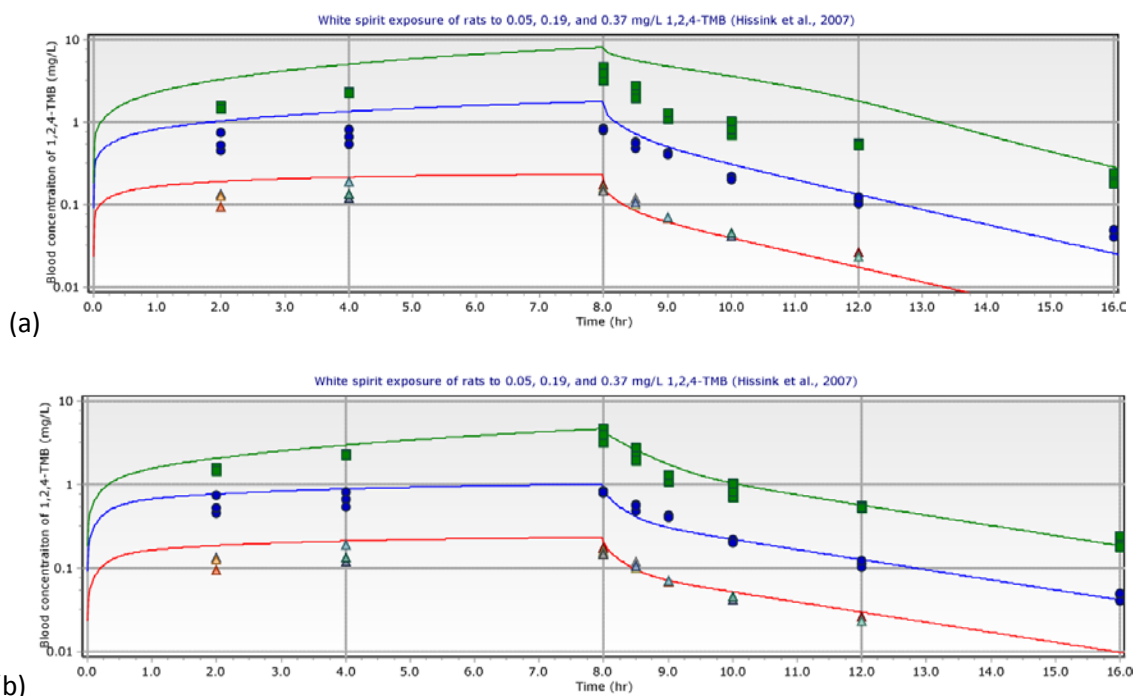
## **Rat Model Optimization**

The rat studies considered in model optimization and model testing (validation) are summarized in Table C-7.

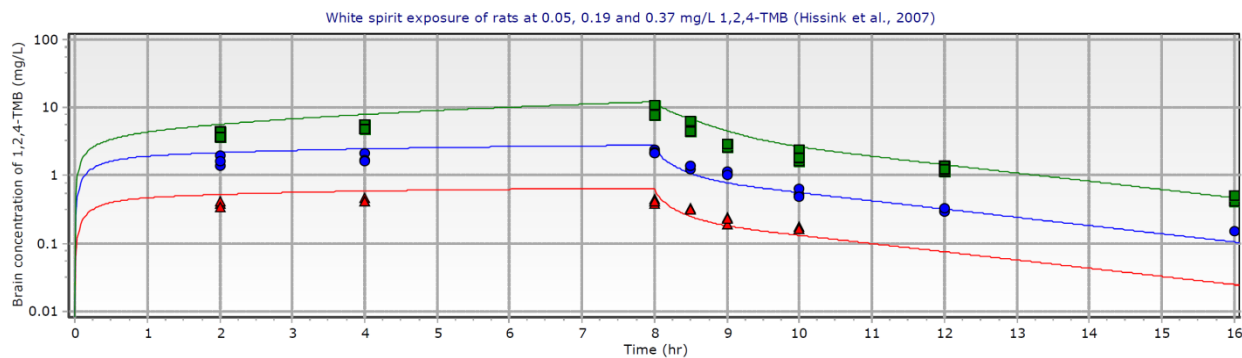
**Table C-7. Rat 1,2,4-TMB kinetic studies used in model development and testing**

Reference	Strain	Sex	Nominal concentration	Exposure regimen	1,2,4-TMB measurement	Use in model evaluation	Form of comparison
<a href="#">Hissink et al. (2007)</a>	WAG/RijC R/BR (Wistar derived)	Male	102, 410, 820 ppm white spirit (7.8% 1,2,4-TMB [39.1, 157.3, 314.7 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ])	8 hrs	Mixed blood time course	Optimization (1,2,4-TMB in mixture)	Figure C-10
					Brain time course	Testing	Figure C-11
<a href="#">Swiercz et al. (2003)</a>	Wistar	Male	25, 100, 250 ppm (123, 492, 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk 4 wks	Venous blood time course	Optimization (1,2,4-TMB only)	Figure C-12
					Arterial blood, liver, brain	Testing	Tables C-8 and C-9
				6 hrs	Arterial blood, liver, brain	Testing	Tables C-8 and C-9
<a href="#">Swiercz et al. (2002)</a>	Wistar	Male	25, 100, 250 ppm (123, 492, 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6 hrs	Venous blood time course	Testing	Figure C-13
<a href="#">Zahlsen et al. (1990)</a>	Sprague-Dawley	Male	1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12 hrs/d 14 d	Blood, brain, perirenal fat on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14	Testing	Table C-12
<a href="#">Zahlsen et al. (1992)</a>	Sprague-Dawley	Male	100 ppm 492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12 hrs/d 3 d	Blood, brain, liver, kidney, and perirenal fat at end of exposures and after 12-hr recovery	Testing	Table C-10
<a href="#">Eide and Zahlsen (1996)</a>	Sprague-Dawley	Male	75, 150, 300, 450 ppm (369, 738, 1,476, 2,214 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12 hrs	Blood, brain, liver, kidney, and perirenal fat	Testing	Table C-11
<a href="#">Dahl et al. (1988)</a>	F344/N	Male	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	80 min	Inhalation uptake	Testing	Text

In order to demonstrate that the model could adequately fit the data used by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) with appropriate physiological parameters (Table C-6) and a single, constant value for  $V_{\max}C$ , and to provide an initial condition for subsequent optimization (see below), the metabolic parameters were re-fitted to the data of [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#). Specifically, values for  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  were numerically optimized based on the fit of the model predictions to the measured blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB of [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) for rats exposed once to one of three concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB as a component of white spirit. The optimized value of  $V_{\max}C$  was only modestly different from the value determined by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) (initial: 3.5 versus optimized: 3.08 mg/hour/kg<sup>0.7</sup>) from visual optimization (with slightly different physiological parameters), but the  $K_m$  value differed by 5-fold (initial: 0.25 versus optimized: 0.050 mg/L). The increase in the LLF from 42.6 to 58.2, with two adjustable parameters, indicates that the improvement in fit (Figure C-10) obtained by re-optimization is statistically significant. This provides quantitative justification for using the re-optimized values over the original values. The percentage of variation explained increased from 82.3 to 90.4%, and the fit by visual inspection appears to be very good during exposure (modestly over-predicting) and excellent in the post-exposure period. Using the optimized kinetic parameters, the rat brain concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB were also well-predicted (Figure C-11).

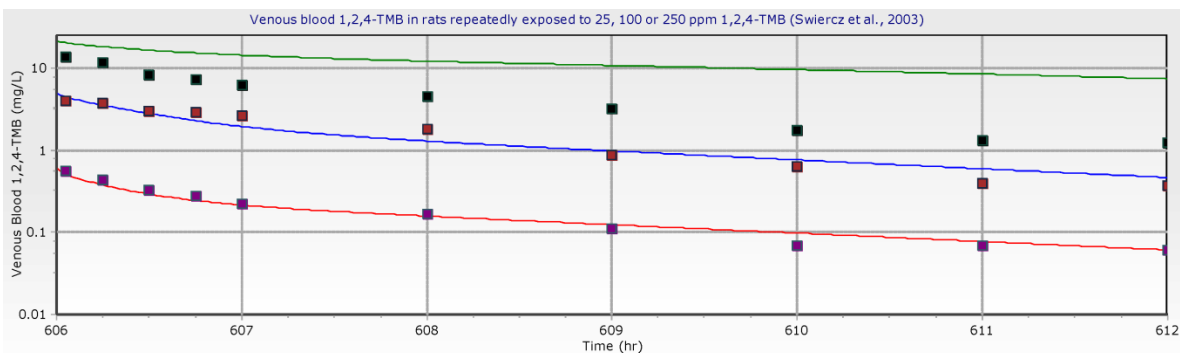
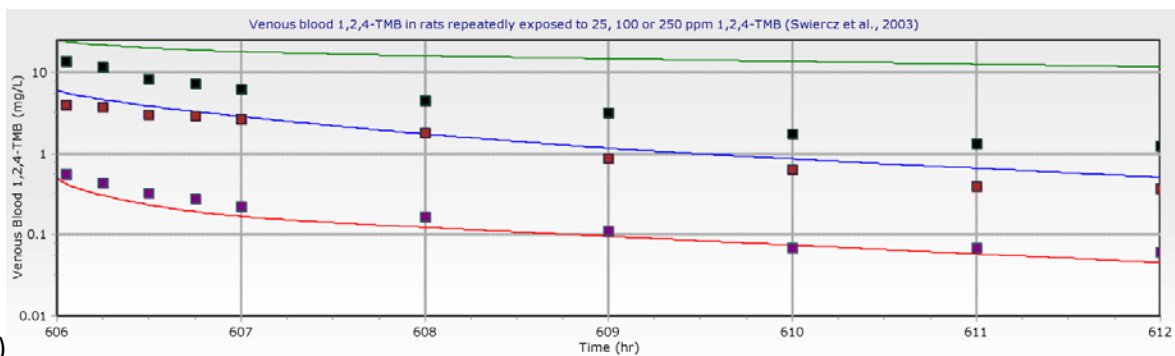


**Figure C-10. Comparisons of model predictions to measured blood concentrations in rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in white spirit ([Hissink et al. 2007](#)) (a) before and (b) after numerical optimization.**



**Figure C-11. Comparisons of model predictions to measured brain concentrations in rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in white spirit (Hissink et al., 2007) using model parameters optimized for fit to Hissink et al. (2007) rat blood data.**

Because the model will be applied by estimating 1,2,4-TMB blood levels in rats under bioassay conditions, it is particularly important that it accurately describe those levels after repeated exposures. Pharmacokinetic parameters can change after repeated exposures, for example by metabolic induction. For 1,2,4-TMB, repeated exposure data are available from Swiercz et al. (2003). Therefore, the  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  values derived from optimization to the Hissink et al. (2007) rat data were used as the starting values for optimizing fit to the venous blood data of Swiercz et al. (2003), in which exposure was to 1,2,4-TMB (only) repeatedly for 4 weeks. Venous blood samples were collected from the tail vein. The best fit parameters of  $V_{\max}C = 4.17$  mg/hour/kg<sup>0.7</sup> and  $K_m = 0.322$  mg/L produced an increase in the LLF from -28.1 to -15.6, a statistically significant improvement, which increased the variation explained from 47.9 to 68.1% (Figure C-12, Table C-8). Model simulations matched the observations at 25 and 100 ppm excellently, while predictions were 1.5–6-fold greater than the 250 ppm data (Table C-8). The change in the LLF provides justification for using these revised metabolic parameters for simulating repeated exposure studies versus the original values. The deviation between the model and experimental data is primarily exhibited on the high concentration data set. When this set is not considered, the percent variation explained the remaining two sets is 94.5%. Optimization to the low and middle concentrations alone (omitting the high concentration) does not substantially change the parameters or increase the LLF (simulations not shown). Optimization using the high concentration alone yields  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  estimates of 7.91 mg/hour/kg<sup>0.7</sup> and 0.11 mg/L, respectively, with 96.7% of variation explained (simulations not shown).



3 **Figure C-12. Comparisons of model predictions to measured venous blood**  
 4 **concentrations by [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) in rats repeatedly exposed to**  
 5 **1,2,4-TMB (a) before and (b) after numerical optimization.**

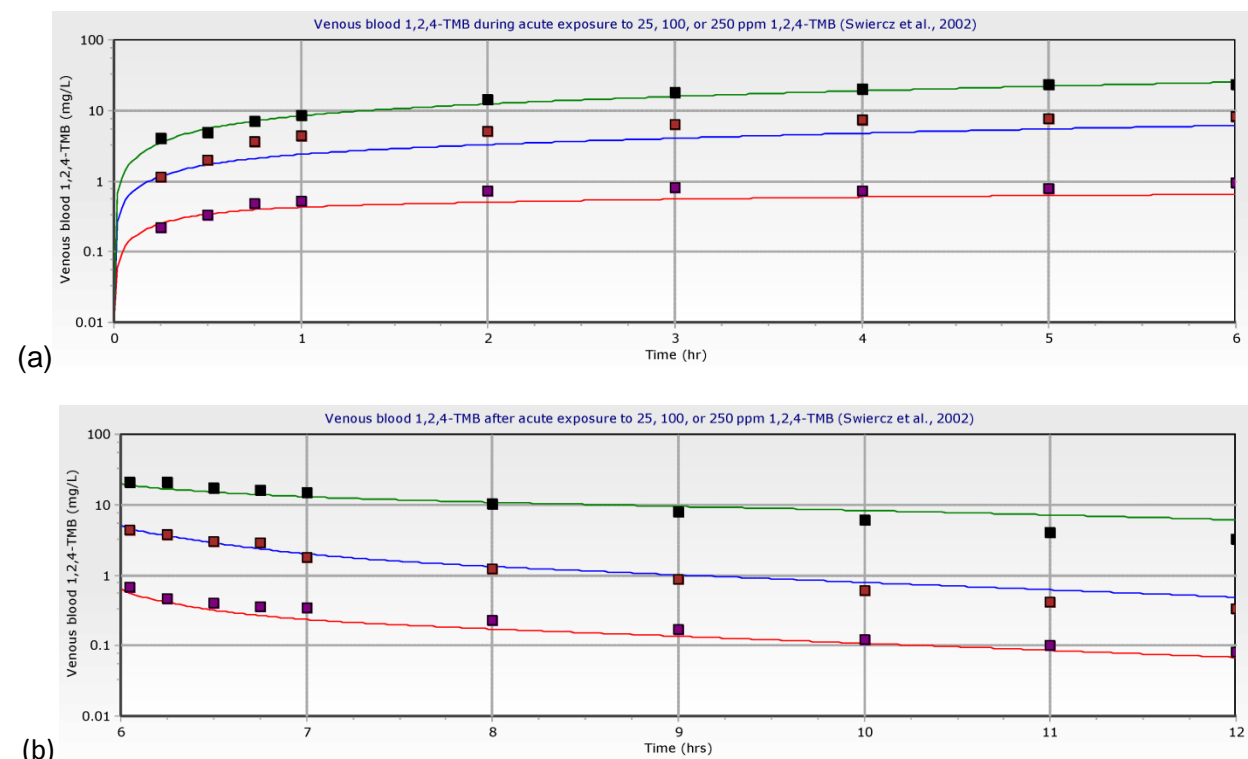
6 **Table C-8. Model simulated and experimental measured venous blood**  
 7 **concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB**

Exposure concentration		Time				
		3 min	30 min	1 hr	3 hrs	6 hrs
25 ppm	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	0.56 ± 0.18	0.33 ± 0.03	0.22 ± 0.02	0.11 ± 0.04	0.06 ± 0.02
	Model (mg/L)	0.51	0.29	0.22	0.12	0.06
	Ratio (model/experiment)	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.1	1.0
100 ppm	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	4.06 ± 0.46	3.02 ± 1.43	2.62 ± 0.82	0.88 ± 0.24	0.37 ± 0.14
	Model (mg/L)	4.47	2.80	1.95	0.98	0.47
	Ratio (model/experiment)	1.1	0.9	0.7	1.1	1.3
250 ppm	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	13.77 ± 3.34	8.28 ± 2.07	6.27 ± 1.72	3.17 ± 0.76	1.25 ± 0.22
	Model (mg/L)	20.44	16.61	14.43	10.80	7.41
	Ratio (model/experiment)	1.5	2.0	2.3	3.4	5.9

<sup>a</sup>Data from [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#), Table 2.

## Rat Model Validation

The parameters derived from the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) venous blood optimizations were used to simulate other studies in which rats and humans (see below) were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB alone (without co-exposures). The fit to the [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) venous blood data (Figure C-13) was very good. In fact, the fit to the acute, high-exposure blood concentrations was superior to the fit to the repeated, high-exposure data (Figure C-12b). This may reflect adaptation (induction of metabolism) resulting from repeated, high concentration exposures.



**Figure C-13. Comparisons of model predictions to measured rat venous blood concentrations by [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) in acutely exposed rats (a) during and (b) after exposure.**

Besides the venous blood data to which the model was fit (Figure C-12, Table C-8), [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) also measured arterial blood and tissue concentrations in animals sacrificed at the end of the 4-week study (Table 4 in that paper). However, model predictions did not match those post-sacrifice data very accurately (Table C-9), which is surprising considering that the venous blood data from the same study were used for optimization. The discrepancies between seemingly contemporaneous venous and arterial blood measurements were noted by the authors of the original study and may be due to collection delays (i.e., tail vein for venous blood, decapitation for arterial samples). Volatilization can also occur from tissue samples until they are significantly cooled from body temperature, and likewise, metabolism can continue in the liver. Since the

venous blood data (Table C-8) had specific times post-exposure identified, but the timing of the arterial blood and tissue data was not stated by [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#), model simulations were conducted assuming a 0.5–1 hour delay between the end of exposure and sample collection, and are compared to the data in Table C-9. Under these assumptions, most model simulations were within a factor of 2 or 3 of the data, with the largest discrepancy being 5-fold. Differences in PBPK model predictions for single vs. repeated exposures in Table C-9 are primarily due to differences in actual exposure levels used in those predictions.

**Table C-9. Model simulated and experimental measured tissue concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB**

	Exposure concentration	Model (mg/L)	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	Model: experiment ratio
Repeated exposure (Model t = 606.5–607 hr)				
Arterial blood	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.30–0.22	0.33 ± 0.11	0.9–0.7
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2.8–2.0	1.54 ± 0.32	1.8–1.3
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	17.6–15.4	7.52 ± 2.11	2.3–2.0
Brain	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.81–0.59	0.45 ± 0.05	1.8–1.3
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	8.1–5.7	2.82 ± 0.40	2.9–2.0
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	44.1–38.2	18.6 ± 4.3	2.4–2.1
Liver	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.14–0.10	0.45 ± 0.15	0.3–0.2
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	4.3–2.3	3.00 ± 0.49	1.4–0.8
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	39.5–33.8	22.5 ± 4.1	1.8–1.5
Acute exposure (Model t = 6.5–7 hr)				
Arterial blood	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.25–0.19	0.31 ± 0.12	0.8–0.6
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	4.4–3.2	1.24 ± 0.41	3.5–2.6
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	14.0–12.0	7.76 ± 1.64	1.8–1.5
Brain	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.91–0.66	0.49 ± 0.06	1.9–1.3
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.5–9.3	2.92 ± 0.73	4.3–3.2
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	46.1–40.0	18.3 ± 1.9	2.5–2.2
Liver	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.16–0.11	0.44 ± 0.01	0.35–0.2
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	8.3–5.3	7.13 ± 1.31	1.2–0.7
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	41.5–35.5	28.2 ± 5.3	1.5–1.3

<sup>a</sup>Data from [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#), Table 4.

Zahlsen and co-workers ([Eide and Zahlsen, 1996](#); [Zahlsen et al., 1992](#); [Zahlsen et al., 1990](#)) conducted studies in which male Sprague-Dawley rats were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for

12 hours/day. For the studies conducted at concentrations similar to those in the [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) and [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) studies, the model error was similar to that of the arterial blood and tissue measurements in the [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) and [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) studies (geometric mean error of 3.3 for [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#), and 2.9 for [Eide and Zahlsen \(1996\)](#)) (Tables C-10 and C-11). Since [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#) specifically stated that animals were sacrificed and tissues were collected within 3 minutes of removal from the exposure chamber, the model results in Tables C-10 and C-11 do not assume any delay.

**Table C-10. Model simulated and experimental measured concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in male Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB (12 hours/day, for 3 days) at the end of exposure or 12 hours after the last exposure**

	Day	Model (mg/L)	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	Model: experiment ratio
Venous blood	1	8.52	1.70	5.0
	2	8.71	1.51	5.8
	3	8.72	2.05	4.2
	Recovery <sup>b</sup>	1.08	0.024	7.6
Brain	1	22.6	4.57	4.9
	2	23.1	4.19	5.5
	3	23.1	4.38	5.3
	Recovery <sup>b</sup>	0.46	Nondetect	Not calculated
Liver	1	18.2	4.92	3.7
	2	18.7	3.66	5.1
	3	18.7	4.25	4.4
	Recovery <sup>b</sup>	0.077	0.072	1.1
Kidney (compared to rapidly perfused)	1	22.6	13.7	1.7
	2	23.1	17.0	1.4
	3	23.1	12.4	1.9
	Recovery <sup>b</sup>	0.46	0.24	1.9
Fat	1	491	210	2.3
	2	503	165	3.1
	3	504	128	3.9
	Recovery <sup>b</sup>	29.1	14.4	2.0

<sup>a</sup>Data from [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#).

<sup>b</sup>Recovery period is designated as 12 hours after the last exposure.



**Table C-11. Model simulated and experimental measured concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in male Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB at the end of 12-hour exposure**

	Exposure concentration	Model (mg/L)	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	Model: experiment ratio
Venous blood	75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	4.21	1.69	2.5
	150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	17.8	6.9	2.6
	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	48.3	13.9	3.5
	450 ppm (2,252 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	78.6	26.6	3.0
Brain	75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	11.5	2.83	4.1
	150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	46.6	11.7	4.0
	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	125	26.5	4.7
	450 ppm (2,252 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	203	48.0	4.2
Liver	75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	7.39	6.41	1.2
	150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	42.2	14.8	2.9
	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	120	30.8	3.9
	450 ppm (2,252 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	198	56.2	3.5
Kidney (compared to rapidly perfused)	75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	11.5	6.41	1.8
	150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	46.6	20.2	2.3
	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	125	33.9	3.7
	450 ppm (2,252 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	203	59.1	3.4
Fat	75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	255	61.9	4.1
	150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	987	457	2.2
	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2,636	1,552	1.7
	450 ppm (2,252 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	4,276	2,312	1.8

<sup>a</sup>Data from [Eide and Zahlsen \(1996\)](#).

There was essentially no difference in the measured venous blood concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in the [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#) study at 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) and at 75 ppm (369 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) in the [Eide and Zahlsen \(1996\)](#) study (1.70 and 1.69 mg/L, respectively), so there is evidently some inter-study variability or subtle differences in how the studies were conducted, perhaps in the rapidity of sample collection. The [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#) study, which used a higher nominal concentration of 1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), exhibited greater deviation between predicted and measured blood and tissue 1,2,4-TMB concentrations (Table C-12), which generally increased with a greater number of exposure days and then plateaued (geometric mean errors of 2.7, 8.4, 12.6, 13.9, and 12.1 on exposure days 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14, respectively). 1,2,4-TMB is also a known

respiratory irritant, with an RD<sub>50</sub> of 519–578 ppm in mice ([Korsak et al., 1997](#)), so it is possible that the 1,000 ppm exposure elicited some sort of avoidance behavior in the rats.

**Table C-12. Model simulated and experimental measured concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in male Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB (12 hours/day, for 14 days) at the end of exposure**

	Day	Model (mg/L)	Experiment (mg/L) <sup>a</sup>	Model: experiment ratio
Venous blood	1	181	63.5	2.8
	3	293	43.1	6.8
	7	372	33.4	11.1
	10	395	34.0	11.6
	14	399	35.2	11.3
Brain	1	465	120	3.9
	3	747	64.9	11.5
	7	946	63.5	14.9
	10	1,005	62.1	16.2
	14	1,014	71.5	14.2
Fat	1	9,919	5,860	1.7
	3	17,328	2,282	7.6
	7	22,323	1,835	12.2
	10	23,763	1,677	14.2
	14	23,961	2,169	11.0

<sup>a</sup>Data from [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#).

[Dahl et al. \(1988\)](#) exposed male F344 rats to 1,2,4-TMB at 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for 80 minutes and monitored the total uptake. Under the conditions of the experiment, it was determined that the average rat took up 3.28 (trial 1) or 3.89 (trial 2) mg 1,2,4-TMB. In a model simulation, the predicted uptake was 3.61 mg. The geometric mean model error for the two trials was 1.2.

### Human Model Validation

Kinetic parameters derived from optimal fit for rat venous blood data (described above) were tested for the applicability to human kinetics by comparison to studies in which humans were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB alone or 1,2,4-TMB in co-exposures with white spirit (Table C-13). The key data set for validation in humans was deemed to be [Kostrzewski et al. \(1997\)](#) because these volunteers were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB alone (no co-exposure, as in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#)) under

sedentary conditions (i.e., level of effort was not elevated, as in the studies by Järnberg and colleagues ([Järnberg et al., 1998](#), [1997a](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#)).

**Table C-13. Human kinetic studies of 1,2,4-TMB used in model validation**

Reference	Ethnicity	Sex	Nominal concentration	Exposure regimen	1,2,4-TMB measurements	Use in model evaluation	Form of comparison
<a href="#">Kostrzewski et al. (1997)<sup>a</sup></a>	Not stated; conducted in Poland	Sex not stated; assumed male	30 ppm (147.6 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	8 hrs	Venous blood time course	Testing	Figure C-14
<a href="#">Järnberg et al. (1997a)</a> ; <a href="#">Järnberg and Johanson (1999)</a> ; <a href="#">Järnberg et al. (1998)</a> ; <a href="#">Järnberg et al. (1996)<sup>b</sup></a>	Caucasian; conducted in Sweden	Male	2 and 25 ppm (~10 and 123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	2 hrs at 50 W (bicycle)	Venous blood and exhaled air time course	Testing (blood data only)	Figure C-15
<a href="#">Hissink et al. (2007)<sup>c</sup></a>	Not stated; spoke Dutch as “native language”	Male	100 ppm white spirit with 7.8% 1,2,4-TMB (~38.3 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB)	6 hr	Venous blood and end exhaled air time course	Testing	Figure C-16

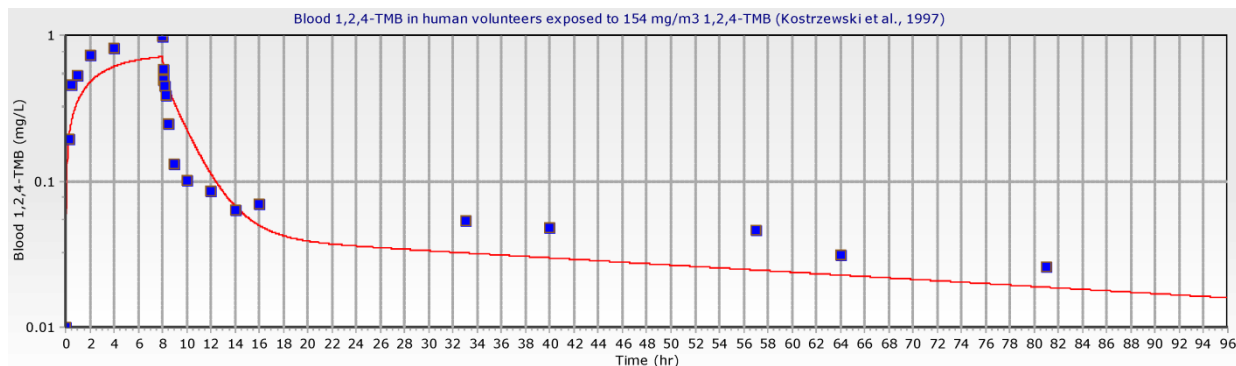
<sup>a</sup>Five volunteers, ages 24–37 years, with no known occupational exposure to 1,2,4-TMB. Height of 1.70–1.86 m and body weight of 70–97 kg. The average of the high and low values for age, height, and weight plus assumed gender (male) were used to calculate central tendency estimate of 22.44% for volume of body fat (VFC), per [Deurenberg et al. \(1991\)](#). Alveolar ventilation rate (QPC) estimated from the midpoint of the range for total ventilation (0.56–1 m<sup>3</sup>/hour), average of high and low body weights, BW<sup>0.74</sup> scaling, and an assumption that alveolar ventilation was 2/3 of total ventilation.

<sup>b</sup>Ten volunteers, average age 35 (range 26–48) years, with no known occupational exposure to solvents; volunteers were instructed to avoid contact with organic solvents and to refrain from taking drugs or drinking alcoholic beverages for 2 days before exposure. Average body weight was 76.5 kg. QPC estimated from the mean value for total ventilation rate during exposure, average body weights, BW<sup>0.74</sup> scaling, and an assumption that alveolar ventilation was 2/3 of total ventilation. Digitized blood data (group averages) extracted from figures.

<sup>c</sup>Three volunteers, ages 23–26 years, body weight was 69–82 kg, mean body fat of 14.6% (skin caliper measurement); alcohol consumption 10–15 drinks/week (all subjects), one smoker (four cigarettes per day).

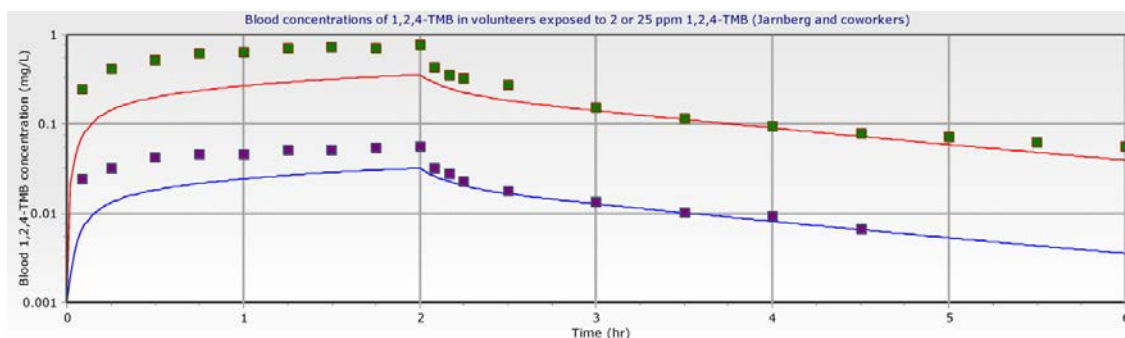
Using the V<sub>max</sub>C and K<sub>m</sub> derived from the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) rat repeated-exposure data, the simulated blood concentration underestimated those measured during exposure of volunteers by [Kostrzewski et al. \(1997\)](#), then over-predicted blood concentrations up to 7 hours post-exposure, and under-predicted subsequent measured blood concentrations (Figure C-14). Of 21 blood measurements, only two differed from the simulated value by more than a factor of

2 (maximum: 2.6), with a geometric mean deviation of 1.5-fold between the simulated and  
 2 measured values. The percent variation explained was 69.74%. When  $K_m$  was held constant and  
 3  $V_{max}C$  was optimized (final value: 3.39 mg/hour/kg<sup>0.7</sup>), the improvement in fit was minimal  
 4 (72.14% of variation explained), and not statistically significant, so the rat-derived values were  
 5 considered acceptable and subsequently used for the human model (see the section regarding rat  
 6 model optimization).



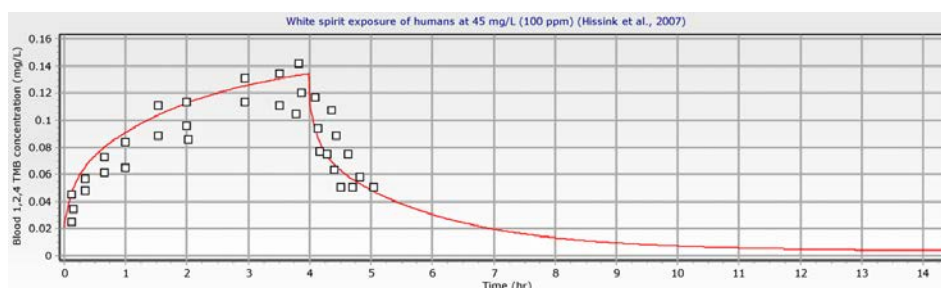
**Figure C-14. Comparisons of model predictions to measured human venous blood concentrations of [Kostrzewski et al. \(1997\)](#) in volunteers exposed to 154 mg 1,2,4-TMB/m<sup>3</sup> for 8 hours.**

For comparisons between the data in the studies by Järnberg and colleagues ([Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#); [Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#)) and the model, simulations were conducted with alveolar ventilation rate (QPC; calculated as described in footnote to Table C-13) at the elevated (working) level throughout the simulation, but with no other adjustments made for exercise conditions. The model consistently under-predicted the measured venous blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB (Figure C-15). At 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), blood concentrations were under-predicted by a factor of 2.1–3.5 during exposure and by a factor of 1.04–1.5-fold in the post-exposure period, for a geometric mean discrepancy of 1.7 for this concentration. At 2 ppm (~10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), blood concentrations were under-predicted by factors of 1.7–2.7 during exposure and 1.01–1.2 in the post-exposure period, for a geometric mean discrepancy of 1.6 for this concentration.

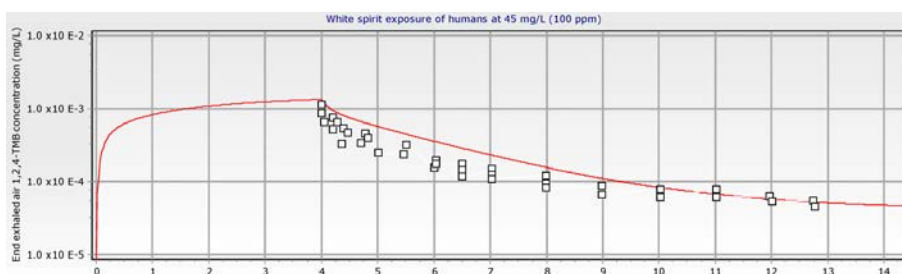


**Figure C-15. Comparisons of model predictions to measured human venous blood concentrations in volunteers exposed to 2 or 25 ppm (~10 or 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB for 2 hours while riding a bicycle (50 W) (Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a; Järnberg et al., 1996).**

Comparisons of model predictions and experimental data were also made for the human study described in Hissink et al. (2007) in which volunteers inhaled 100 ppm white spirit with 7.8% 1,2,4-TMB (38.4 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB) for 4 hours (Figure C-16). The agreement between simulated and measured concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in blood during exposure was excellent. The agreement between the modeled and measured 1,2,4-TMB in end-exhaled air during the post-exposure period was very good.



(a)



(b)

**Figure C-16. Comparisons of model predictions to measured (a) human venous blood and (b) end of exposure exhaled air 1,2,4-TMB in volunteers exposed to 100 ppm white spirit with 7.8% 1,2,4-TMB (38.4 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB) (Hissink et al., 2007).**

## Summary of Optimization and Validation

Numerical optimization of the fit to the rat data in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) produced a similar  $V_{\max}C$ , but smaller  $K_m$ , than the values determined by [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) using visual optimization. Changes made to values of physiological parameters may have contributed to the differences in optimized values. Because the rats in the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) study were co-exposed to other components of white spirit, the potential for these other components to alter the kinetics of 1,2,4-TMB was noted as a possible concern for predicting the kinetics of 1,2,4-TMB in test animals with no co-exposures. Another concern was the potential for kinetic changes with repeated exposure. As the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) rat kinetic study involved repeated exposure to 1,2,4-TMB without potentially confounding co-exposures, and provides post-exposure venous blood time-course data, it appears to be the most suitable for describing kinetics relevant to chronic reference concentration (RfC) and reference dose (RfD) development. The  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  values from the numerical optimization to the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) rat data were used as starting values for optimization of the fit to the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) venous blood data. The improvement in fit for the low and middle concentrations (25 and 100 ppm [123 and 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) was apparent from careful visual inspection and was statistically significant, and these values were used in subsequent validation simulations.

In general, the model simulations of venous blood concentrations in exposed Wistar rats, uptake by F344 rats, and venous blood and exhaled breath of volunteers were acceptable. The measured Wistar rat arterial blood and tissue concentrations were consistently over-predicted by the model, suggesting collection delays in the studies. The model also consistently over-predicted the measured Sprague-Dawley rat tissue and blood concentrations, including the “recovery” (12 hours post-exposure) samples, which should not be subject to collection delays. Many of the “validation” comparisons were made at exposure concentrations (250 ppm [1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>] or greater) for which the optimized model did not provide accurate venous blood concentrations. It cannot be determined with the available data whether the 2–3-fold differences between the model and Sprague-Dawley rat blood concentrations at lower concentrations (75 and 150 ppm [369 and 738 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) are due to methodological differences (e.g., in sample collections and analysis) or true strain differences.

Using the  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  values obtained by fitting the PBPK model to the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) rat data and appropriate human physiological parameters (Table C-6), model predictions of the human pharmacokinetic data were found to be adequate, and were not significantly improved by numerical re-optimization. Therefore, the  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  from the rat were used for the human model (i.e., allometric scaling).

Overall, it was concluded that the optimized model produces acceptable simulations of venous blood 1,2,4-TMB for chronic exposure to  $\leq 100$  ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for rats or  $\leq 30$  ppm (147.6 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) for humans 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation. If rat exposures of interest exceed 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), consideration should be given to reassessing model validation at high concentrations



using  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  parameters optimized for repeated, high concentration exposures (e.g., 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) from [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#)).

### Uncertainties in Model Structure

All PBPK models are a simplification of physical reality, and a full discussion of the resulting uncertainties is beyond the scope of this review. For example, this model uses the typical assumption of perfusion-limited transport between circulating blood and tissues, but a more realistic representation that also requires more data and parameters is diffusion-limited transport. If model predictions systematically over-predicted the rate of change of 1,2,4-TMB in blood, then diffusion-limited transport could have been evaluated as a more accurate model structure, but given the overall agreement in model predictions and measured kinetics, such an evaluation was not considered a valuable use of existing resources.

A simplification in the model structure used in [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) versus that of [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) is that [Järnberg and Johanson \(1999\)](#) included working versus resting muscle compartments, which effectively allowed a higher fraction of cardiac output to go to the muscle compartment under working conditions versus resting. When simulating the corresponding human exposure data ([Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a; Järnberg et al., 1996](#)), the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model was adjusted for the working conditions by increasing cardiac output, but that adjustment would increase blood flow to all tissues proportionally, including hepatic blood flow, which then can increase the predicted rate of metabolism ([more so than Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#)). This simpler approach offers an explanation of why the blood-levels are under-predicted in Figure C-15 by ~2–3 fold. This difference suggests a comparable uncertainty in the model for predicting blood levels during working conditions, but the model matched the post-exposure data in Figure C-15 quite well, within a factor of 1.5 beyond the first couple of time-points. Hence, while the model might be improved by adding a working muscle compartment and appropriate work-level parameterization, the impact for predictions of 30 working hours in a 168-hour week are expected to be less than a factor of 1.5. (Assuming an error of 2.5-fold for 30/168 hours, the average error is  $2.5 \times 30 / 168 = 0.45$ -fold.)

Another place where systematic differences between model predictions and data suggest model structure errors is that the model over-predicted the 250 ppm rat venous blood data of [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) after 4 weeks of exposure, although it did fit the 25 and 100 ppm data (Figure C-12, panel (b)), and it fit the acute-exposure data [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) at all three concentrations (Figure C-13). The over-prediction of 1,000 ppm, 14-day rat data ([Table C-12; Zahlsen et al., 1990](#)) was significantly greater than the over-prediction of 75–450 ppm acute-exposure data. One possible explanation for the dose-dependence of the errors is that a first-order (or high- $K_m$ ) metabolic pathway was operative only significantly at higher exposure levels. However, in that regard, one would have expected optimization of the single  $K_m$  in the existing model to have identified an intermediate value that better-predicted the 250 ppm 4-week data from [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#). Identifying more complex metabolic schemes is difficult using only parent-



concentration in vivo data. The hypothesis of multiple metabolic pathways with differing dose-dependence would best be evaluated by careful in vitro metabolic studies, but the possibility is certainly suggested given the multiple routes of metabolism shown in Figure C-1.

A second structural possibility suggested by these discrepancies between rat model predictions and data (which is not exclusive of multiple pathway kinetics discussed in the preceding paragraph) is metabolic induction, which would be both time-dependent (i.e., would not occur, or occur to a lesser extent, with acute exposures) and concentration-dependent. The results in Table C-12, where measured blood and tissue levels decline and hence model:data ratios increase with exposure days, are particularly suggestive of this possibility. However there was not a clear time-dependent change in the 3-day study of [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#) (Table C-10), at 100 ppm. So this hypothetical mechanism may not be relevant at exposures near the point of departure (POD) (benchmark dose [BMD] levels). In any case, verification of this hypothesis would require a combination of in vivo and in vitro studies, where liver samples are collected from rats after different exposure levels and durations, and evaluated for metabolic capacity.

A third possible explanation for the discrepancies is that, given 1,2,4-TMBs irritancy ([Korsak et al., 1997](#)), rats exposed in open cages may be reducing their activity level or otherwise finding ways to reduce their exposure. For example, by huddling or tucking their noses into their fur, the rats could be re-breathing a portion of expired air, which would then have a lower 1,2,4-TMB concentration than in the rest of the exposure chamber. Testing of this hypothesis could be performed by observation of rat behavior in open exposure chambers as a function of exposure level and duration, and comparison of results to nose-only exposures, in conjunction with plethysmography to determine any changes in respiration rates.

In summary, based on comparisons of model predictions to various data sets, it appears that the most significant structural uncertainty for the human PBPK model is the lack of realism in predicting physiological changes due to work/physical activity, but the overall impact of this uncertainty is less than a factor of 1.5. Discrepancies between the rat model and reported data suggest two model structure uncertainties (the presence of multiple metabolic pathways with significantly different concentration-dependence, and metabolic induction) and one possibility related to exposure levels or specification (avoidance behavior, which is not a part of the model itself). In the range of application, these uncertainties in the rat model for estimating venous blood levels represent a factor of 2–3-fold, though the lack of fit of the model to the data becomes more severe at higher exposure levels.

### **Uncertainties Due to Choice of Dose Metric**

The use of the average, parent-chemical venous blood concentration as the internal dose for predicting systemic effects of 1,2,4-TMB is based on the following assumptions/general expectations:

- 1) the parent chemical, and not a metabolite, is the causative agent for systemic effects;

- 2) average concentration (equivalent to the area under the curve [AUC] calculated over comparable total time in rats and humans) is a good predictor of risk;
- 3) the ratio of 1,2,4-TMB's concentration in the target tissue to the venous blood is approximately the same in humans as in rats; and
- 4) while target-tissue concentrations are generally expected to be better predictors than blood concentration, this expectation is counter-balanced by the lack of target-tissue dosimetry in humans, leading to greater uncertainty in human target tissue estimates.

As discussed in the mode-of-action section, little is known about the mechanisms of action for 1,2,4-TMB, in particular whether the parent or a metabolite is responsible for the hematological or neurological effects. One might assume that if a metabolite is causative, then the concentration of the metabolite would vary in proportion to the parent. However, if two individuals have similar exposures, and thus absorb 1,2,4-TMB at a similar rate, but metabolism to the toxic compound is twice as fast in the second individual, then the venous concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in that individual would be lower than the first (because it's being metabolized faster), but the rate of toxic metabolite production is higher. Likewise, the blood:air concentration ratio of 1,2,4-TMB in humans might be lower than in rats, but the concentration of the toxic metabolite in humans could be higher. But for this lack of proportionality to occur, the scaling of the metabolic conversion of 1,2,4-TMB to the toxic metabolite, between rats and humans, would have to be significantly different from the scaling for the rate at which the toxic metabolite is cleared from the body. Such a difference can occur, but the general expectation is that metabolism and other physiological processes that affect clearance (including blood-flow) scale allometrically, as  $BW^{0.75}$ . In fact, for 1,2,4-TMB, the metabolism in humans was found to be fairly consistent with this scaling. Therefore, a lack in proportionality of a subsequent (toxic) metabolite would only occur if the clearance of that metabolite does NOT scale allometrically. In summary, it is possible that misidentification of the toxic metabolite could result in a very large error in the predicted human risk, but the fact that most metabolic and clearance processes scale similarly (allometrically) makes this possibility unlikely. Quantifying the resulting uncertainty is beyond the scope of this assessment.

The use of average concentration, or AUC, calculated over a similar time-frame (1 week) in rats and humans reflects the assumption that the observed hematological and neurological effects result from an accumulation of cellular or tissue damage, that the damage accumulates in proportion to 1,2,4-TMB concentration, and that clearance or repair of the damage is relatively slow (i.e., requires weeks or longer). Testing of this hypothesis would require a set of experiments where exposure level and duration were varied independently (i.e.,  $C \times t$  experiments), and damage was assessed at multiple recovery times. Such data are mostly not available for 1,2,4-TMB. However, the hematological effects are likely the result of cytotoxicity, which is expected to increase with both concentration and duration. So the uncertainty for using average concentration for this endpoint is considered low.

1 Since the dose-dependent delayed recovery from a sensory challenge (footshock/paw-lick  
2 experiments) show a persistent effect, 50+ days after exposure ended, that effect is also assumed to  
3 result from cumulative damage, rather than a single day's exposure. Whether the same effect level  
4 would have been seen after a single week's exposure, or if chronic exposure might have resulted in  
5 a more severe effect at a given exposure level, is simply not known. The uncertainty in using  
6 subchronic exposure data to set a reference level is mitigated by application of the subchronic-to-  
7 chronic uncertainty factor (UF). The use of the weekly average (blood) concentration is still  
8 appropriate, even if the effect only takes 1–2 weeks to develop, since the damage is still likely to  
9 accumulate within that time-frame according to the number of hours/week of exposure. For a  
10 presumed continuous ( $24 \times 7$ ) inhalation exposure to the general human population, use of weekly  
11 average concentration results in a more appropriate reference level than use of peak concentration.  
12 If the effect is not cumulative for exposure beyond several hours (i.e., can be better predicted from  
13 peak concentration), then use of the weekly average would over-predict human risk by a factor of  
14 5–6 ( $\sim 168$  hours/30 hours).

15 The use of venous blood versus tissue concentrations creates some uncertainty, but this  
16 uncertainty is counterbalanced by uncertainties in the exact tissues where effects occur and the  
17 partitioning of 1,2,4-TMB into those tissues. The tissue:blood partition coefficients of [Hissink et al.  
18 \(2007\)](#) are obtained by combining a correlation for tissue:air partition coefficients, developed  
19 previously using data for a single representative tissue from a single species, against oil:air and  
20 saline:air partition coefficients (which have been measured for 1,2,4-TMB), with values for the  
21 blood:air partition coefficient measured separately with rat and human blood. So there is  
22 considerable uncertainty in the use of these partition coefficients for human versus rat bone  
23 marrow, for example (assuming that this is the site for hematological effects), given that species-  
24 and chemical-specific values for bone marrow are not available. The measured blood:air partition  
25 coefficients for 1,2,4-TMB indicate that its affinity for human blood is 1.74 times lower than for rat  
26 blood, so if the typical assumption was made that the affinity for other tissues does not vary across  
27 species, then use of tissue versus venous blood concentration would result in an approximately  
28 1.7-fold increase in the estimated human risk. However, such use would also increase the level of  
29 uncertainty because there are no human tissue data to validate those model predictions, and  
30 because the site of action is uncertain. For example, it's not known if the neurological effects occur  
31 primarily due to effects in the brain or to effects on peripheral nerves, and, if the latter, whether the  
32 partition coefficient for "brain" versus "slowly perfused" tissue (which differ  $\sim 2$ -fold) should be  
33 used. As with other aspects of uncertainty, a full quantitation of the uncertainty resulting from the  
34 use of venous blood versus tissue concentrations is beyond the scope of this assessment. But the  
35 identifiable uncertainty is less than a factor of 2. The direction of this uncertainty is the opposite of  
36 that from using average versus peak concentration for continuous human exposures.

**C.2.3.3. Sensitivity Analysis of Rat Model Predictions**

The primary objective of the sensitivity analysis was to evaluate the ability of the available data to unambiguously determine the values of both  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  (i.e., parameter identifiability). Toward this end, sensitivity analyses were conducted using acslX. Because the selected key data set was the venous blood concentrations in the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) study, simulations were conducted to see how small changes in parameters changed the estimated venous blood concentrations under the conditions of this study, simulating the first 12 hours (6 hours of exposure, 6 hours post-exposure), conditions that are essentially identical to those in [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#). The evaluations were limited to the lowest (25 ppm [123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) and highest (250 ppm [1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) exposure concentrations. It should be noted that after the optimization (Figure C-13b), the agreement between the model and the experimental data at the lower exposure concentration was superior to the agreement at the high concentration, so the low concentration sensitivity analysis results are somewhat more meaningful than the high concentration results. The results are calculated as normalized sensitivity coefficients (NSC) (i.e., percent change in output/percent change in input, calculated using the central difference method).

The interpretation of the sensitivity analysis outputs focused on the times during which blood concentrations were measured, so the sensitivity analyses for the first 15 minutes of exposure were not considered relevant. Parameters are grouped (Table C-14) as relatively insensitive (maximum|NSC| < 0.2 for 0.25 hours < t < 12 hours), moderately sensitive (0.2 < maximum|NSC| < 1.0), or highly sensitive (maximum|NSC| > 1.0).

$V_{\max}C/K_m$  was identifiable from the data (as opposed to  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  each being identifiable); one would expect that the NSC for these parameters would always be opposite in sign, and equal in magnitude, which is not the case. It was concluded that  $K_m$  and  $V_{\max}C$  are distinctly identifiable using the [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#) and [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#) data.

While the focus of this sensitivity analysis was to evaluate the identifiability of chemical-specific parameters from the available data, additional insights can be obtained by considering the other “sensitive” parameters. Predicted blood concentrations were sensitive to the value of QPC (ventilation rate). If high concentrations produce a sedative effect, decreases in ventilation could contribute to the model’s greater over-prediction of the experimentally measured values at high concentrations (e.g., as high as 1,000 ppm [4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>], in [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#)). The accuracy of the predicted net uptake in the [Dahl et al. \(1988\)](#) study indicates that, at 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), the model value of QPC is likely appropriate, since net uptake in this relatively short experiment (80 minutes) is highly sensitive to the breathing rate (simulations not shown). The fractional volumes of the fat and slowly perfused tissue compartments are also moderately important parameters (with time courses similar to those of the corresponding partition coefficients shown in Figure C-17). The volume of the fat compartment in particular is known to vary with age and strain ([Brown et al., 1997](#)), so using the same value for all studies might have an impact on the predicted kinetics.

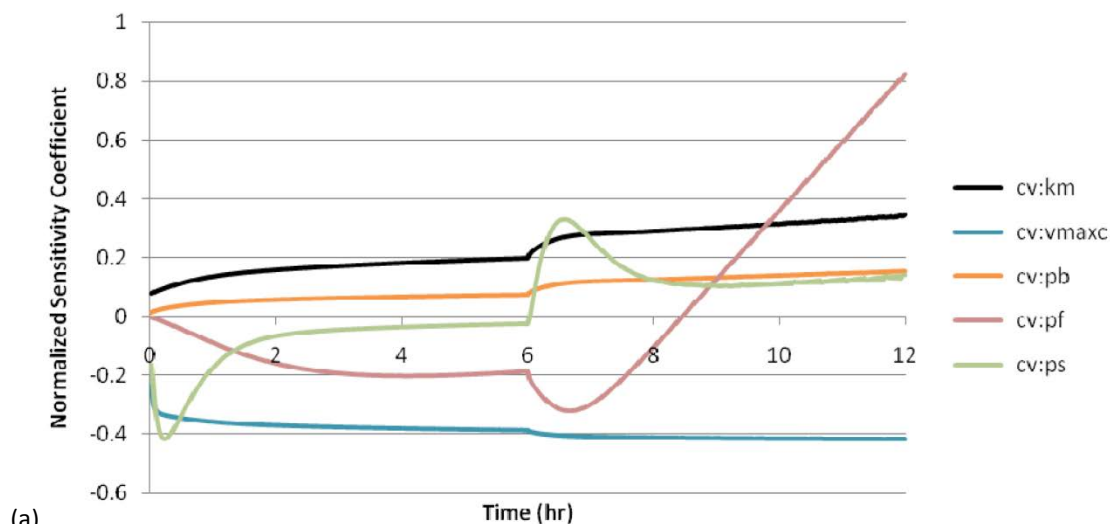
**Table C-14. Parameter sensitivity for venous blood 1,2,4-TMB concentration in rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB via inhalation**

Parameter	Insensitive (maximum  NSC  < 0.2)	Moderately sensitive (0.2 < maximum  NSC  < 1.0)	Highly sensitive (maximum  NSC  > 1.0)
BW		L, H	
CONC			L, H
QPC			L, H
V <sub>max</sub> C		L, H	
K <sub>m</sub>	H	L	
PB	L	H	
PF		L, H	
PS		L, H	
PR	L, H		
PL	L, H		
PBR	L, H		
VFC		L, H	
VSTOTC		L, H	
VRTOTC	L, H		
VLC	L, H		
VBRC	L, H		
QCC		H	L
QFC		L, H	
QRTOTC		L, H	
QLC	H		L
QBRC	L, H		

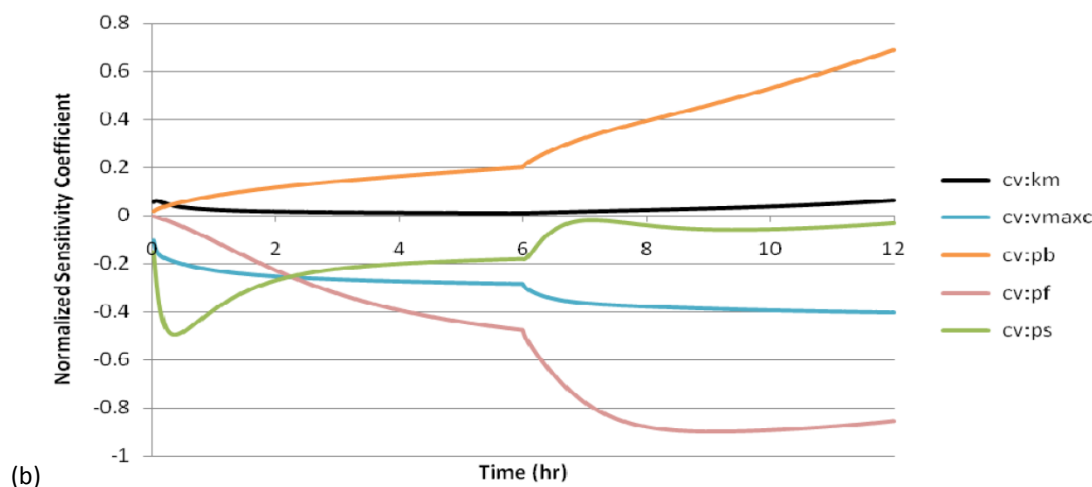
L = low exposure concentration (25 ppm [123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]); H = high exposure concentration (250 ppm [1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]).

BW = body weight; CONC = concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in the air; V<sub>max</sub> = Michaelis-Menten maximum rate of metabolism; V<sub>max</sub>C = Michaelis-Menten constant: concentration where V<sub>max</sub> is half-maximal (V<sub>max</sub>); PB = blood:air partition coefficient; PF = fat:blood partition coefficient; PS = slowly perfused:blood partition coefficient; PR = rapidly perfused:blood partition coefficient; PL = liver:blood partition coefficient; PBR = brain:blood partition coefficient; VFC = volume of fat; VSTOTC = volume of slowly perfused tissues; VRTOTC = volume of rapidly perfused tissues; VLC = volume of liver; VBRC = volume of brain; QCC = cardiac output; QFC = blood flow to fat; QRTOTC = blood flow to slowly perfused tissues; QLC = blood flow to liver; QBRC = blood flow to brain.

**Sensitivity analysis: rat CV, low concentration exposure**  
(Swiercz et al., 2002, 2003)



**Sensitivity analysis: rat CV, high concentration exposure**  
(Swiercz et al., 2002, 2003)



**Figure C-17. Time course of NSCs of moderately sensitive chemical-specific parameters (response: venous blood concentration) in rats exposed to (a) 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) or (b) 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of 1,2,4-TMB via inhalation for 6 hours (Swiercz et al., 2003; Swiercz et al., 2002).**

**C.2.3.4. Sensitivity Analysis of Human Model Predictions**

A sensitivity analysis for human model predictions to all parameters was conducted for continuous inhalation exposures, and results are shown in Table C-15. The results are presented as NSCs (i.e., percent change in output/percent change in input, calculated using the central difference

method; NSC). Similar to analyses performed for the rat, parameters are noted as relatively insensitive ( $|\text{NSC}| < 0.2$ ), moderately sensitive ( $0.2 < |\text{NSC}| < 1.0$ ), or highly sensitive ( $|\text{NSC}| > 1.0$ ). To bracket the range of human equivalent concentrations (HECs), inhalation sensitivities were evaluated at 10 and 150 ppm (49.2 and 738 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) concentration. The resulting coefficients (Table C-15) are not surprising. The two fitted metabolic parameters,  $V_{\text{max}}C$  and  $K_m$ , both influence model predictions. The  $V_{\text{max}}C$  sensitivity is higher at 150 ppm (738 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) ( $|0.8873|$ ) than at 10 ppm (49.2 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) ( $|0.238|$ ) due to the slight metabolic saturation.

**Table C-15. Parameter sensitivity for steady-state venous blood 1,2,4-TMB concentration in humans exposed to 1,2,4-TMB via inhalation**

Parameter	Insensitive (maximum $ \text{NSC}  < 0.2$ )	Moderately sensitive ( $0.2 < \text{maximum }  \text{NSC}  < 1.0$ )	Highly sensitive (maximum $ \text{NSC}  > 1.0$ )
BW	L, H		
CONC		L	H
QPC		L, H	
$V_{\text{max}}C$		L, H	
$K_m$	L, H		
PB	L, H		
PF	L, H		
PS	L, H		
PR	L, H		
PL	L, H		
PBR	L, H		
VFC	L, H		
VSTOTC	L, H		
VRTOTC	L, H		
VLC	L, H		
VBRC		L, H	
QCC	L, H		
QFC	L, H		
QRTOTC		L, H	
QLC	L, H		

L = low exposure concentration (10 ppm [49.2mg/m<sup>3</sup>]), H = high exposure concentration (150 ppm [738 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]).

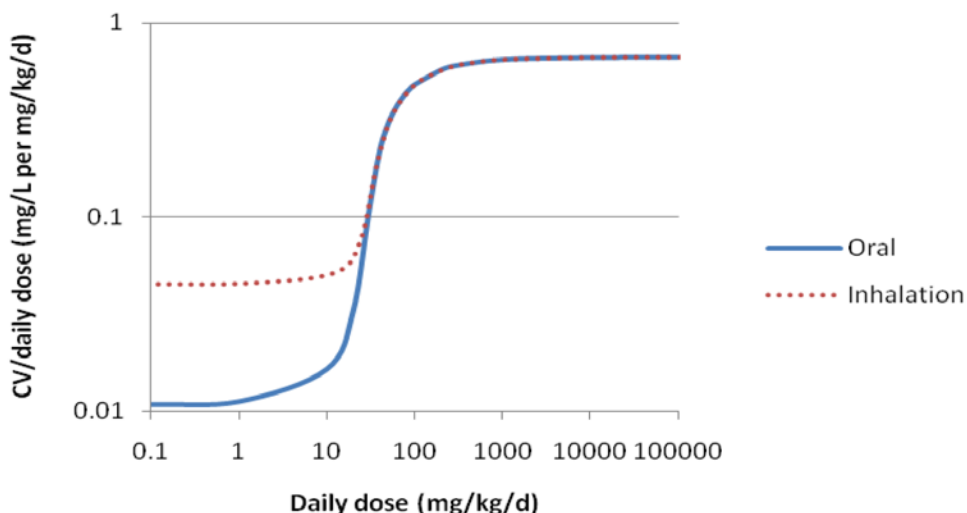
Body weight (BW), concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in the air (CONC), alveolar ventilation rate (QPC), Michaelis-Menten maximum rate of metabolism ( $V_{\text{max}}C$ ), Michaelis-Menten constant: concentration where  $V_{\text{max}}$  is half-maximal ( $V_{\text{max}}$ ), blood:air partition coefficient (PB), fat:blood partition coefficient (PF), slowly perfused:blood partition coefficient (PS), rapidly perfused:blood partition coefficient (PR), liver:blood partition coefficient (PL), brain:blood partition coefficient (PBR), volume of fat (VFC), volume of slowly perfused tissues (VSTOTC), volume of rapidly perfused tissues (VRTOTC), volume of liver (VLC), volume of brain (VBRC), cardiac output (QCC), blood flow to fat (QFC), blood flow to slowly perfused tissues (QRTOTC), blood flow to liver (QLC), blood flow to brain (QBRC)



**C.2.3.5. Modification of the [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) model to include oral route of exposure**

For derivation of an oral RfD, the updated 1,2,4-TMB PBPK model based on [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) was further modified by adding code for continuous oral ingestion. It was assumed that 100% of the ingested 1,2,4-TMB is absorbed by constant infusion of the oral dose into the liver compartment. There were no oral data available to calibrate the model for oral absorption, and no data were available evaluate the model predictions following oral ingestion either. Thus, although the assumption that 100% of the dose would enter the liver is a common assumption, it does represent an area of uncertainty in the route-to-route extrapolation used to derive oral reference values. To more accurately approximate patterns of human oral ingestion, ingestion was simulated as an idealized pattern of six events, each lasting 30 minutes. Twenty-five percent of the total daily dose was assumed to be ingested at each of three events beginning at 7 am, 12 pm (noon), and 6 pm (total of 75%). Ten percent of the daily dose was assumed to be ingested at events beginning at 10 am and 3 pm (total of 20%). The final 5% was assumed to be ingested in an event beginning at 10 pm. After the daily blood concentration profile achieved a repeating pattern, or periodicity, the weekly average blood concentration was then used to determine the human equivalent dose (HED).

The contribution of the first-pass metabolism in the liver for oral dosing was evaluated by simulating steady-state venous blood levels (at the end of 50 days of continuous exposure) for a standard human at rest (70 kg) for a range of concentrations and doses. For ease of visual comparison (Figure C-18), concentrations were converted to daily doses based on the amount of 1,2,4-TMB inhaled, as computed by the model. (An inhaled concentration of 0.001 mg/L [0.20 ppm (0.98 mg/m<sup>3</sup>)] is equivalent to an inhaled dose of 0.12 mg/kg-day.) At both very low and very high daily doses by inhalation or oral dosing, steady-state CV is essentially linear with respect to the daily dose, but with different CV/dose ratios and a transition zone between 1 and 100 mg/kg-day. At low daily doses, equivalent inhalation doses result in steady-state blood concentrations 4-fold higher than an equivalent oral dose due to the hepatic first-pass effect. The first-pass effect becomes insignificant with respect to steady-state venous blood concentrations for daily doses in excess of ~50 mg/kg-day.



**Figure C-18. Effect of route of exposure and dose rate on steady-state venous blood concentration ( $t = 1,200$  hours) for continuous human exposure to 1,2,4-TMB.**

#### C.2.3.6. Conclusions

Several changes were made to the model for use in this assessment: (1) updated physiological parameters were implemented ([Brown et al., 1997](#)); (2) hepatic metabolism was revised to omit variation over time and new  $V_{\max}C$  and  $K_m$  values were estimated through numerical optimization; and (3) an oral dosing component was added to the model as constant infusion into the liver compartment. The values were optimized to [Hissink et al. \(2007\)](#) data and resulted in a  $V_{\max}C$  of 4.17 mg/hour/kg<sup>0.7</sup> and  $K_m$  of 0.322 mg/L. In addition, the model was tested for its ability to predict published rat data resulting from exposure to 1,2,4-TMB alone ([Swiercz et al., 2003](#); [Swiercz et al., 2002](#); [Eide and Zahlse, 1996](#); [Zahlse et al., 1992](#); [Zahlse et al., 1990](#); [Dahl et al., 1988](#)). Using the optimized values, the model adequately predicted the data and lower concentrations. Human data ([Hissink et al., 2007](#); [Järnberg and Johanson, 1999](#); [Järnberg et al., 1998, 1997a](#); [Kostrzewski et al., 1997](#); [Järnberg et al., 1996](#)) were also utilized to validate model predictions.

#### C.2.4. Summary of Available PBPK models for 1,3,5-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB

There are currently no available PBPK models for rodents or humans for either 1,3,5-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB.

### C.3. HUMAN STUDIES

Table C-16 provides study details for epidemiology studies.

**Table C-16. Characteristics and quantitative results for epidemiologic studies of TMB and related compounds and mixtures**

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
<b>Respiratory/irritative effects</b>				
<a href="#">Battig et al. (1956)</a> , as reviewed by <a href="#">Battig et al. (1958)</a>	<p>Cross-sectional.</p> <p>Exposed: 27 TMB-exposed workers who worked primarily in the painting shop of a transportation plant.</p> <p>Controls: 10 unskilled workers from the same plant that were not exposed to TMB vapors.</p>	Various respiratory and hematological endpoints were assessed via worker interviews and clinical assessments.	<p>Exposure level: 10–60 ppm (49.2–295 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) in working rooms.</p> <p>Exposure duration: approximately 10 yrs.</p> <p>Compounds exposed to: Fleet-X DV-9, a solvent containing 1,2,4-TMB and 1,3,5-TMB (50 and 30%, respectively). Fleet X DV-9 also potentially contained 1,2,3-TMB and numerous methylethyl benzenes.</p>	<p>No statistical analyses were reported.</p> <p>Increased self-reports of vertigo, headaches, and drowsiness during work.</p> <p>Increased presence of chronic asthmatic bronchitis, anemia, and altered blood clotting characteristics (e.g., increased clotting time and tendency to hemorrhage).</p> <p>Increased vitamin C deficiency was observed in controls, but the authors attribute this to nutritional deficiencies in this population.</p>
<a href="#">Billionnet et al. (2011)</a>	<p>Cross-sectional survey in a national population-based sample of residences in France.</p> <p>Final sample consisted of 567 residences and 1,612 individuals.</p>	<p>Asthma and rhinitis, determined via standardized self-administered questionnaire.</p> <p>Diagnosis of asthma or rhinitis not confirmed by physician.</p>	<p>Pollutants measured for 1 wk in the bedroom of the home.</p> <p>Exposure level: For 1,2,4-TMB, exposure varied from undetectable to 111.7 µg/m<sup>3</sup>, with median concentration 4.0 µg/m<sup>3</sup>.</p>	<p>Median tests were used for continuous endpoints, <math>\chi^2</math> test for categorical variables.</p> <p>Pollutant correlations tested by Spearman's rank correlation coefficient.</p> <p>Generalized estimating equation approach was used to adjust for correlations between individuals within same dwelling.</p> <p>Global VOC score was created to address exposure to multiple pollutants.</p> <p>All models were adjusted for age, sex, and smoking status.</p>

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
				OR for association of asthma to 1,2,4-TMB statistically significantly increased (OR = 2.1). OR of the 95 <sup>th</sup> percentile compared to 75 <sup>th</sup> percentile = 3.13 (95% CI: 1.6–6.12).
<a href="#">Norseth et al. (1991)</a>	Cross-sectional study of road repair and construction workers in Norway exposed to asphalt.  First group: 79 workers.  Second group: 254 workers with 247 controls.	A number of neurological and irritative symptoms were recorded by standard questionnaire on last day.	Exposure to 14 groups of organic compounds during 5 d was assessed in the various groups. Mean concentration of 1,2,4-TMB was 0.015 ppm (0.074 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ), with range between 0 and 0.122 (0–0.60 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) ppm.  Mean concentration of 1,3,5-TMB was 0.0014 ppm (0.0069 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ), with range between 0 and 0.011 (0–0.054 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) ppm.  Exposure duration: Not reported; measurements represent the means of 5 d of monitoring.	Exact two-sided Fisher-Irving test was used to analyze differences in symptom frequency.  Mean difference between groups was calculated via two-sided Wilcoxon rank-sum test with a significance level of 5%.  Spearman’s correlation coefficient was used to estimate correlation between symptoms and possible confounders.  Among workers reporting at least 1 d of experiencing a symptom, asphalt workers were observed to have increased incidences of abnormal fatigue, reduced appetite, laryngeal/pharyngeal irritation, eye irritation, and other unspecified symptoms, compared to non-asphalt workers (all differences reported to be statistically significant).
<b>Neurological effects</b>				
<a href="#">Chen et al. (1999)</a>	Retrospective mortality cohort study: included all 1,292 men who had worked at the paint shop of a dockyard in a Scottish dockyard for ≥12 mo from 1950 to	Mortality, cause of death coded according to ICD-9.  Questionnaire recorded self-reported symptoms	Exposure level: Specific concentrations not discussed.  Exposure duration: at least 1 yr; range 1–41 yrs.	Intra-cohort PMRs were calculated, as were SMRs for comparison with all Scottish males; 95% CIs were calculated assuming a Poisson distribution.  $\chi^2$ test was used to assess differences in neuropsychological symptoms between painters and non-painters.

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
	<p>1992 (followed up from 12/1/60 to 12/31/94); 205 deceased workers included in analysis.</p> <p>Cross-sectional study: 953 painters not identified as dead as of 12/31/95 and 953 age-matched male controls. 875 subjects returned questionnaire: 302 painters, 573 controls; 260 painters and 539 controls included in final analysis.</p>	<p>of psychological or neurological disorders.</p> <p>Questionnaire also recorded information on potential confounders: educational level, smoking status, and alcohol consumption.</p>	<p>Compounds to which study participants were exposed: white spirit (1,2,4-TMB), xylene, TMB (unspecified), n-butanol, trichlorethylene, naptha, and cumene.</p>	<p>Breslow-Cox model was used to adjust for covariates including educational level, smoking, alcohol consumption, and social conformity.</p> <p>Log-regression model was used for case-control study.</p> <p>Mortality was not generally increased among painters; the only statistical significant increase was for ischemic heart disease (PMR = 132, 95% CI: 105–164)</p> <p>Increased prevalence rate ratios for neuropsychological symptoms amongst painters.</p> <p>Rate ratios increased significantly with increasing number of years of exposure, even after adjustment for possible confounders: for painters with total symptom score <math>\geq 12</math>: 2.27, 1.20–4.30 (1–4 yrs); 2.42, 1.18–4.94 (5–9 yrs); 2.89, 1.42–5.88 (10–14 yrs); and 3.41, 1.81–6.36 (15–41 yrs). No apparent decrease in symptoms was observed when investigating time since stopping painting: 3.71, 1.66–8.29 (1–10 since stopping); 3.53, 1.79–6.96 (11–18 yrs since stopping); and 2.98, 1.06–8.53 (&gt;19 yrs since stopping).</p> <p>Multivariate-adjusted ORs showed the same relationship.</p>
<a href="#">Gong et al. (2003)</a>	<p>Cross-sectional study; exposed workers (N = 251) worked in 53 furniture factories in Japan. A control group (N = 147) was drawn from un-exposed workers in different factories.</p>	<p>Questionnaire recorded information pertaining to work history and lifestyle habits, occupational/vocational solvent exposure, alcohol consumption,</p>	<p>The exposure concentrations of solvents were assessed via environmental sampling and biomonitoring. Exposures included toluene, xylene, styrene, ethylbenzene; urinary metabolites included xylene and hippuric acid. Neither TMBs nor TMB metabolites</p>	<p>The Wilcoxon rank sum test was used to compare color vision and color contrast between exposed workers and controls.</p> <p>Multiple regression analysis was used to assess the association between exposure and visual dysfunction outcomes, with age, alcohol, smoking, educational experience, and duration of exposure as independent variables.</p> <p>Color vision and color contrast were statistically significantly altered in exposed workers compared to controls (<math>p</math>-values &lt;0.05).</p>

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
		cigarette smoking, and medical usage.  A variety of visual dysfunction tests (color vision assessment, visual contrast sensitivity, and VEP) were administered to exposed workers and controls.	were listed as explicit exposures.  The total exposure index was 0.35 compared to Japanese threshold limit values, indicating low exposures.	Multiple regression revealed that color vision was significantly negatively correlated with age, and that methylhippuric acid metabolites were correlated with decreased color contrast sensitivity. Smoking was also significantly associated with increased color contrast sensitivity.
<a href="#">Tang et al. (2011)</a>	Cross-sectional study of 133 solvent exposed workers and 78 non-exposed controls. All participants underwent a medical evaluation and screening for smoking and drug use; 27 exposed and controls were ultimately selected for fMRI study to compare pathophysiological changes in brain function.	An N-back task (identifying letters in a sequence) was performed during fMRI scans.	A cumulative lifetime exposure index was calculated for each subject who reported solvent exposure. The duration and time spent performing specific job tasks was determined via questionnaire.  Representative solvent exposures were determined via field samples. Historic solvent exposures and information on protective equipment usage were used to adjust exposure estimates.	fMRI scans were analyzed via ANCOVA to compare activity levels in specific brain regions.  Solvent-exposed workers were more likely to be African-American compared to controls, and had lower reading test scores and higher blood lead levels. Performance scores for the N-back task was significantly lower than controls ( $p = 0.005$ ).  After correcting for verbal IQ and lead, Caucasian exposed workers had reduced activity in the anterior cingulate cortex and dorsolateral prefrontal cortex. ANCOVA revealed significantly reduced activity in the dorsolateral prefrontal cortex and left parietal regions in exposed workers.
<a href="#">El Hamid Hassan et al. (2013)</a>	Cross-sectional study of Egyptian paint factory workers. The exposed group (N = 92) included	Questionnaire recorded self-reported symptoms of psychological or	No explicit exposure analysis were conducted. Analyses were based on comparisons of exposed	$\chi^2$ test was used to investigate pair-wise differences in neuro-psychological symptoms in exposed workers, compared to controls.

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
	workers exposed to organic solvents as part of their job. These solvents included mixtures of aliphatic and aromatic solvents (xylene, toluene, methyl isobutyl and methyl ethyl ketone, mineral spirits, etc. TMB isomers not specifically mentioned). The control group (N = 95) consisted of members of the faculty of medicine at a nearby university not exposed to these solvents.	neurological disorders.  Questionnaire also recorded information on potential confounders: educational level, smoking status, and alcohol consumption.	groups (determined by job type) to controls. Duration of exposure was also used in some analyses	Highly significant differences ( $p < 0.001$ ) between exposed workers and controls were noted for most psychological (short memory, problems concentrating, abnormally tired, headache), neuropsychological (painful tingling, trouble buttoning/unbuttoning), and neurological (dizziness, hand tremble, weakness in arms/legs) symptoms.  63.0% of workers demonstrated neuropsychological symptoms, compared to 2.1% of controls ( $p$ -value $< 0.001$ , OR = 79.3; 95% CI: 18.73–688.3).  Smoking ( $>15$ versus $<15$ yrs), level of education (illiterate or read/write versus school education), age (40–60 versus 20–40 yrs), type of job (production versus packing), and duration of work ( $>15$ versus $<15$ yrs) were all observed to be highly associated ( $p$ -values $< 0.001$ ; OR $> 4.4$ ) with increased neuropsychological symptoms.  Logistic regression revealed that the strongest predictors of neuropsychological symptoms were type of job performed (production or packing) and duration of work ( $>15$ yrs).  Not clear whether any confounders were taken into account in the logistic regression analysis.
<a href="#">Juárez-Pérez et al. (2014)</a>	Cross-sectional study of 77 solvent exposed paint factory workers in Mexico and 84 control subjects drawn from donors at a local blood bank. All exposed participants were male. Exposed workers were given a questionnaire to	Hearing assessments were conducted for each participant and hearing loss prevalence was calculated in exposed and unexposed populations.	134 workplaces at various production sites were examined; air samples from the worker's respiratory zone were collected from workers during all shifts of a single workday. Toluene, xylene, and benzene were listed as exposures, but not TMB isomers.	Univariate analysis of quantitative variables was performed. Mean differences were analyzed via Student's $t$ and $X^2$ tests.  Robust multiple linear regression was used and were adjusted for age, environmental noise, diabetes, hypertension/hyperlipidemia, ototoxic drugs, and alcohol.  19.5% of solvent-exposed workers had hearing loss.



Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
	determine demographic characteristics, hearing pathologies, chronic disease status, ototoxic medication usage, and other factors (alcohol/drug usage, motorcycle usage, etc.). Controls were questioned regarding solvent exposure.	Brainstem auditory-evoked potentials were also recorded.	Noise measurements were also collected at each worksite	Robust multiple linear regression showed that hearing loss (low, high, and all frequencies) was significantly increased in left and right ears in exposed workers, and that age and chronic pathology were also related to hearing loss; 24-39% of hearing loss variability was explained by the regression model. Exposure to environmental noise did not appear to increase hearing loss. Multiple linear regression also revealed increased latencies in brainstem auditory-evoked potentials, although the $R^2$ values were much lower (0.2–12.4).
<a href="#">Maule et al. (2013)</a>	Cross-sectional study of 37 male and female active duty Air Force personnel (N = 23 with occupational exposure to JP-8 exposure, N = 14 with little to no JP-8 exposure). Each participant completed a questionnaire regarding demographic data, work history, and other lifestyle and/or physical characteristics.	Postural sway was analyzed in all participants. Evaluations were conducted pre- and post-shift.	Breathing zone sampling was conducted on all participants; total hydrocarbons and naphthalene were reported. Pre- and post-shift urine samples were taken and analyzed for metabolites of naphthalene. TMB isomers were not explicitly noted in the study results.	Multiple linear regression were used to investigate associations between JP-8 exposure and postural sway. Measures of postural sway (total angular area and mean path velocity) were used as the dependent variables in four models of stance tasks: eyes open, eyes closed, eyes open, foam support, and eyes closed, foam support. Covariates considered included age, smoking status, and body mass index.  The high exposure group was more likely to be male than the low exposure group ( $p < 0.05$ ). Increased sway was noted in tests involving foam support versus no foam for both eyes open and eyes closed tasks. Regression models using total hydrocarbons, naphthalene, 1-naphthol, or 2-naphthol did not demonstrate statistically significant associations between exposure and sway. Pre-shift measures of sway were positively associated with post-shift measures. Younger age was also predictive of balance control. Although the regression models did not indicate an association between sway and exposure metrics, they explained 39–62% of variance in the outcome measurements.

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
<a href="#">Pratt et al. (2000)</a>	Cross-sectional study of 48 male subjects with no history of neurological or ophthalmological impairment; 31 subjects were occupationally exposed to gasoline in the workplace and 17 had no occupational exposure to gasoline.	Participants were tested for pattern-reversal VEPs and SVEPs.	Exposure levels of each participant were determined using personal samplers. No participants were reported to be exposed to levels of benzene, xylenes, toluene, carbon tetrachloride, or methyl- <i>tert</i> -butyl ether above legal exposure levels (which exposure values used were not noted). TMB isomers were not explicitly noted in study.	<p>The effect of gasoline on latencies of SVEP or VEP was assessed via ANOVA, with subject group as a factor (N = controls, L = low, laboratory exposure, A &amp; B = high exposure groups).</p> <p>Latencies corresponding to retinal activity, optical nerve activity, scalp distribution with optic radiation, and cortical activity were increased when comparing gasoline-exposed workers to unexposed workers (<math>p</math>-value &lt; 0.05).</p>
<a href="#">Ruijten et al. (1994)</a>	Cross-sectional study of 28 shipyard painting employees exposed to solvents and 25 control workers with no exposure to solvents. Participants were screened on education (higher education excluded, control only), alcohol consumption, and occupational exposure to neurotoxic substances (control group only).	Symptoms were assessed via a questionnaire concerning various neurotoxic symptoms (including mood changes, fatigue, sleep disturbances, etc.). Neuro-physiological examinations were also conducted (sensory and motor nerve conduction velocity). A psychometric examination consisting of computerized tasks	<p>An individual cumulative exposure index was calculated for each participant. Environmental monitoring (all solvents) and biological monitoring (methylhippuric acid) were used to estimate exposure levels. Cumulative exposure indices were calculated for five broad categories of painting tasks.</p> <p>Cumulative exposure for all painters was 495 mg methylhippuric acid/g creatinine.</p>	<p>Differences in effects between painters and controls were investigated using ANCOVA, with age and alcohol used as confounders. The association between the cumulative exposure index and neurological effects was investigated using multiple linear regression.</p> <p>Mood changes, equilibrium complaints, sleep disturbances, and solvent-related complaints were increased in painters compared to controls (<math>p \leq 0.05</math>).</p> <p>Differences in peripheral nerve function was statistically significant between painters and controls, particularly in the peroneal nerve (<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>).</p> <p>Neurobehavioral test performance indicated a detrimental effect of solvent exposure on color word vigilance, symbol digit substitution, and hand-eye coordination (<math>p \leq 0.05</math>).</p>

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
		was also administered.		
<a href="#">Lee et al. (2005)</a>	Cross-sectional study of workers at a shipyard in Ulstan, Korea; 180 workers included in study along with 60 randomly selected non-exposed controls. Workers were pre-screened for educational level, absence of alcohol/drug dependency, and lack of existing neurological disease.	Questionnaire was administered to pre-screen workers and to collect additional data on age and work duration.  A number of tests were administered to judge neurological function: simple reaction time, symbol digit substitution, and finger tapping speed (dominant and non-dominant hand).	Data on exposure were collected from 61 workers who wore passive dosimeters on 3 work days.  Workers exposed to $3.71 \pm 3.95$ ppm 1,2,4-TMB (geometric mean, $18.25 \text{ mg/m}^3$ , geometric standard deviation = 19.43), range = 0.2–57.0 ppm.  Average exposure duration: $16.5 \pm 9$ yrs in exposed workers.	A cumulative exposure index was calculated for each worker. Student <i>t</i> -test was used to determine statistical significance of results in exposed workers compared to non-exposed workers.  Multiple regression analysis was performed to ascertain and control for confounders.  Exposure had a significant effect on symbol digit substitution and finger tapping speed in multiple regression analysis of all subjects. Age and education were observed to be statistically significant confounders.  After adjusting for age and education, painters were observed to have statistically significantly slower symbol digit substitution and finger tapping speeds (dominant and non-dominant) compared to controls.  Symbol digit substitution and finger tapping speed also statistically significantly slower in subjects when comparing workers with >20 yrs of exposure to workers with <10 yrs of exposure.
<a href="#">Sulkowski et al. (2002)</a>	Cross-sectional study of Polish workers in a factory in which paints and varnishes were produced; 61 exposed workers were included in the final analysis following a questionnaire and otolaryngological examination. Subjects	Comprehensive evaluation of hearing: air and bone pure tone audiometry, impedance audiometry with tympanometry, acoustic reflex threshold, otoacoustic	Exposure was assessed via individual dosimeters and biological monitoring of blood and urine. TMB isomers were reported to be the most commonly detected contaminants in air. Blood levels of TMB isomers ranged from 0.60 to $70.14 \text{ } \mu\text{g/dL}$ .	Student's <i>t</i> -test was to analyze differences between groups. Linear regression was used to investigate the association of exposure to single contaminants with specific effects.  47.5% of exposed individuals and 5% of the control population exhibited symptoms of vestibular dysfunction, as indicated by decreased duration, amplitude, and slow-phase angular velocity of induced nystagmus.

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
	with middle ear damage, previous ear surgery, head injury, ototoxic drug treatment, diabetes, hypertension, neurological disease, alcohol/drug abuse, and a history of noise exposure were excluded; 40 non-exposed workers were included as controls.	emissions, and electronystagmographic investigations.	Average duration of exposure: $15.8 \pm 9.1$ yrs.	High frequency hearing loss, as indicated by pure tone audiometry was detected in 42% of exposed individuals versus 5% of the control population.  All three TMB isomers (measured in subjects' breathing zones) were observed to be statistically significantly associated with distortion product otoacoustic emissions ( $p$ -values $< 0.05$ ). These associations were reported as the strongest amongst the detected contaminants.
<a href="#">Fuente et al. (2013)</a>	Cross-sectional study in Santiago, Chile: 30 participants each (15 males/15 females) in the xylene-exposed and control groups. Otoscopy was performed to exclude participants with external ear damage, a questionnaire was provided to collect data on participants' history of neurological, metabolic, cardiovascular disease, otitis media, or previous excessive noise exposure. A report of one or more of the previous was used to	Comprehensive evaluation of hearing: audiological assessments, masking level difference test, pitch pattern sequence test, and dichotic digit test.	Workers were interviewed to collect self-reports of occupational xylene exposure; mean duration of exposure to xylene in the workplace was $11.8 \pm 10.5$ yrs.  Air samples were also collected at different work stations of the xylene-exposed workers; mean air concentration was $36.5 \pm 66.6$ mg/m <sup>3</sup> .  Urine samples were collected post-shift on the last day of the working week and analyzed for methylhippuric acid: mean concentration was	Student's t test, ANCOVA (with age and hearing levels as covariates), and Spearman rank correlations (for stratified analyses) were used to analyze the differences in hearing between xylene-exposed workers and controls.  Xylene-exposed workers consistently had increased measures of auditory dysfunction compared to controls: worse audiometric thresholds; greater latency in the auditory brainstem response; and decreased performance in the pitch pattern sequence, dichotic digits test, and hearing in noise test ( $p$ -value $\leq 0.01$ ).  Simple linear regression demonstrated that increasing levels of methylhippuric acid are positively correlated with binaural hearing thresholds ( $R^2 = 0.32$ , $p$ -value $< 0.01$ ).  When stratifying participants based on cumulative exposure (low = $96.8 \pm 26.36$ mg*yr, medium = $434.9 \pm 289.9$ mg*yr, and high = $5,630.2 \pm 3,150$ mg*yr), the high exposure group had statistically significantly higher binaural hearing threshold compared to low and medium exposure groups ( $p$ -value $< 0.05$ ). There was also a statistically significant difference between the

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
	exclude participants from the study.		216.3 ± 44.2 mg per g creatinine.  Cumulative exposure was calculated by multiplying methylhippuric acid concentration by duration of exposure.	low and high exposure groups regarding hearing in noise tests ( $p$ -value < 0.05).
<a href="#">Quevedo et al. (2012)</a>	Cross-sectional study of gas station workers in Santa Maria, Brazil: 21 participants (18 males/3 females). Otoscopy was performed to identify conditions that would alter test results. Exclusion criteria for participants were: history of ear problems, abnormal auditory thresholds, age >40 yrs, exposure to noise, organic solvents, or pesticides, and use of ototoxic medications.	Threshold tonal audiometry, brainstem auditory evoked potential testing, and acoustic reflex testing.	No explicit exposure analysis was conducted. Analyses based on comparisons of exposed group (i.e., gas station workers) to the normal range of response for the various tests. Duration of exposure was also used in some analyses.	Binomial test was used to test differences in absolute latency and interpeak differences in the brainstem auditory evoked potential test.  Right ear: 19 and 29% of participants had abnormal Wave I and III absolute latencies; no difference was noted for Wave V. Only the difference in Wave I latency was statistically significant ( $p = 0.025$ ). None of the latencies in the interpeak intervals (I–III, III–V, I–V) were statistically different.  Left ear: 14 and 5% of participants had altered Wave I and V latencies ( $p = 0.015$ and $0.0001$ , respectively). Although 38% of participants had altered Wave III latencies, these alterations failed to achieve statistical significance. None of the latencies in the interpeak intervals were statistically different.  Duration analysis: Among workers exposed for <3 yrs, no statistically significant differences were noted for absolute latencies in the right ear. However, the interpeak interval change for Waves III–V was statistically significant. A statistically significant alteration in the absolute latency of Wave V was observed in the left ear ( $p = 0.0257$ ).  For workers exposed between 3 and 5 yrs, no statistically significant effects were noted in either ear for absolute latencies or interpeak interval changes.

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Study citation	Study design/study population	Outcome measured	Exposure assessment	Results
				For workers exposed >5 yrs, statistically significant effects were noted for the I–V interpeak difference in the right ear, the absolute latency in Wave I in the left ear, and the III–V interpeak interval in the left ear.

1 ANCOVA = analysis of covariance; ANOVA= analysis of variance; fMRI = functional magnetic resonance imaging; JP-8 = jet propulsion fuel 8; OR = odds  
2 ratio; PMR = proportional mortality ratio; SMR = standardized mortality ratio; SVEP = short-latency visual evoked potential; VEP = visual evoked  
3 potential; VOC = volatile organic compound.

## C.4. ANIMAL TOXICOLOGY STUDIES

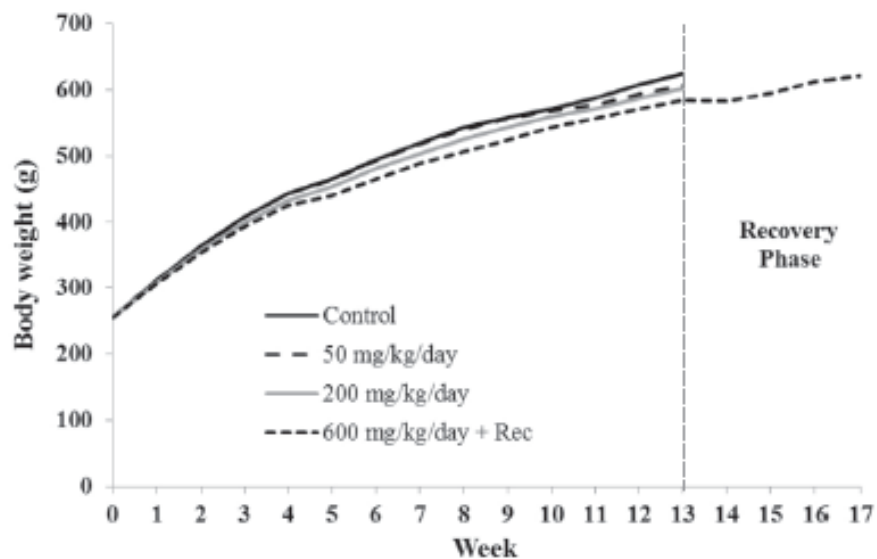
Tables C-17 through C-46 provide study details for animal toxicology studies.

**Table C-17. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats	M & F	10 rats/dose group	Gavage	0, 50, 200, and 600 mg/kg body weight/d 1,3,5-TMB	Single exposure, once a day, 5 d/wk, for 90–91 d, for 65–66 doses
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rats were given one oral dosage of 1,3,5-TMB each day for 5 d/wk, for 90–91 d.</li><li>• Rats were randomized and assigned to five groups according to sex and body weight.</li><li>• Two deaths were reported, but were considered to have resulted from dosing errors and not related to treatment.</li><li>• No statistically significant effects on mean body weight were observed in any of the treated groups as compared to the vehicle control group.</li><li>• Liver and kidney weights increased, but were considered adaptive effects.</li><li>• All histopathology findings at termination of dosing were determined to be unrelated to treatment but typical of spontaneous lesions common to the rat strain.</li><li>• The NOAEL was 600 mg/kg-d.</li></ul>					
<b>Analysis of dosing solutions of 1,3,5-TMB in corn oil</b>					
	<b>Wk 1<sup>a</sup></b>		<b>Wk 7<sup>b</sup></b>		<b>Wk 13<sup>b</sup></b>
0	Below detection limit		–		–
10 (50 mg/kg)	9.78		9.60		9.92
40 (200 mg/kg)	39.04		–		–
120 (600 mg/kg)	120.4		128.2		114.6
<sup>a</sup> Values represent means of duplicate analysis for 0 mg/mL and six replicates for 10, 40, and 120 mg/mL.					
<sup>b</sup> Values represent means of duplicate analysis.					
<b>Experimental design</b>					
<b>Group</b>		<b>Dose (mg/kg-d)</b>		<b>Number of rats (M &amp; F)</b>	
1		0 (corn oil vehicle control)		10 + 10	
2		50		10 + 10	
3		200		10 + 10	
4		600		10 + 10	
5		600 (28-d recovery group)		10 + 10	

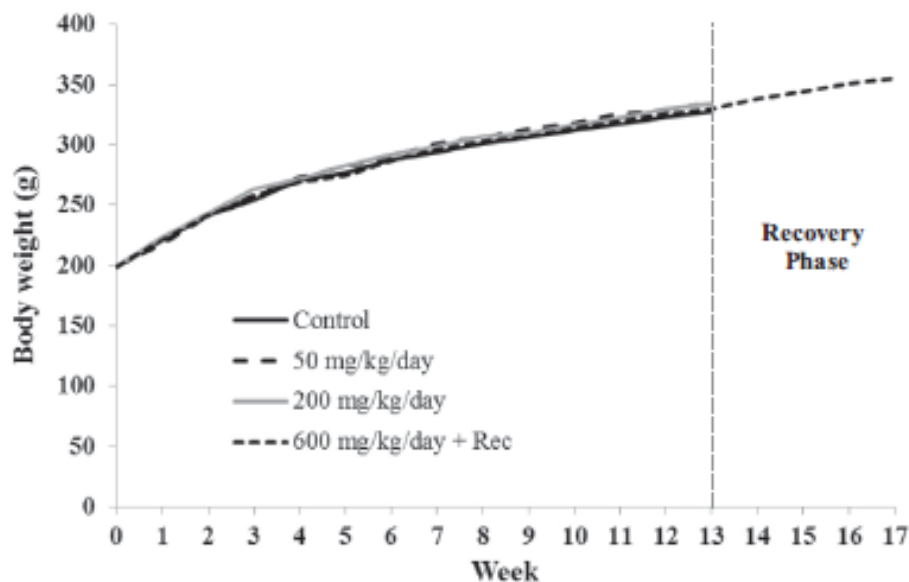


Growth curves for male rats following 90-d gavage exposure (including 28-d recovery period) to 1,3,5-TMB.



Source: [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#).

Growth curves for female rats following 90-d gavage exposure (including 28-d recovery period) to 1,3,5-TMB.



Source: [Adenuga et al. \(2014\)](#).

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Values obtained at a terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB with 28-d recovery					
Mean clinical chemistry					
	Exposure (mg/kg-d)				
Observation	0 (control)	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
<b>Males</b>					
Protein (g/dL)	6.0 ± 0.38	5.9 ± 0.24	6.0 ± 0.31	6.1 ± 0.42	6.0 ± 0.25
Albumin (g/dL)	3.6 ± 0.23	3.6 ± 0.19	3.7 ± 0.19	3.8 ± 0.22	3.7 ± 0.09
Glucose (mg/dL) <sup>a</sup>	150.2 ± 22.80	134.6 ± 15.11	136.9 ± 15.76	121.1 ± 13.14*	168.4 ± 26.39
Cholesterol (mg/dL)	38.2 ± 6.83	33.1 ± 9.13	31.6 ± 9.93	45.3 ± 15.99	35.3 ± 10.10
Sodium (meq/L)	142.4 ± 1.49	142.7 ± 0.65	143.0 ± 1.40	142.4 ± 1.32	141.6 ± 1.30
Potassium (meq/L)	4.32 ± 0.397	4.51 ± 0.339	4.37 ± 0.328	4.54 ± 0.270	4.33 ± 0.240
Chloride (meq/L)	105.3 ± 2.59	105.3 ± 2.33	106.0 ± 1.72	106.2 ± 2.18	104.7 ± 0.88
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	6.5 ± 0.64	6.7 ± 0.80	7.0 ± 0.68	7.6 ± 0.58*	5.8 ± 0.59
Total bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.4 ± 0.12	0.4 ± 0.10	0.5 ± 0.09	0.5 ± 0.14	0.5 ± 0.09
AP (IU/l)	107 ± 28.1	112 ± 26.5	121 ± 33.7	156 ± 56.2*	77 ± 20.5
ALT (IU/l)	29 ± 6.4	30 ± 9.8	25 ± 7.0	33 ± 9.1	25 ± 4.4
AST (IU/l)	72 ± 18.9	91 ± 31.9	86 ± 25.5	85 ± 25.0	89 ± 16.7
<b>Females</b>					
Protein (g/dL)	6.2 ± 0.44	6.3 ± 0.41	6.6 ± 0.69	6.5 ± 0.68	6.3 ± 0.66
Albumin (g/dL)	4.1 ± 0.29	4.3 ± 0.36	4.5 ± 0.58	4.5 ± 0.56	4.3 ± 0.51
Glucose (mg/dL)	131.8 ± 7.65	136.4 ± 11.72	140.1 ± 14.48	132.8 ± 15.91	150.7 ± 19.18
Cholesterol (mg/dL) <sup>b</sup>	36.2 ± 8.83	35.2 ± 6.64	38.8 ± 6.24	51.2 ± 17.84*	28.7 ± 12.93
Sodium (meq/L) <sup>c</sup>	142.1 ± 1.10	141.6 ± 0.96	141.7 ± 2.07	138.9 ± 2.83*	140.9 ± 1.47
Potassium (meq/L)	3.94 ± 0.195	4.13 ± 0.200	4.01 ± 0.119	3.86 ± 0.292	4.06 ± 0.259
Chloride (meq/L) <sup>d</sup>	105.9 ± 2.32	106.2 ± 1.63	106.1 ± 1.05	103.0 ± 3.81*	107.0 ± 1.68
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	6.1 ± 1.08	6.1 ± 1.27	6.4 ± 1.18	7.5 ± 1.24*	5.3 ± 0.80
Total bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.5 ± 0.08	0.5 ± 0.10	0.4 ± 0.08	0.5 ± 0.07	0.5 ± 0.07
AP (IU/L)	59 ± 14.8	57 ± 10.3	55 ± 14.9	78 ± 24.5	38 ± 10.1
ALT (IU/L)	21 ± 2.3	22 ± 4.0	23 ± 7.3	24 ± 4.1	27 ± 7.1
AST (IU/L)	60 ± 16.5	75 ± 18.6	62 ± 15.2	60 ± 15.0	77 ± 21.4
<p>*<i>p</i> &lt; 0.05.</p> <p><sup>a</sup>Glucose historical control range: 97.4–155.7 mg/dL (N = 20).</p> <p><sup>b</sup>Cholesterol historical control range: 32–112 mg/dL (N = 20).</p> <p><sup>c</sup>Sodium historical control range: 141–148meq/L (N = 20).</p> <p><sup>d</sup>Chloride historical control range: 105–111 meq/L (N = 20).</p> <p>AP = alkaline phosphatase; ALT = alanine aminotransferase; AST = aspartate aminotransferase.</p>					

**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

Values obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB with 28-d recovery					
Mean hematology					
	Exposure (mg/kg-d)				
Observation	0 (control)	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
<b>Males</b>					
WBCs ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	9.1 $\pm$ 2.70	8.1 $\pm$ 2.50	8.1 $\pm$ 1.74	7.7 $\pm$ 1.76	7.8 $\pm$ 1.24
RBCs ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	8.94 $\pm$ 0.375	8.50 $\pm$ 0.4,863	8.98 $\pm$ 0.565	8.72 $\pm$ 0.275	8.51 $\pm$ 0.423
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	15.6 $\pm$ 0.52	15.3 $\pm$ 0.76	15.8 $\pm$ 0.77	15.4 $\pm$ 0.53	15.4 $\pm$ 0.58
Hematocrit (%)	43.9 $\pm$ 1.65	42.2 $\pm$ 2.72	44.1 $\pm$ 2.12	43.3 $\pm$ 1.60	41.6 $\pm$ 1.99
MCV ( $\times 10^{-15}$ L)	49.1 $\pm$ 1.17	49.7 $\pm$ 1.09	49.2 $\pm$ 1.76	49.6 $\pm$ 1.66	49.0 $\pm$ 1.62
MCH (pg)	17.5 $\pm$ 0.45	18.0 $\pm$ 0.73	17.7 $\pm$ 0.85	17.7 $\pm$ 0.68	18.2 $\pm$ 0.61
MCHC (%)	35.6 $\pm$ 0.67	36.3 $\pm$ 1.07	35.9 $\pm$ 0.60	35.6 $\pm$ 0.67	37.1 $\pm$ 0.60
Platelet count ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	1,092 $\pm$ 134.1	1,098 $\pm$ 120.8	1,041 $\pm$ 100.9	1,125 $\pm$ 145.9	1,083 $\pm$ 112.6
<b>Females</b>					
WBCs ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	5.5 $\pm$ 2.05	5.6 $\pm$ 1.53	5.4 $\pm$ 1.64	5.7 $\pm$ 1.99	4.6 $\pm$ 1.55
RBCs ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	7.88 $\pm$ 0.729	8.01 $\pm$ 0.354	7.90 $\pm$ 0.578	8.34 $\pm$ 0.548	7.70 $\pm$ 0.423
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	14.8 $\pm$ 0.88	15.0 $\pm$ 0.48	15.2 $\pm$ 0.82	15.3 $\pm$ 0.78	15.1 $\pm$ 0.57
Hematocrit (%)	41.0 $\pm$ 3.15	41.4 $\pm$ 1.91	41.9 $\pm$ 2.93	43.3 $\pm$ 2.33	39.9 $\pm$ 1.67
MCV ( $\times 10^{-15}$ L)	52.1 $\pm$ 1.65	51.7 $\pm$ 1.18	53.0 $\pm$ 1.03	52.0 $\pm$ 1.24	51.9 $\pm$ 1.33
MCH (pg)	18.9 $\pm$ 0.89	18.7 $\pm$ 0.67	19.2 $\pm$ 0.53	18.4 $\pm$ 0.68	19.6 $\pm$ 0.78
MCHC (%)	36.2 $\pm$ 0.79	36.2 $\pm$ 0.86	36.3 $\pm$ 0.83	35.4 $\pm$ 0.54	37.7 $\pm$ 0.64
Platelet count ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	1,094 $\pm$ 153.3	1,089 $\pm$ 132.0	1,011 $\pm$ 97.2	1,053 $\pm$ 125.7	1,008 $\pm$ 105.7
WBC = white blood cell; RBC = red blood cell; MCV = mean cell volume; MCH = mean corpuscular hemoglobin; MCHC = mean corpuscular hemoglobin concentration.					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Differentials obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB with a 28-d recovery					
Mean absolute WBC					
	Exposure (mg/kg-d)				
Observation	0 (control)	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
<b>Males</b>					
Polynuclear neutrophils ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	1.8 $\pm$ 1.07	1.7 $\pm$ 1.10	1.4 $\pm$ 0.36	1.5 $\pm$ 0.75	1.0 $\pm$ 0.29
Lymphocytes ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	7.1 $\pm$ 2.78	6.2 $\pm$ 2.16	6.4 $\pm$ 1.59	6.0 $\pm$ 2.16	6.6 $\pm$ 1.23
Monocytes ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	$\pm$ 0.09	$\pm$ 0.09	0.3 $\pm$ 0.17*	0.2 $\pm$ 0.18*	0.2 $\pm$ 0.10
Eosinophils ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	$\pm$ 0.06	0.1 $\pm$ 0.09	0.0 $\pm$ 0.07	0.0 $\pm$ 0.05	0.1 $\pm$ 0.07
<b>Females</b>					
Polynuclear neutrophils ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	0.8 $\pm$ 0.48	0.7 $\pm$ 0.32	0.9 $\pm$ 0.69	1.0 $\pm$ 0.39	0.7 $\pm$ 0.45
Lymphocytes ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	4.6 $\pm$ 1.93	4.7 $\pm$ 1.52	4.2 $\pm$ 1.52	4.4 $\pm$ 2.08	3.7 $\pm$ 1.34
Monocytes ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	$\pm$ 0.14	0.1 $\pm$ 0.10	0.1 $\pm$ 0.08	0.2 $\pm$ 0.17	0.2 $\pm$ 0.11
Eosinophils ( $\times 10^6/\text{mm}^3$ )	$\pm$ 0.07	0.1 $\pm$ 0.07	0.1 $\pm$ 0.09	0.1 $\pm$ 0.09	0.0 $\pm$ 0.07
* $p < 0.05$ .					
Weights obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB with 28-d recovery					
Mean absolute and relative kidney and liver weights					
	Exposure (mg/kg-d)				
Observation	0 (control)	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
<b>Males</b>					
Mean absolute (g)					
Kidney	3.92 $\pm$ 0.326	3.95 $\pm$ 0.262	4.10 $\pm$ 0.610	4.16 $\pm$ 0.464	4.05 $\pm$ 0.491
Liver	19.28 $\pm$ 1.843	8.91 $\pm$ 3.074	18.38 $\pm$ 2.885	20.90 $\pm$ 3.313	17.38 $\pm$ 2.222
Mean relative (g)					
Kidney	0.65 $\pm$ 0.052	0.68 $\pm$ 0.052	0.71 $\pm$ 0.082	0.74 $\pm$ 0.045*	0.68 $\pm$ 0.039
Liver	3.20 $\pm$ 0.158	3.23 $\pm$ 0.336	3.19 $\pm$ 0.402	3.71 $\pm$ 0.288*	2.93 $\pm$ 0.274
<b>Females</b>					
Mean absolute (g)					
Kidney	2.34 $\pm$ 0.314	2.23 $\pm$ 0.228	2.38 $\pm$ 0.116	2.51 $\pm$ 0.264	2.38 $\pm$ 0.248
Liver	9.44 $\pm$ 1.60	9.13 $\pm$ 0.77	10.05 $\pm$ 0.96	11.78 $\pm$ 1.44	9.71 $\pm$ 1.41

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

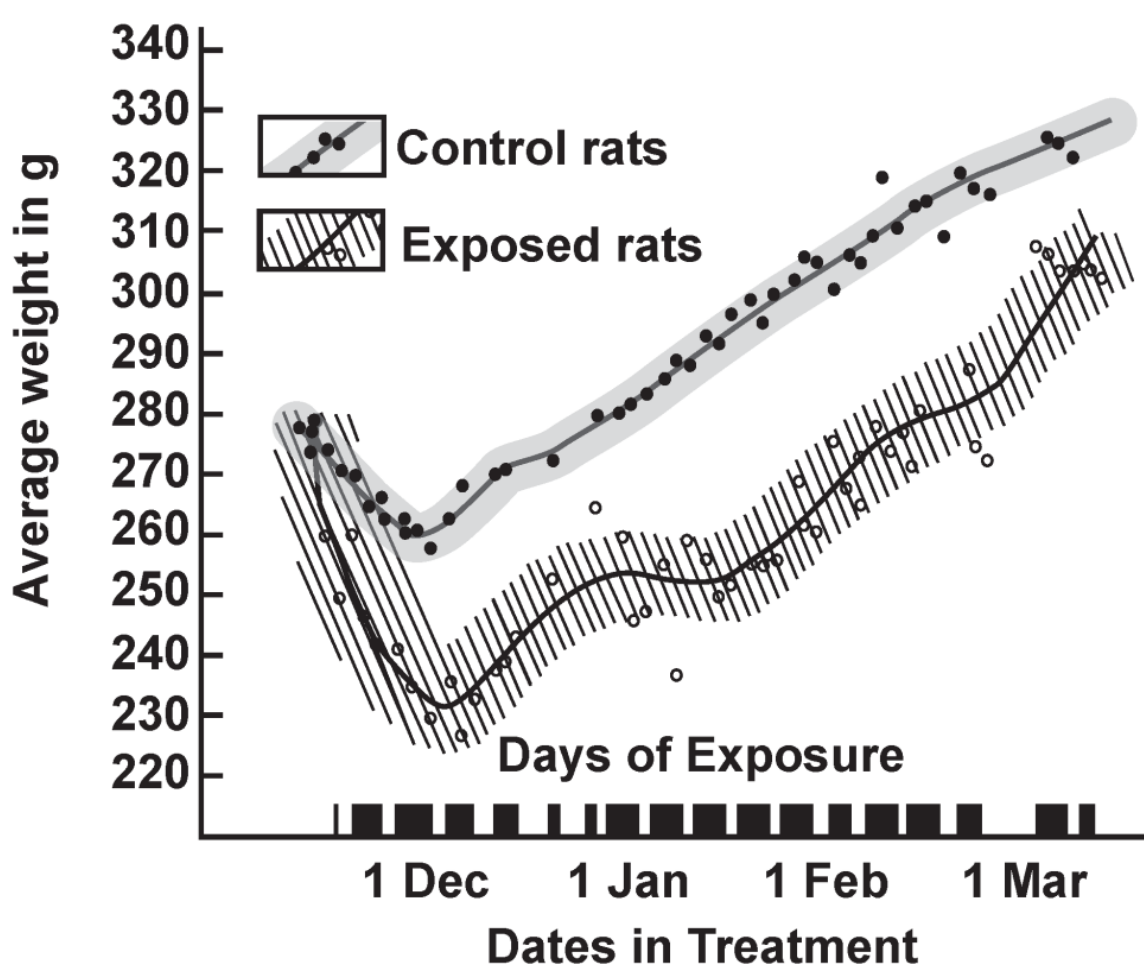
Mean relative (g)										
Kidney	0.76 ± 0.059	0.71 ± 0.088		0.76 ± 0.051		0.82 ± 0.059		0.71 ± 0.040		
Liver	3.04 ± 0.365	2.90 ± 0.330		3.19 ± 0.357		3.82 ± 0.223		2.88 ± 0.207		
*p < 0.05.										
Gross necropsy observations obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB with 28-d recovery (10 rats/sex/group)										
	Male (mg/kg-d)					Female (mg/kg-d)				
Observation	0 (vehicle controls)	50	200	600	600 (recovery rats)	0 (vehicle controls)	50	200	600	600 (recovery rats)
Mandibular lymph nodes										
Red/dark red	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Enlarged	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Liver										
Pale	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lung										
Enlarged	0	0	1 <sup>a</sup>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thymus										
Focus, red	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Mottled	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Adrenals										
Small, unilateral	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<sup>a</sup> Accidental death due to gavage error.										
Histopathological findings in the kidney and liver obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 90-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB										
	Male (mg/kg-d)					Female (mg/kg/-d)				
Observation	0	50	200	600		0	50	200	600	
Liver/chronic inflammation										
Incidence (%)	40	— <sup>a</sup>	—	30		50	—	—		50
Mean grade	0.40	—	—	0.30		0.50	—	—		0.60
Liver/necrosis										
Incidence (%)	0	—	—	0		10	—	—		0
Mean grade	0	—	—	0		0.10	—	—		0
Kidney mineralization										
Incidence (%)	0	—	—	0		70	—	—		70
Mean grade	0	—	—	0		0.80	—	—		0.70

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Kidney nephropathy										
Incidence (%)	30	–	–	10	0	–	–	0		
Mean grade	0.30	–	–	0.10	0	–	–	0		
ªDose group not examined.										
Histopathological findings in the liver of rats obtained at terminal sacrifice in a 14-d gavage study of 1,3,5-TMB										
	Male (mg/kg-d)ª					Female (mg/kg-d)ª				
Observation	0	50	200	600	Rª	0	50	200	600	Rª
Liver/chronic inflammation										
Incidence (%)	30	20	10	20	20	60	20	10	30	20
Mean grade	0.23	0.20	0.10	0.05	0.20	0.25	0.20	0.10	0.13	0.20
Liver/necrosis										
Incidence (%)	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Mean grade	0	0	0	0.15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Liver/centrilobular hypertrophy										
Incidence (%)	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0	30	0
Mean grade	0	0	0	1.00	0	0	0	0	0.30	0
ªTotal of 10 rats examined per group.										
ªRecovery rat (600 mg/kg body weight; rats sacrificed 14 d after the last treatment).										
NOAEL		LOAEL				LOAEL Effect				
600 mg/kg-d (NOAELHED = 105 mg/kg-d)		Not identified				Not applicable				
Comments: The highest dose was considered the no-observed-adverse-effect level (NOAEL), as the systemic effects were regarded as adaptive responses to chemical exposure and not relevant to human health hazard. A lowest-observed-adverse-effect level (LOAEL) could not be inferred from the study.										

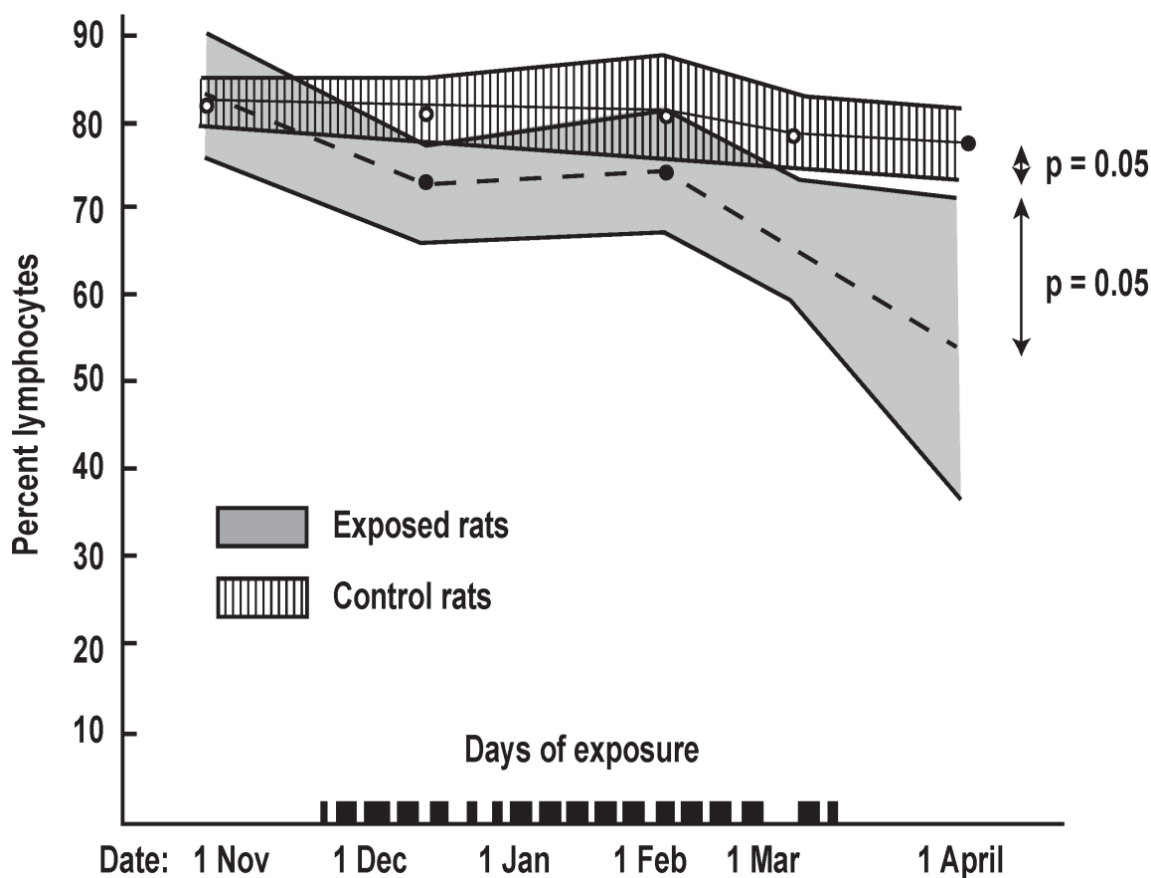
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Table C-18. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Bättig et al. \(1958\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Rats	M	8 rats/dose	Intraperitoneal (i.p.) injection	0, 200, 500, and 1,700 ppm (0, 984, 2,460, 8,364 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) TMB mixture	4 mo; 8 hrs/d, 5/wks
Additional study details <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mixture of 1,2,4-, 1,2,3-, and 1,3,5-TMB were tested for their effects on growth (as measured by body weight), behavior, food intake, RBC count, and hemoglobin concentration, and various histological parameters.</li> <li>Rat behavior was assessed qualitatively.</li> <li>TMB mixture (i.e., Fleet-X DV-99) was the same as assessed in the occupational exposure study.</li> <li>Study was translated from German to English prior to receipt by EPA.</li> </ul>					
<p>Effect of long-term exposure to TMB (about 1,700 ppm [8,364 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) on the growth of rats.</p>  <p>Open circles: average body weights of the exposed rats. Closed circles: average weights of the control rats. Hatched [and dotted] area[s]: double square deviation from the mean values plotted.</p> <p>Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag (<a href="#">Bättig et al., 1958</a>).</p>					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Behavior of the relative number of lymphocytes in TMB-exposed rats (exposure: about 1,700 ppm [8,364 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]).



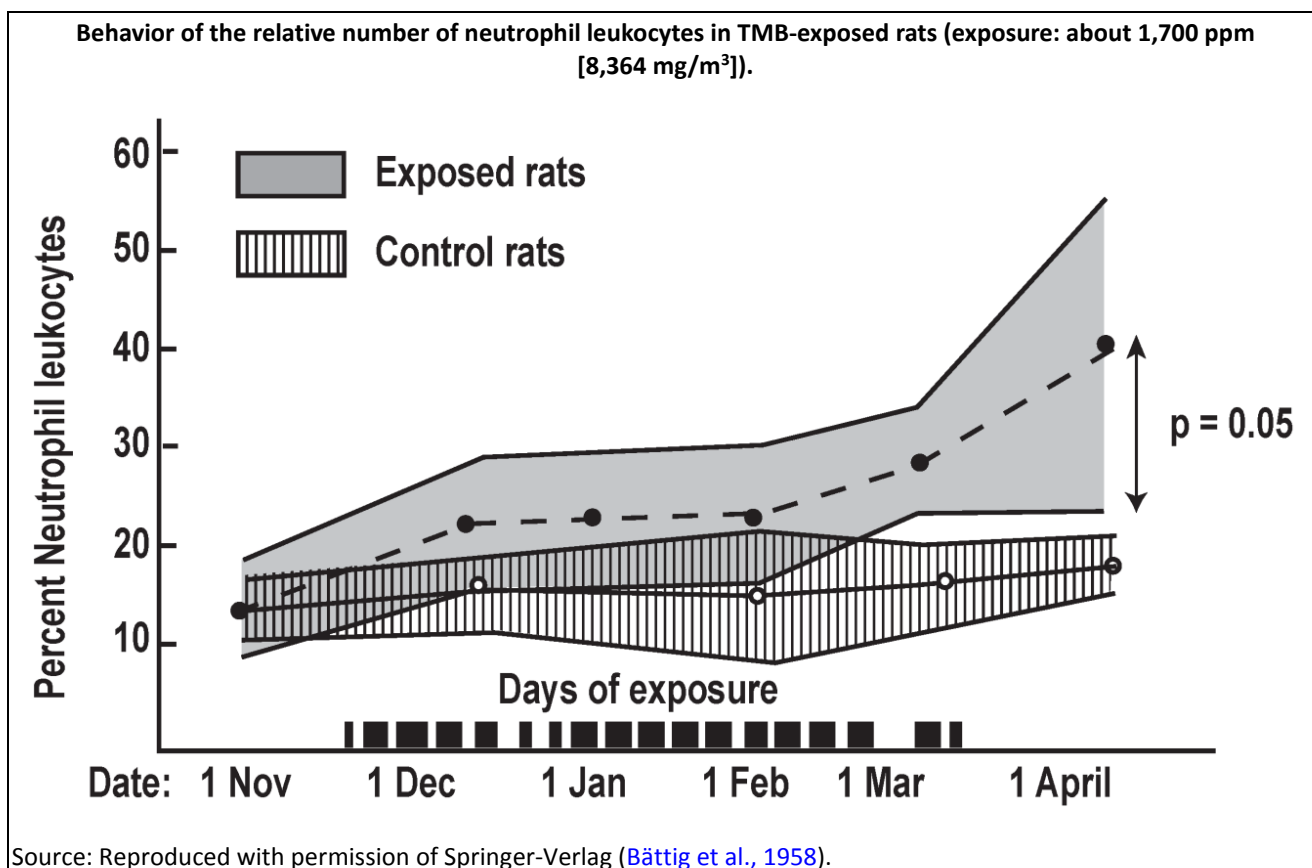
Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag ([Bättig et al., 1958](#)).

Average intake of food by the rats during experimental exposure to TMB mixture					
Month	Number of days exposed per month	Average daily food intake (g/100 g body weight per month)		Difference (absolute)	Difference (%)
		Control rats	Exposed rats		
November	5	5.32	2.42	-3.10	-56.13
December	14	5.46	5.07	-0.93	-7.16
January	20	5.19	6.16	+0.97	+15.60
February	17	4.80	5.46	+0.66	+12.09
March	15	4.73	4.80	+0.07	+1.46
April	13		4.32		

Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag ([Bättig et al., 1958](#)).



## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

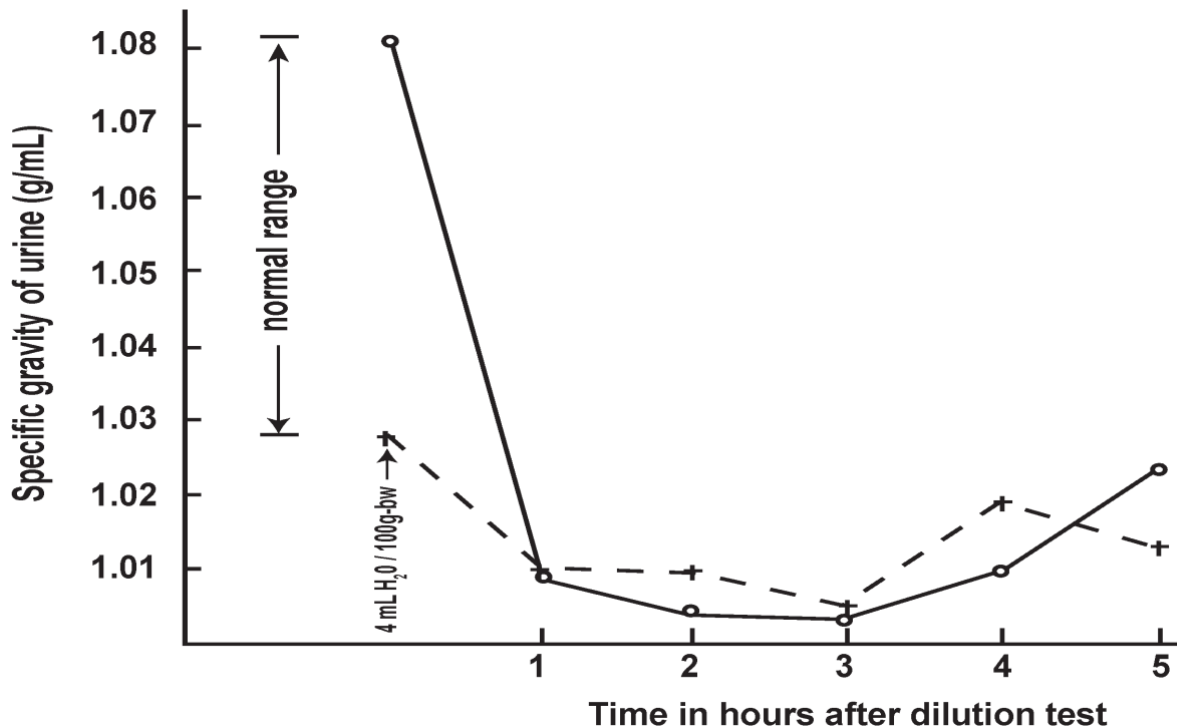


Average intake of drinking water by rats during experimental exposure to TMB					
Month	Number of days exposed per month	Average daily food intake (g/100 g body weight per month)		Difference (absolute)	Difference (%)
		Control rats	Exposed rats		
November	5	9.21	10.55	+1.34	+12.70
December	14	9.71	17.18	+7.47	+43.47
January	20	9.38	22.31	+12.93	+57.91
February	17	7.78	15.92	+8.14	+51.13
March	15	7.12	14.16	+7.04	+49.70
April	13		15.66		

Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag ([Bättig et al., 1958](#)).

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Specific gravity of spontaneous and dilution urines in TMB-exposed rats (exposure: about 1,700 ppm [8,364 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]).



Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag ([Bättig et al., 1958](#)).

Effect of TMB inhalation on urinary phenol excretion in the rat				
Urinary phenol fraction	Intensity of exposure (ppm)	Duration of exposure (days)	Duration of exposure, in days to significant increase of phenol excretion	Time in days to normalization of phenol excretion after discontinuation of exposure
Total	1,700	15	4	10
Free	1,700	15	8	3
Bound	1,700	15	4	9
Total	500	21	8	6
Free	500	21	8	1
Bound	500	21	21	1
Total	200	10	10	1
Free	200	10	10	1
Bound	200	10	Not increased	—

Source: Reproduced with permission of Springer-Verlag ([Bättig et al., 1958](#)).

### Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Increased urinary excretion of free and total phenols	0 ppm	200 ppm (984 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Comments:</b> <a href="#">Battig et al. (1956)</a> is published in German. However, <a href="#">Bättig et al. (1958)</a> presents an English-translation of the results originally presented in <a href="#">Battig et al. (1956)</a> . As such, a separate study summary table is not provided for <a href="#">Battig et al. (1956)</a> . Four of the eight rats in the long-term inhalation experiment died and were subsequently replaced within the first 2 wks. Behavioral changes were assessed qualitatively. The substance to which rats were exposed was comprised of a mixture of all three TMB structural isomers and may have also contained methylethylbenzene structural isomers. Authors make a statement implying that dose was not consistent throughout experiment.		

1 Table C-19. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Carrillo et al. \(2014\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M & F	18 males and 18 females by weight/dose group	Inhalation	2,000, 4,000, or 8,000 mg/m <sup>3</sup> white spirit	6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 13 wks
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats were exposed to nominal concentrations of 2,000, 4,000, or 8,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk, for a total of 13 wks.</li> <li>Rats were distributed into groups by weight between 10 and 13 wks of age.</li> <li>All rats survived treatment.</li> <li>Terminal body weights of high-exposure group animals were significantly below control values.</li> <li>Clinical and hematological observations were statistically different, were small, and were within normal physiological limits.</li> <li>The NOAEL was 4,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>					
Approximate hydrocarbon composition of white spirit over the past 40 yrs in terms of carbon number and hydrocarbon constituents: normal and n- and iso-paraffins (naphthenics iso-alkanes, cyclo-alkanes) and aromatics.					
Hydrocarbon constituents by carbon number	Pre-1980		Post-1980		
	Kuwait sample	Arabian light sample	EU sample 1982	EU sample 1985	EU sample 2011
Paraffins (n + iso)	Approximate constituent concentrations in % w/w				
C8	≤0.5	≤0.5	≤0.5	≤0.5	–
C9	13	13	10	12	7
C10	33	33	24	24	20
C11	13	12	16	15	17
C12	2	2	3	3	3
C13	–	–	–	–	≤0.1
Sum P	61	60	53	54	47
Naphthenes					
C8	≤0.5	≤0.5	≤0.5	≤0.5	≤0.1
C9	5	5	7	8	8
C10	8	8	11	10	14
C11	4	4	8	7	10
C12	1	1	2	2	2
Sum N	18	18	28	27	34
Aromatics					
C8	1	1	1	2	≤1
C9	11	11	9	9	8
C10	6	6	7	6	6
C11	2	2	3	2	3
C12	–	–	–	–	≤1
Sum A	20	20	20	19	18

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Carbon number range					
C7	≤0.1	≤0.1	–	–	–
C8	2	2	2	3	≤0.1
C9	29	30	26	29	23
C10	48	48	41	40	40
C11	18	18	26	23	31
C12	3	3	5	4	5
C13	≤1	≤1	≤1	≤1	≤0.1
*Predominantly branched mono-aromatics.					
Physical and chemical properties of white spirit used in this study					
Property	White spirit		Hydrocarbons, C9-C14 (2–25% aromatics)		
Physical state at 20°C and 1,013 hPa	Clear colorless liquid with pungent odor		Clear colorless liquid with pungent odor		
Melting/freezing point (°C)	<–15 °C		<–20 (ASTM 5950)		
Boiling range (°C)	150–200 (ASTM D1078)		110–270 (ASTM D86)		
Relative density (g/cm³) at 15°C)	0.78 (ASTM D4052)		0.70–0.87 (ISO 12185)		
Vapor pressure (kPa @ 20°C)	0.37		0.02–0.5		
Flash point (°C)	44 (IP 170)		>23 (ASTM D56)		
Flammability (% v/v)	0.7		0.6–0.7		
Self-ignition temperature (°C)	293 (ASTM E659)		>200		
Surface tension (mN/m)	26 (Du Novy ring)		22–28 (Wilhelmy plate method)		
Viscosity (mm²/s)	1.1 (ASTM D445)		0.7–3.5		
Odor threshold (mg/m³)	5–158 mg/m³		5–158 mg/m³		
Additional descriptors for the white spirit test sample					
Parameter	Value				
Specific gravity (15.6/15.6°C)	0.777				
Color (Saybolt)	+30				
Aniline point (°C)	56				
Total sulfur (% w/w)	<0.0005				
Kauri-butanol value	37				
Copper corrosion	No. 1 strip				
Molecular weight (g/mol)	~140				
Hydrocarbon constituents of white spirit test sample					
Constituent	Carbon range (at >5%)		Content (% w/w)		
Paraffins (n- + iso)	C9–C11		56.0		
Naphthenes	C9–C11		25.0		
Aromatics	C9–C10		19.0		
*Predominantly branched mono-aromatics.					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Overall weekly mean vapor concentrations throughout the experimental period					
Nominal concentration		Measured concentrations			
(mg/m³)		(mg/m³)		ppm (v/v)	
8,000		7,500 ± 395		1,293 ± 68	
4,000		4,000 ± 119		690 ± 21	
2,000		2,000 ± 52		345 ± 9	
Mean clinical chemistry values after 13-wk exposure to white spirit					
	Exposure concentration (mg/m³)				
Observation	Control	2,000	4,000	7,500	SD of single observation
Males					
Protein (g/L)	66.1	64.7	65.9	65.2	2.77
Urea (mm/L)	8.4	8.5	8.4	8.2	0.94
AP (IU)	76	75	79	91**	13.8
ALT (IU)	25	29	27	30	12.0
AST (IU)	40	41	44	46*	8.6
Na (mm/L)	146	147	146	147	1.2
K (mm/L)	5.5	5.7	6.1	5.9	0.73
Cl (mm/L)	103	102	101	101	2.67
Albumin (g/L)	36.5	36.8	35.7	37.3	2.64
Bilirubin (mm/L)	2.83	3.06	3.28	3.06	0.76 <sup>a</sup>
Glucose (mm/L)	3.26	n.d.	3.40	3.82	0.82 <sup>a</sup>
Females					
Protein (g/L)	65.6	67.7	69.2**	68.7**	3.45
Urea (mm/L)	10.1	9.7	9.7	9.3	1.89 <sup>a</sup>
AP (IU)	54	58	60	71**	15.2
ALT (IU)	22	20	23	22	6.7
AST (IU)	43	39	42	42	12.4
Na (mm/L)	146	146	146	146	2.0 <sup>c</sup>
K (mm/L)	5.5	5.0	5.9	5.9	1.11 <sup>c</sup>
Cl (mm/L)	105	106	105	105	2.0
Albumin (g/L)	39.7	40.3	41.4	42.3*	3.03
Bilirubin (mm/L)	3.28	3.25	3.56	3.33	0.47
Glucose (mm/L)	4.05	n.d.	3.84	3.87	0.20
* <i>p</i> < 0.05.					
** <i>p</i> < 0.01.					
<sup>a</sup> Cage effect.					
n.d. = not determined.					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mean hematology values of male rats after 13-wk exposure to white spirit					
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m³)				SD of single observation
	Control	2,000	4,000	7,500	
Hemoglobin (g/100 mL)	15.2	14.9	14.5	14.6	1.00 <sup>a</sup>
PCV (%)	42.4	41.2*	40.6**	40.3**	1.67
RBCs (×10 <sup>6</sup> /cmm)	8.28	7.94*	7.76**	7.70**	0.37 <sup>a</sup>
WBCs (×10 <sup>3</sup> /cmm)	4.2	4.5	5.7	5.6	1.30 <sup>a</sup>
MCV (μ <sup>3</sup> )	50.9	52.1*	52.4*	52.0*	1.54
MCH (pg)	18	19*	19*	19*	0.6
MCHC (g/100 mL)	36	36	36	36	0.5
Prothombin time (sec)	16.0	16.0	16.0	16.2	0.62
KCCT (sec)	21.5	21.7	20.2	20.6	2.56
* <i>p</i> < 0.05.					
** <i>p</i> < 0.01.					
<sup>a</sup> Cage effect.					
PCV = packed cell volume; pg = picogram; KCCT = kaolin-cephalin coagulation time.					
Organ weights after 13-wk exposure to white spirit					
	Exposure concentration (mg/m³)				SD of a single observation
Observation	Control	2,000	4,000	7,500	
Males					
Absolute organ weights (g)					
Kidney	2.84	3.25**	3.31**	3.40**	0.335
Liver	15.82	16.48	17.11	17.11	1.892
Spleen	0.89	0.94	1.10*	0.97*	0.22
Heart	1.20	1.27	1.25	1.23	0.107
Organ weights adjusted for terminal body weights					
Kidney	2.74	3.20**	3.33**	3.53**	0.27
Liver	15.12	16.17	17.25**	17.98**	1.64 <sup>a</sup>
Spleen	0.86	0.93	1.11**	1.00**	0.21
Heart	1.17	1.25	1.26	1.28*	1.13 <sup>a</sup>
Females					
Absolute organ weights					
Kidney	1.80	1.82	1.90*	1.87*	0.130
Liver	8.69	9.33*	9.91**	10.57**	0.775
Spleen	0.65	0.65	0.67	0.67	0.078
Heart	0.80	0.82	0.81	0.80	0.05

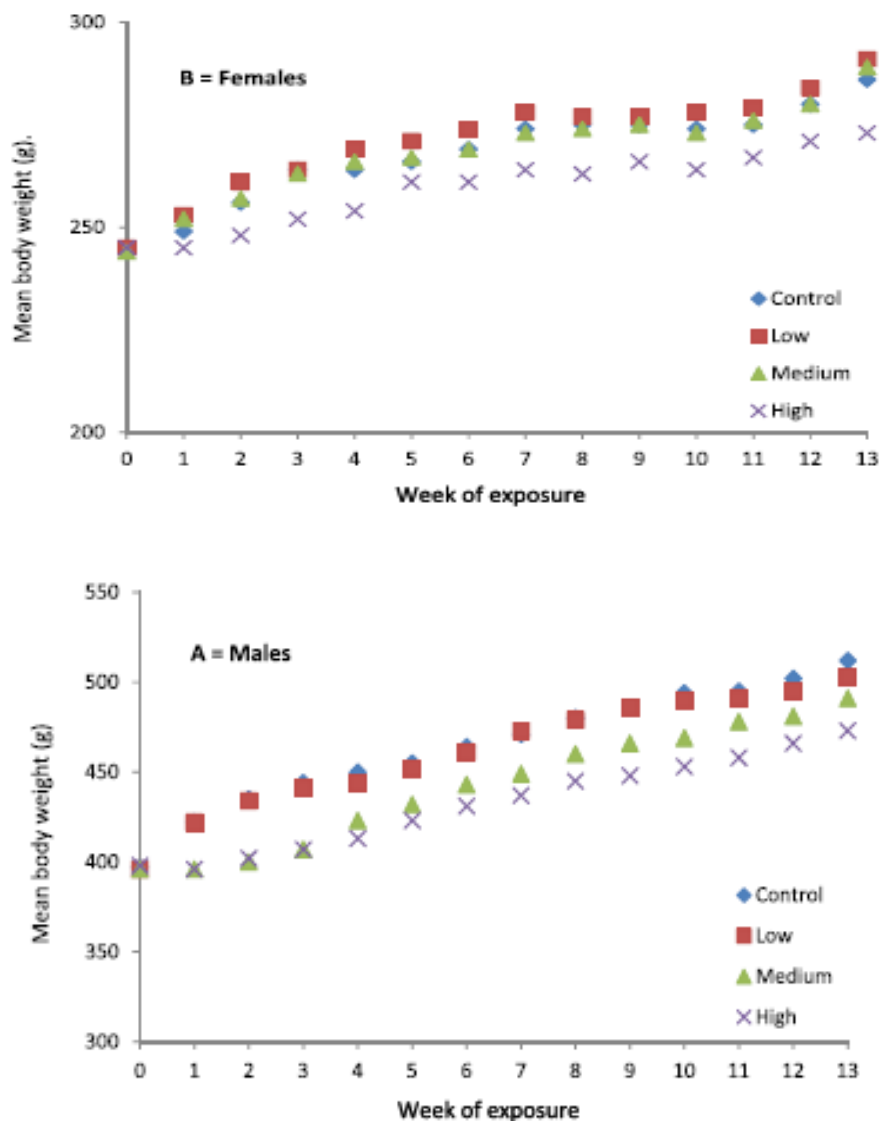
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Organ weights adjusted for terminal body weights						
Kidney	1.79	1.80	1.90*	1.90*	0.12	
Liver	8.67	9.16*	9.87**	10.79**	0.65	
Spleen	0.65	0.64	0.67	0.69	0.07	
Heart	0.80	0.81	0.81	0.81	0.02	
* <i>p</i> < 0.05.						
** <i>p</i> < 0.01.						
<sup>a</sup> Cage effect.						
Statistically significant toxicological findings after 13-wk exposure to white spirit						
	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )					
	Males			Females		
Observation	2,000	4,000	7,500	2,000	4,000	7,500
Body weight gain	–	–	D	–	–	D
Water intake	–	–	I	–	–	I
Clinical chemistry						
AP	–	–	I	–	–	I
AST	–	–	I	–	–	
Albumin	–	–	–	–	–	I
Protein	–	–	–	–	I	I
Hematology						
PCV	D	D	D	–	–	–
RBC	D	D	D	–	–	–
MCV	I	I	I	–	–	I
MCH	I	I	I	–	–	–
WBC	–	–	–	–	I	I
Relative organ weights						
Kidney	I	I	I	–	I	I
Liver	–	I	I	I	I	I
Spleen	–	I	I	–	–	–
Heart	–	–	I	–	–	–
Kidney						
Hyaline droplets	I	I	I	NE	–	–
Tubular basophilia	I	I	I	NE	–	–
Spleen						
Extramedullary hematopoiesis	NE	I	I	NE	–	I
Hemosiderin deposition	NE	I	I	NE	–	I
I = increased compared to control; D = decreased compared to control; NE = not examined.						



## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mean body weights of male (A) and female (B) rats at each of 13 wks of exposure; exposure levels were low (2,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), medium (4,000 mg/m<sup>3</sup>), and high (7,500 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).



Source: [Carrillo et al. \(2014\)](#).

NOAEL	LOAEL	LOAEL effect
4,000 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	7,500 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	Lethargy, reduced weight in males and females, increased male and female AP, male AST, and female albumin, increased male and female kidney weights, increased female liver weight, increased male spleen, liver, and heart weights, increased male erythropoetic activity, increased female deposition of hemosiderin

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Table C-20. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Clark et al. \(1989\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M & F	50 males/group 50 females/group	Inhalation	0, 450, 900, or 1,800 mg/m <sup>3</sup> SHELLSOL A/ SOLVESSO 100 (1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB)	6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk, 12 mo
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats were exposed by inhalation to 50:50 SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100, a mixture containing 1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 12 mo.</li> <li>Rats were sorted into two groups of 50 animals by sex.</li> <li>Animals were placed into stainless steel chambers with volumes of at least 8 m<sup>3</sup> with ventilation of air drawn from the laboratory by means of a fan to remove particulate and organic vapor impurities.</li> <li>Two male and two female control animals, and two male medium exposure animals died.</li> <li>Seven rats were removed during the exposure period and 30 rats were removed during the recovery period due to sore hocks.</li> <li>No apparent biological significance of hematological changes were seen in males; however, they were statistically significant. Mean cell hemoglobin concentration was increased in males up 2%.</li> <li>Animals tested at 1,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> had increased kidney and liver weights at 6 and 12 mo, but were considered to be physiological adaptive responses.</li> <li>Male rats at the 1,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> appeared to be more aggressive/irritable.</li> <li>The NOAEL was 0 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.</li> </ul>					
Target concentrations and actual concentrations expressed as the overall means of the daily atmosphere analyses					
Exposure group	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	Target	Actual			SD
		Mean			
Control	0	0			–
Low	450	470			29
Medium	900	970			70
High	1,800	1,830			130

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**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

Inhalation exposure to SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )										
Mean hematological values of cardiac blood										
Observation	Male					Female				
	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation
Hemoglobin (g/100 mL)	14.4	14.6	13.9	14.5	0.80	14.0	14.0	13.9	14.0	0.71
HCT (%)	39.7	40.3	38.4	39.9	2.14	39.1	38.6	38.3	38.4	1.91
RBCs (×10 <sup>6</sup> /cmm)	7.49	7.51	7.06	7.52	0.449	6.86	6.78	6.71	6.81	0.356
WBCs (×10 <sup>3</sup> /cmm)	3.3	3.2	3.6	4.2	1.07	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.3	0.61
MCV (μm <sup>3</sup> )	53	54	55	53	1.7	57	57	57	56	1.1
MCH (pg)	19.5	19.7	20.0	19.6	0.47	21.1	21.0	21.0	20.9	0.43
MCHC (g/100 mL)	36.4	36.3	36.3	36.4	0.44	36.6	36.4	36.6	36.6	0.42
Prothombin time (sec)	14.0	14.5	14.0	14.3	0.63	14.0	14.0	14.0	14.0	0.58
KCCT (sec)	20.8	21.1	20.3	19.7	2.35	22.4	21.5	22.0	22.5	2.47
Reticulocytes (%)	5.68	–	–	4.31	2.111	3.30	–	–	3.66	0.951
Osmotic fragility <sup>a</sup>										
0% hemolysis	0.62	0.64	0.63	0.65	0.038	0.65	0.63	0.62	0.64	0.039
50% hemolysis	0.42	0.40*	0.40*	0.40*	0.015	0.44	0.42	0.41	0.44	0.026
100% hemolysis	0.29	0.26	0.27	0.26	0.027	0.30	0.28	0.29	0.30	0.030
<sup>a</sup> Values reported are % saline at which 0, 50, or 100% hemolysis occurred.										
Inhalation exposure to SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )										
Mean differential leucocyte values of cardiac blood mg/m <sup>3</sup>										
Observation	Male					Female				
	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation
WBCs (×10 <sup>3</sup> /cmm)	3.3	3.2	3.6	4.2	1.07	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.3	0.60
Polymorph neutrophils (%)	32	27	39	35	9.4	36	45	40	38	12.1
Lymphocytes (%)	63	67	59	62	8.8	59	51	54	56	11.3
Monocytes (%)	3	3	2	3	1.6	3	3	4	3	2.3
Eosinophils (%)	3	3	1	1	1.7	2	2	2	3	1.7
Absolute value neutrophils (×10 <sup>3</sup> /cmm)	1.1	0.9	1.5	1.3	0.63	0.8	1.0	0.8	0.9	0.38
Absolute value lymphocytes (×10 <sup>3</sup> /cmm)	2.1	2.2	2.0	2.7*	0.62	1.4	1.1	1.0	1.3	0.47

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Inhalation exposure to SHELLSOL A/SOLVESCO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )										
Mean clinical chemistry values of cardiac blood mg/m <sup>3</sup>										
	Male					Female				
Observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation
Protein (g/L)	63	64	64	64	1.9	66	69	68	66	3.7
Urea (mm/L)	8.6	8.6	8.8	9.0	1.13	8.7	8.4	8.4	9.0	1.63
Uric acid (mm/L)	0.14	0.11	0.11	0.13	0.068	0.11	0.11	0.08	0.09	0.049
AP (IU)	93	82	81	82	16.7	58	55	52	48	14.2
AST (IU)	65	57	45	60	24.1	68	58	66	78	37.8
ALT (IU)	56	49	44	52	21.5	61	48	62	66	23.7
Creatinine (μm/L)	68	68	73	74*	6.5	64	60	63	63	5.9
Billrubin (μm/L)	2	2	2	1	1.4	2	2	2	2	0.6
Na <sup>+</sup> (mm/L)	146	146	146	146	0.7	146	146	147	148**	1.4
K <sup>+</sup> (mm/L)	5.5	5.9	5.5	5.5	0.71	5.9	5.4	5.4	5.6	0.99
Cl <sup>-</sup> (mm/L)	107	105	105	105	1.8	104	105	105	105	1.9
Ca <sup>++</sup> (mm/L)	2.67	2.70	2.67	2.70	0.089	2.66	2.63	2.64	2.61	0.127
Inorganic P (mm/L)	1.89	1.45	1.40	1.51	0.168	1.46	1.29	1.46	1.45	0.198
Glucose (mm/L)	3.5	3.4	3.5	3.4	0.66	3.7	3.5	3.7	3.3	0.63
Albumin (%)	64.4	60.7	63.5	61.3	3.57	55.9	56.5	53.0	51.5*	4.18
* <i>p</i> < 0.05 = significance of the difference between treatment and control means.										
** <i>p</i> < 0.01.										
Inhalation exposure to SHELLSOL A/SOLVESCO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )										
Mean organ weights (g)										
	Male					Female				
Observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation	0	450	900	1,800	SD of a single observation
Initial body weight	280	280	283	280	11.2	181	183	182	183	5.9
Brain	2.29	2.27	2.28	2.29	0.065	2.05	2.04	2.02	2.08	0.059
Heart	1.48	1.54	1.50	1.52	0.193	1.06	1.06	1.06	1.08	0.091
Liver	21.23 <sup>+</sup>	20.23 <sup>+</sup>	21.62 <sup>+</sup>	23.51**	2.447	12.89	12.40	12.63	13.20	1.232
Spleen	1.36	1.27	1.34	1.32	0.216	0.87	0.80	0.84	0.86	0.125
Kidneys	3.99	3.78	3.97	4.38*	0.488	2.51 <sup>+</sup>	2.47 <sup>+</sup>	2.49 <sup>+</sup>	2.49 <sup>+</sup>	0.214
Testes	3.79	3.76	3.77	3.78	0.238	—	—	—	—	—
*Adjusted for initial body weight.										
* <i>p</i> < 0.05 = Significance of the difference between treatment and control means.										

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Inhalation exposure to SHELLSOL A/SOLVesso 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )								
Summary of gross necropsy findings of major organs								
	Male				Female			
Observation	0	450	900	1,800	0	450	900	1,800
<b>Liver</b>								
Exaggerated lobular pattern	2	6	4	3	2	1	0	2
Red or haemorrhagic areas	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Enlarged	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Kidneys</b>								
Hydronephrosis	1	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Granular surface	3	6	1	5	4	0	0	3
Enlarged	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Patchy or pale areas	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1
Cyst	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	2
<b>Lungs</b>								
Patchy or pale areas	3	9	5	8	3	2	9	3
Red or haemorrhagic areas	3	3	1	4	1	0	0	4
<b>Spleen</b>								
Patchy or pale areas	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Granular surface	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
Enlarged	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Uterus</b>								
Dilated	–	–	–	–	0	3	1	0
Mass	–	–	–	–	0	0	0	1
<b>Gonads</b>								
Cyst	0	0	0	0	4	6	5	5
Values are numbers of rats/group of 25 males, 25 females showing the lesion.								

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Inhalation of SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100 after 6 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) mg/m <sup>3</sup>								
	Incidence and severity of histopathological lesions of kidney and lung							
Observation	Male				Female			
	0	450	900	1,800	0	450	900	1,800
<b>Kidney nephrosis</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	7	8	10	5	10	10		10
Increased (grades 1–5)	3	2	0	5	0	0	0	0
Mean grade	0.4	0.4	0	0.6	0	0	0	0
<b>Kidney mineralisation</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	10	10	10	10	1	2	1	1
Increased (grades 1–5)	0	0	0	0	9	8	9	9
Mean grade	0	0	0	0	0.8	2.1	2.3	2.4
<b>Pulmonary macrophage infiltration</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	6	8	5	5	8	5	7	5
Increased (grades 1–5)	4	2	5	5	2	5	3	5
Mean grade	0.6	0.4	1.1	1.0	0.4	0.9	0.7	0.8
<b>Alveolar wall thickening</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	5	5	5	2	4	0	4	4
Increased (grades 1–5)	5	5	5	8	6	10	6	6
Mean grade	0.9	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.2	2.2	1.3	1.4
Values are numbers of rats/group of 10 males, 10 females affected at each grade.								
Inhalation of SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )								
	Incidence and severity of histopathological lesions of the kidney and lung							
	Male				Female			
Observation	0	450	900	1,800	0	450	900	1,800
<b>Kidney nephrosis</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	1	3	1	1	14	8	10	7
Increased (grades 1–5)	23	22	24	24	10	16	14	17
Mean grade	2.0	1.9	2.2	2.5	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.4
<b>Kidney mineralisation</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	24	25	25	25	1	1	2	1
Increased (grades 1–5)	0	0	0	0	23	23	22	23
Mean grade	0	0	0	0	2.0	2.2	1.8	2.0

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

<b>Pulmonary macrophage infiltration</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	18	9	9	11	12	12	20	15
Increased (grades 1–5)	7	16	16	14	12	12	4	9
Mean grade	0.5	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.1	1.1	0.4	0.8
<b>Alveolar wall thickening</b>								
Normal (grade 0)	9	7	8	6	4	5	11	7
Increased (grades 1–5)	16	18	17	19	20	19	13	17
Mean grade	1.3	1.6	1.5	1.6	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.6
Values are numbers of rats/groups of 25 males, 24 females affected at each grade (1 control male kidney autolysed).								
<b>Inhalation of SHELLSOL A/SOLVESSO 100 after 12 mo (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB) (mg/m<sup>3</sup>)</b>								
	<b>Incidence of neoplasia</b>							
<b>Observation</b>	<b>Male</b>				<b>Female</b>			
	<b>0</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,800</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>450</b>	<b>900</b>	<b>1,800</b>
Pituitary	2	0	0	0	7	7	4	3
Spleen	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Uterus	-	-	-	-	0	0	0	1
Brain	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Values are numbers of rats/group of 25 males, 24 females with a tumor.								
<b>NOAEL</b>		<b>LOAEL</b>				<b>LOAEL Effects</b>		
0 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		450 mg/m <sup>3</sup>				Male osmotic fragility, liver and kidney lesions		

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1 Table C-21. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Douglas et al. \(1993\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats	Male	20 rats/dose group	Inhalation	0, 100, 500, or 1,500 ppm High-Flash Aromatic Naphtha (HFAN)	6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk, for 90 d
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rats were exposed to a mixture of 0, 100, 500 or 1,500 ppm HFAN (1,3,5- TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB) for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 90 d in 16 m<sup>3</sup> glass and stainless steel chambers.</li><li>• Rats were randomly divided into four equal weight groups of 20 animals.</li><li>• Animals were sacrificed and tissues removed for histopathological examination after 13 wks.</li><li>• Exposure level measurements were taken on an hourly basis and accuracy confirmed by vapor standards.</li><li>• Increases in motor activity in the 100 and 1,500 ppm group appear to be aberrant and are not considered to have biological significance.</li><li>• Compared to the control group, the 1,500 ppm dose group gained 12% less weight.</li><li>• No signs of neurotoxicity were seen in any evaluation.</li><li>• The NOAEL was 100 ppm.</li></ul>					
Composition of HFAN					
Compound			Weight percent		
o-Xylene			3.20		
Cumene			2.74		
n-Propylbenzene			3.97		
4-Ethyltoluene			7.05		
3-Ethyltoluene			15.1		
2-Ethyltoluene			5.44		
1,3,5-TMB			8.37		
1,2,4-TMB			40.5		
1,2,3-TMB			6.18		
≥C10s			6.19		
Total			98.74		
Mean chamber concentrations (ppm)					
Target concentrations		Nominal concentrations mean (SD)		Actual concentrations mean (SD)	
0		—		—	
100		94 (1.0)		101 (2.5)	
500		481 (5.1)		432 (2.8)	
1,500		1,334 (17)		1,320 (13)	



## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Average (SD) body weights (g) of male rats <sup>a</sup>								
Study wk	HFAN exposure level (ppm)							
	0	100	500	1,500				
0	280 (15)	283 (13)	280 (13)	281 (13)				
1	316 (18)	322 (16)	313 (15)	301 (17)*				
2	346 (23)	352 (21)	338 (18)	314 (21)**				
3	373 (27)	281 (23)	356 (19)	331 (22)**				
4	401 (32)	406 (30)	374 (20)*	347 (26)**				
5	414 (33)	424 (34)	392 (24)	361 (25)**				
6	424 (34)	441 (33)	413 (25)	367 (32)**				
7	436 (39)	455 (42)	426 (26)	383 (29)**				
8	448 (38)	469 (39)	437 (28)	390 (30)**				
9	459 (37)	484 (41)	449 (40)	401 (32)**				
10	462 (38)	484 (46)	455 (35)	410 (30)**				
11	467 (39)	491 (54)	469 (32)	412 (32)**				
12	476 (41)	504 (55)	481 (36)	418 (32)**				
13	483 (42)	508 (56)	491 (37)	425 (34)**				
<sup>a</sup> 20 animals per group.								
*Significantly different from control; $p \leq 0.05$ .								
**Significantly different from control; $p \leq 0.01$ .								
Average motor activity counts (SD) of male rats <sup>a</sup>								
Study wk	Time interval (min)	HFAN concentration (ppm)	Horizontal activity (H)		Vertical activity (V)		Total activity (H + V)	
5	0–10	0	1,548	(1,163)	269	(243)	1,818	(1,391)
		100	1,511	(856)	287	(279)	1,298	(1,106)
		500	1,701	(1,143)	229	(156)	1,930	(1,287)
		1,500	1,395	(699)	219	(157)	1,614	(819)
	10–20	0	882	(800)	124	(144)	1,006	(931)
		100	1,142	(569)	204	(148)*	1,346	(689)
		500	1,202	(772)	178	(156)	1,381	(915)
		1,500	862	(546)	130	(102)	992	(640)
	20–30	0	732	(664)	116	(113)	848	(766)
		100	690	(497)	138	(117)	829	(579)
		500	772	(485)	100	(98)	872	(575)
		1,500	555	(357)	72	(57)	626	(407)
9	0–10	0	1,327	(1,018)	227	(197)	1,554	(1,192)
		100	996	(811)	133	(125)	1,129	(917)
		500	1,454	(1,051)	235	(236)	1,689	(1,274)
		1,500	1,624	(1,027)	249	(195)	1,872	(1,205)

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	10–20	0	589	(614)	105	(152)	694	(754)
		100	758	(653)	115	(154)	873	(783)
		500	647	(735)	104	(158)	752	(887)
		1,500	1,138	(746)*	165	(153)	1,303	(887)*
	20–30	0	458	(487)	85	(113)	543	(593)
		100	517	(584)	83	(140)	600	(719)
		500	463	(516)	79	(116)	542	(627)
		1,500	556	(455)	91	(108)	646	(547)
13	0–10	0	1,618	(1,053)	270	(217)	1,889	(1,252)
		100	1,356	(1,071)	260	(277)	1,616	(1,320)
		500	1,579	(950)	317	(271)	1,895	(1,193)
		1,500	1,882	(773)	288	(188)	2,170	(925)
	10–20	0	814	(807)	140	(173)	955	(961)
		100	634	(637)	165	(202)	808	(832)
		500	887	(798)	198	(198)	1,085	(966)
		1,500	945	(678)	188	(175)	1,133	(836)
	20–30	0	518	(500)	85	(96)	603	(586)
		100	552	(654)	116	(170)	667	(787)
		500	593	(429)	110	(109)	703	(496)
		1,500	511	(314)	77	(62)	588	(366)

<sup>a</sup>Animal group size was between 18 and 20.

\*Significantly different from control;  $p \leq 0.05$ .

Average total motor activity counts (SD) of male rats								
Study wk	Time interval (min)	HFAN concentration (ppm)	Horizontal activity (H)		Vertical activity (V)		Total activity (H + V)	
5	0–30	0	3,162	(2,332)	509	(457)	3,671	(2,759)
		100	3,343	(1,533)	629	(462)	3,972	(1,923)
		500	3,675	(1,849)	507	(329)	4,182	(2,152)
		1,500	2,812	(1,269)	421	(254)	3,233	(1,478)
9		0	2,467	(1,960)	437	(436)	2,903	(2,362)
		100	2,271	(1,843)	331	(374)	2,602	(2,191)
		500	2,646	(2,078)	433	(465)	3,079	(2,524)
		1,500	3,364	(1,663)	515	(376)	3,879	(2,004)
13		0	2,950	(1,813)	496	(363)	3,446	(2,142)
		100	2,605	(2,173)	519	(606)	3,152	(2,729)
		500	3,136	(1,859)	641	(509)	3,777	(2,295)
		1,500	3,338	(1,315)	553	(346)	3,891	(1,619)

<sup>a</sup>Animal group size between 18 and 20.

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Average (SD) grip strength (g) of male rats									
Exposure period	Limb tested	HFAN exposure level (ppm) 0		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 100		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 500		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 1,500	
0	Forelimb	558	(118)	538	(151)	586	(130)	592	(161)
5	Forelimb	580	(117)	622	(176)	578	(167)	590	(157)
9	Forelimb	385	(117)	433	(140)	492	(173)	448	(124)
13	Forelimb	440	136)	458	(166)	498	(148)	457	(148)
0	Forelimb	399	(63)	421	(82)	394	(80)	424	(90)
5	Forelimb	255	(63)	269	(55)	250	(44)	248	(55)
9	Forelimb	404	(89)	471	(120)	393	(107)	401	(116)
13	Forelimb	423	(85)	455	(143)	415	(70)	429	(114)
ª20 animals per group.									
Average (SD) auditory startle response of male rats									
Exposure period (wks)	Parameter measured (msec or kg)	HFAN exposure level (ppm) 0		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 100		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 500		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 1,500	
0	Latency	27	(4.9)	28	(6.2)	28	(6.2)	26	(6.3)
5	Latency	23	(5.9)	24	(6.1)	26	(6.1)	25	(3.3)
9	Latency	23	(6.9)	23	(5.1)	26	(5.1)	25	(4.9)
13	Latency	23	(4.1)	24	(4.6)	25	(4.6)	23	(3.6)
0	Amplitude	0.17	(0.1)	0.16	(0.1)	0.17	(0.1)	0.17	(0.1)
5	Amplitude	0.42	(0.3)	0.35	(0.2)	0.28	(0.2)	0.38	(0.3)
9	Amplitude	0.52	(0.3)	0.35	(0.2)*	0.27	(0.2)*	0.37	(0.3)
13	Amplitude	0.47	(0.3)	0.36	(0.3)	0.32	(0.3)	0.44	(0.2)
ª20 animals per group.									
*Significantly different from control; <i>p</i> ≤ 0.01.									
Average (SD) thermal response (sec) of male rats									
Exposure period (wks)	HFAN exposure level (ppm) 0		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 100		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 500		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 1,500		
0	8.0	(2.7)	12.2	(4.6)*	10.7	(3.4)*	9.5	(4.0)	
5	12.2	(4.8)	16.0	(7.7)	11.6	(4.6)	17.9	(12.2)	
9	10.2	(3.8)	10.2	(3.0)	9.8	(3.9)	11.1	(2.9)	
13	10.9	(4.2)	11.3	(3.9)	10.8	(13.0)	12.8	(4.9)	
ª20 animals per group.									
*Significantly different from control; <i>p</i> ≤ 0.01.									
Average (SD) hindfoot splay distance (mm) of male rats									
Exposure period (wks)	HFAN exposure level (ppm) 0		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 100		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 500		HFAN exposure level (ppm) 1,500		
0	109	(16)	107	(16)	114	(10)	108	(14)	
5	128	(20)	125	(22)	126	(15)	113	(17)	
9	131	(19)	122	(14)	124	(19)	126	(14)	
13	120	(23)	121	(19)	127	(18)	124	(17)	
ª20 animals per group.									

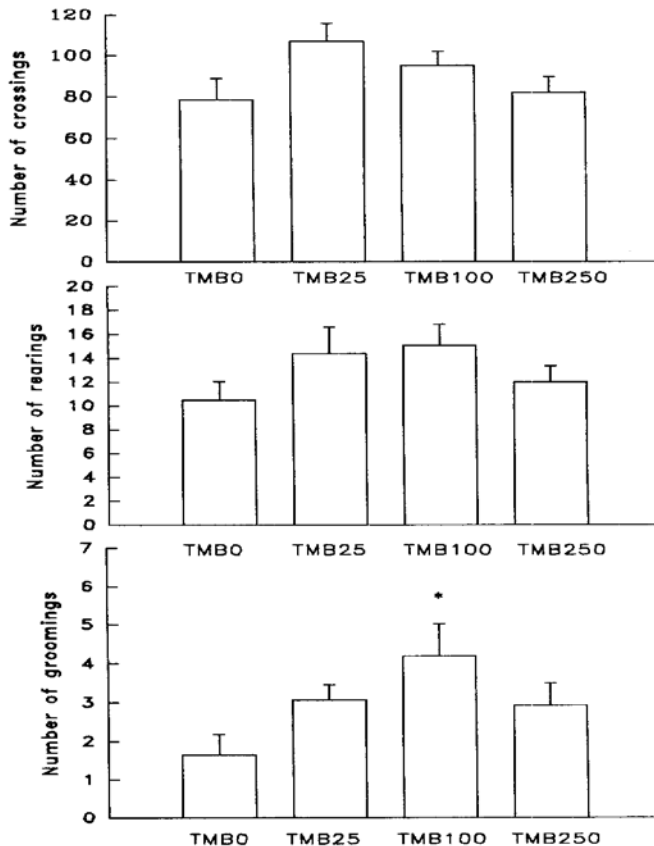
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***Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes***

NOAEL	LOAEL	LOAEL effects
100 ppm	500 ppm	Decreased body weight
Source: <a href="#">Douglas et al. (1993)</a> .		

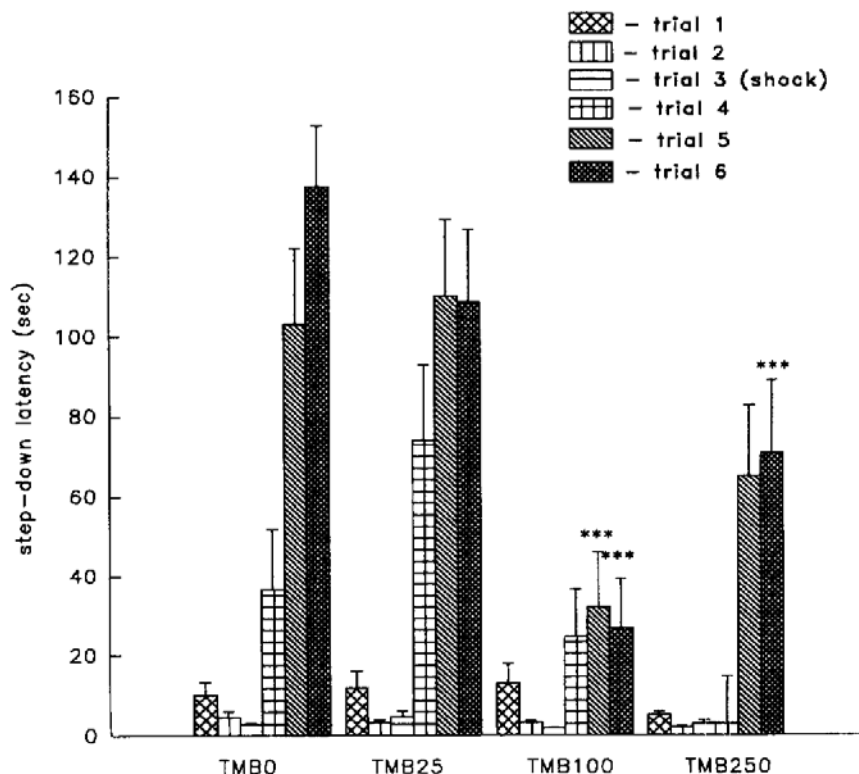
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Table C-22. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Gralewicz et al. \(1997b\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	15 rats/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0, 25, 100, or 250 ppm (0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Rats were tested with a variety of behavioral tests, including radial maze performance, open field activity, passive avoidance, active two-way avoidance, and shock-induced changes in pain sensitivity.</li> <li>Tests were performed on d 14–54 following exposure.</li> <li>Rats displayed decreased performance on several tests at the 100 and 250 ppm (492 and 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) exposure levels.</li> <li>CNS disturbances were observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after the metabolic clearance of 1,2,4-TMB from the test animals.</li> </ul>					
<b>A comparison of spontaneous locomotor (upper diagram), exploratory (middle diagram), and grooming (lower diagram) activity of rats in an open field during a 5-min observation period.</b>  <p>The test was performed 25 d after a 4-wk exposure to TMB. The bars represent group means and standard error (SE) (N = 15 for each group). *<i>p</i> &lt; 0.05 compared with TMB0 group (0 ppm control group).</p>					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

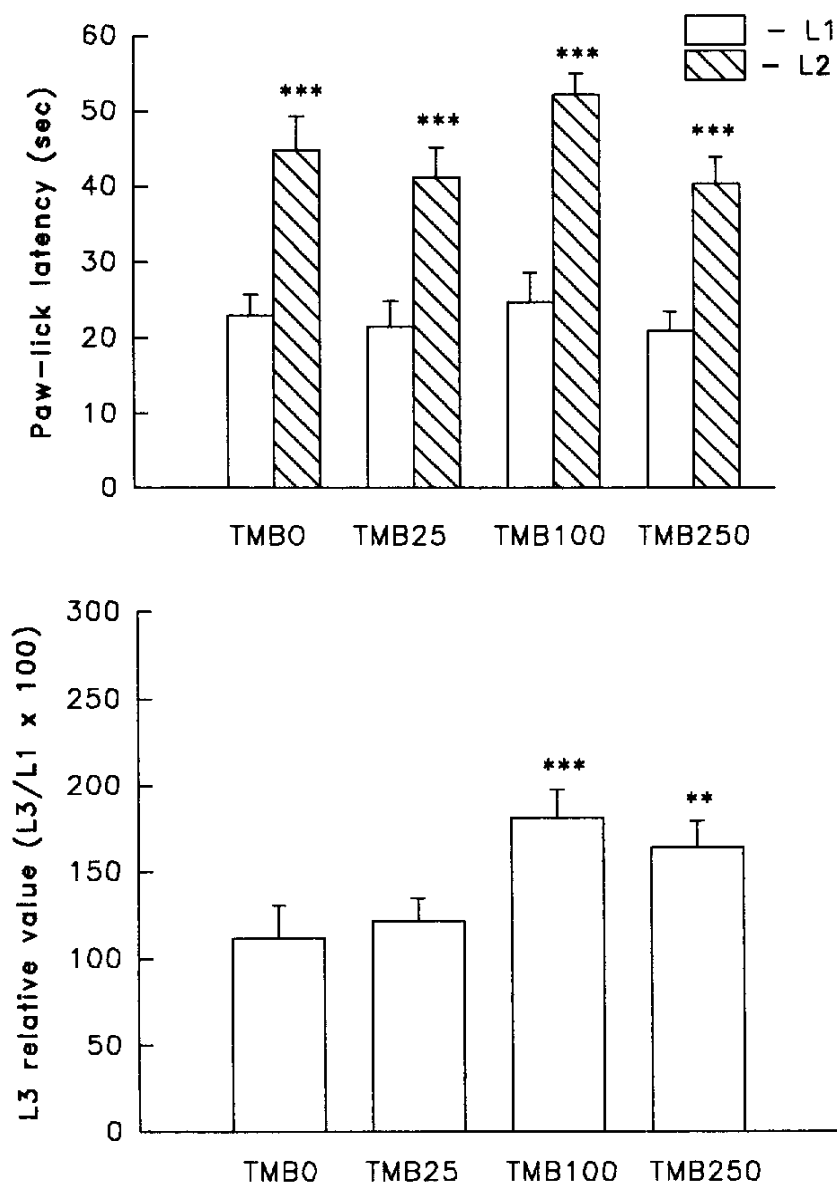
Diagrams illustrating the effect of a 4-wk exposure to 1,2,4-TMB on the step-down passive avoidance learning in rats.



The test was performed on d 35–45 after exposure. Trials 1, 2, and 3 were performed at 24-hr intervals. The step-down response was punished by a 10-sec footshock only in trial 3. Trials 4, 5, and 6 were performed 24 hrs, 3 d, and 7 d after trial 3, respectively. The maximum step-down latency was 180 sec. The bars represent group means and SE (N = 15 for each group).

\*\*\* $p < 0.001$  compared with respective data from group TMB0 (0 ppm control group).

Hot plate behavior tested in rats on d 50 (trials 1 and 2) and d 51 (trial 3) after 4-wk exposure to 1,2,4-TMB.



Bars represent group means and SE (N = 15 for each group).

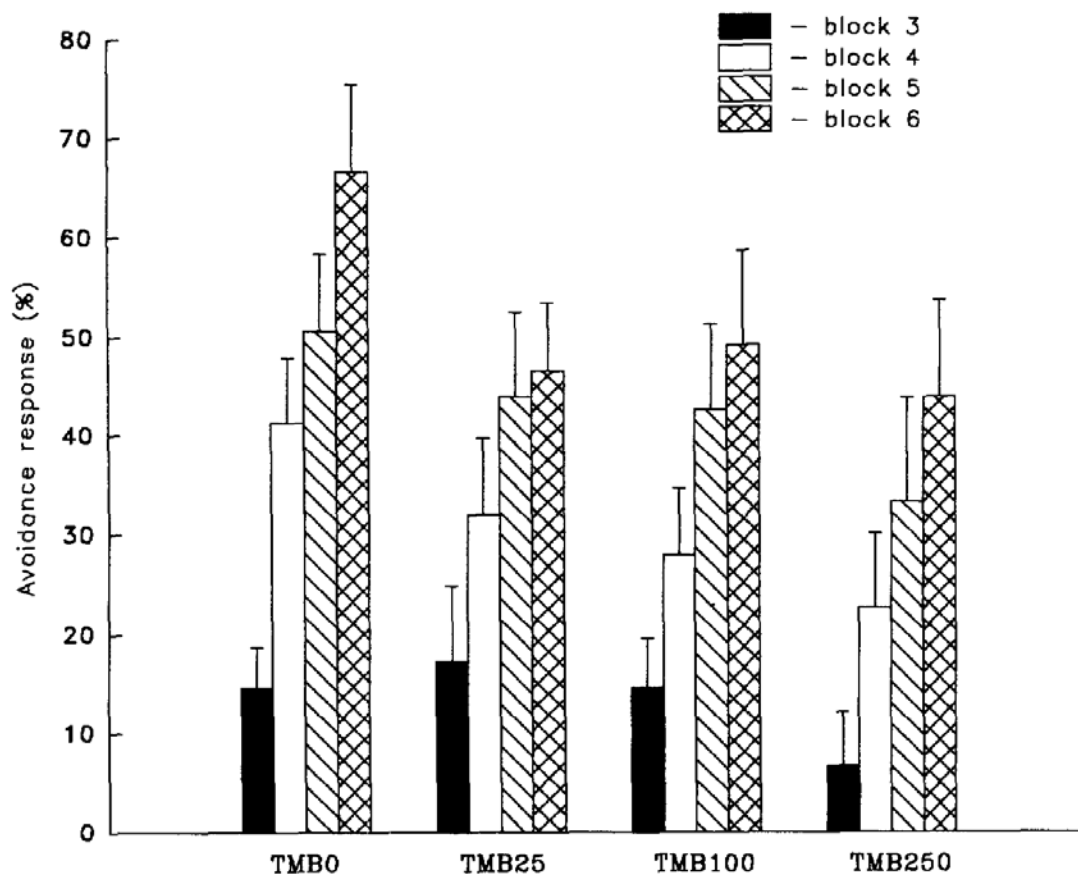
Upper diagram: a comparison of the latency of the paw-lick response to a thermal stimulus (54.5°C) on d 50. L1: paw-lick latency in trial 1 performed before a 2 min intermittent footshock. L2: paw-lick latency in trial 2 performed several sec after the footshock.

\*\*\* $p < 0.001$  compared with L1 in the same group.

Lower diagram: A comparison of the change in the paw-lick latency noted 24 hrs after footshock (trial 3).

\*\*\* $p < 0.001$ , \*\* $p < 0.01$  when compared to TMB0 (0 ppm control group).

A comparison of the active avoidance performance increment during a single 30-trial training session in consecutive groups of rats.

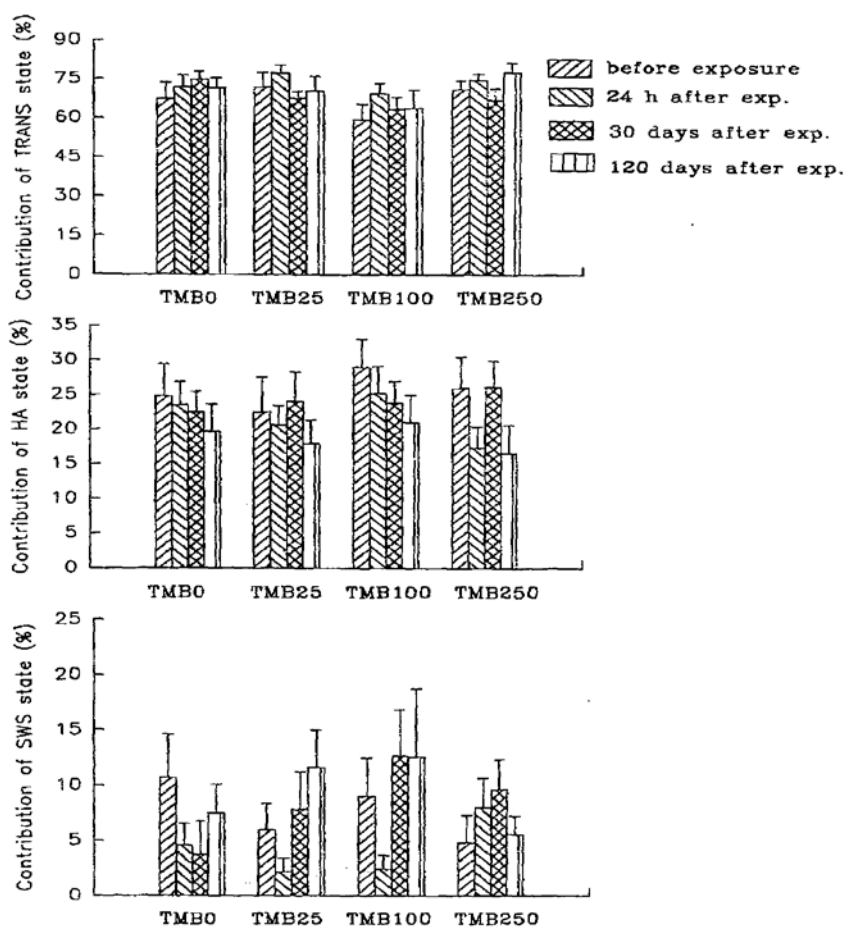


The testing was performed on d 54 after 4-wk exposure to 1,2,4-TMB. Bars represent the percentage (group mean and SE, N = 15 for each group) of avoidance response in successive five-trial blocks. No avoidance response was noted in any group during the first 10 trials; therefore, blocks 1 and 2 were omitted in the analysis.

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Open field grooming significantly increased, lower than expected step down latency	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Comments:</b> CNS disturbances were observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after the metabolic clearance of 1,2,4-TMB from the test animals. Duration of exposure was only 4 wks. Generally, short-term exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.		

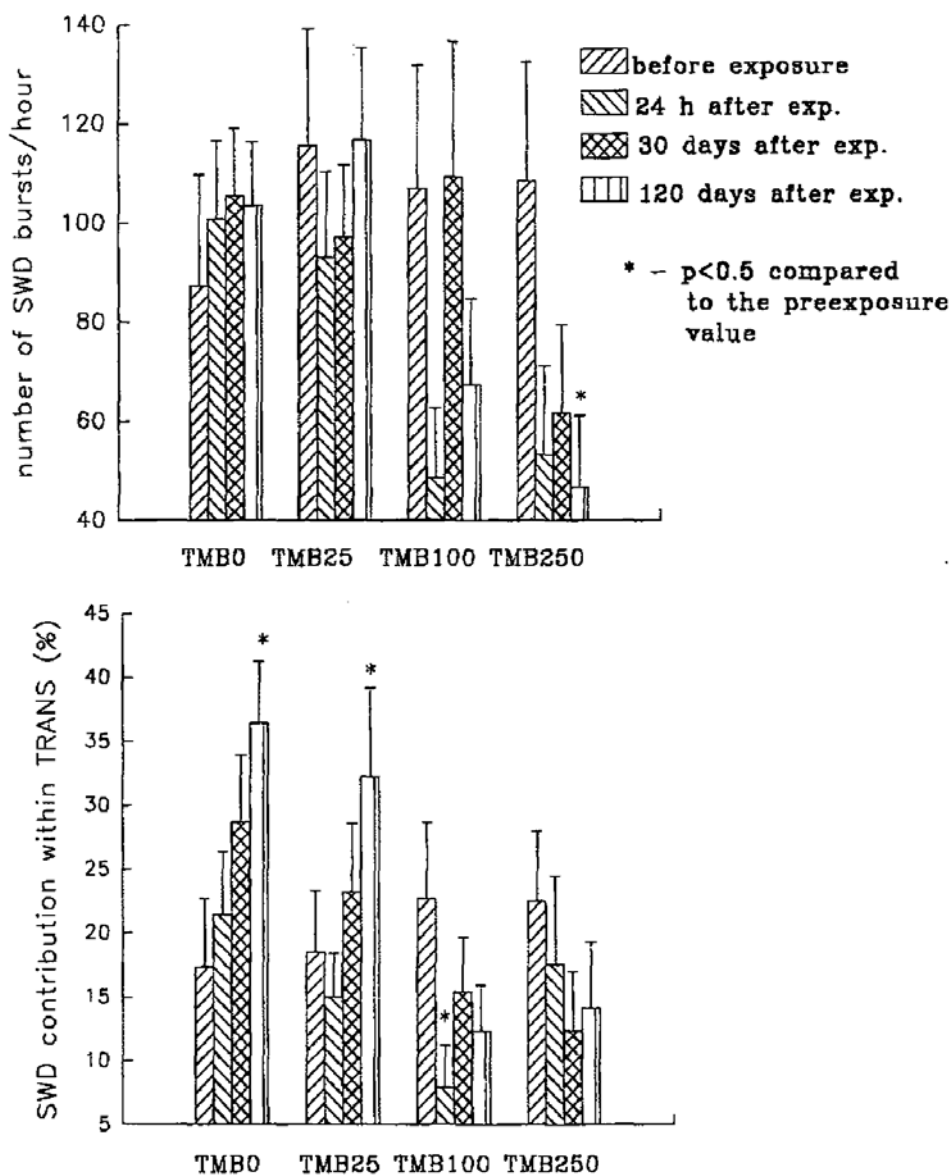


Table C-23. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Gralewicz et al. \(1997a\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	9 rats/ dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0, 25, 100, or 250 ppm (0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Rats were tested to determine whether exposure to 1,2,4-TMB altered the pattern of occurrence of spike wave discharges (SWDs).</li> <li>Rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB at 100 or 250 ppm (492 or 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) did not show an increase in SWD activity. Rats exposed to 0 or 25 ppm (0 or 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB showed progressively decreasing levels of SWD activity.</li> </ul>					
<p>Diagrams showing the effect of a 4-wk inhalation exposure to 1,2,4-TMB on the contribution of transitional (upper diagram, high arousal (middle diagram), and slow-wave sleep (lower diagram) states in the rat electroencephalogram (EEG) during successive 1-hr recording periods.</p>  <p>The bars represent group means and SE.</p>					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Diagram showing the effect of a 4-wk inhalation exposure to 1,2,4-TMB on the SWD burst occurrence (upper diagram) and on the percent contribution of SWD activity within TRANS state (lower diagram) during successive 1-hr recording periods.



The bars represent group means and SE.

\* $p < 0.05$  in comparison to the pre-exposure value in the same group.

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Decreased SWDs	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

**Comments:** CNS disturbances were observed up to 4 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after the metabolic clearance of 1,2,4-TMB from the test animals. Duration of exposure was only 4 wks. Generally, short-term exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.

Table C-24. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Gralewicz and Wiaderna \(2001\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	10 or 11 rats/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0 or 100 ppm (0 or 492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB	4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,3-, 1,2,4- or 1,3,5-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Rats were tested with a variety of behavioral tests, including radial maze performance, open field activity, passive avoidance, active two-way avoidance, and shock-induced changes in pain sensitivity.</li> <li>Tests were performed starting 2 wks post-exposure.</li> <li>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB-exposed rats showed alterations in performance in spontaneous locomotor activity, passive avoidance learning, and paw-lick latencies.</li> <li>CNS disturbances were observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after the metabolic clearance of 1,2,4-TMB from the test animals.</li> </ul>					
<b>Radial maze performance of rats exposed for 4 wks to <i>m</i>-xylene or a TMB isomer at a concentration of 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).</b>					
<p>The figure consists of two bar charts. The upper chart displays the 'Number of perseveration errors' on the y-axis (0.0 to 1.8) for five groups: Control, XYL, PS, MES, and HM. Each group has five bars representing days 1 through 5. The lower chart displays the 'Number of omission errors' on the y-axis (0.0 to 5.5) for the same groups and days. In both charts, error bars represent standard error (SE). The legend indicates: day 1 (white), day 2 (light gray), day 3 (medium gray), day 4 (dark gray), and day 5 (black).</p>					
<p>The test (one trial a day) was performed on d 14–18 after exposure. The diagrams illustrate the number of perseveration (upper diagram) and omission (lower diagram) errors in successive daily trials. Bars represent group means and SE.</p> <p>Control = sham-exposed group (N = 10); XYL = <i>m</i>-xylene-exposed group (N = 11); PS = 1,2,4-TMB exposed group (N = 11); MES = 1,2,3-TMB exposed group (N = 11); HM = hemimellitene exposed group (N = 11).</p>					

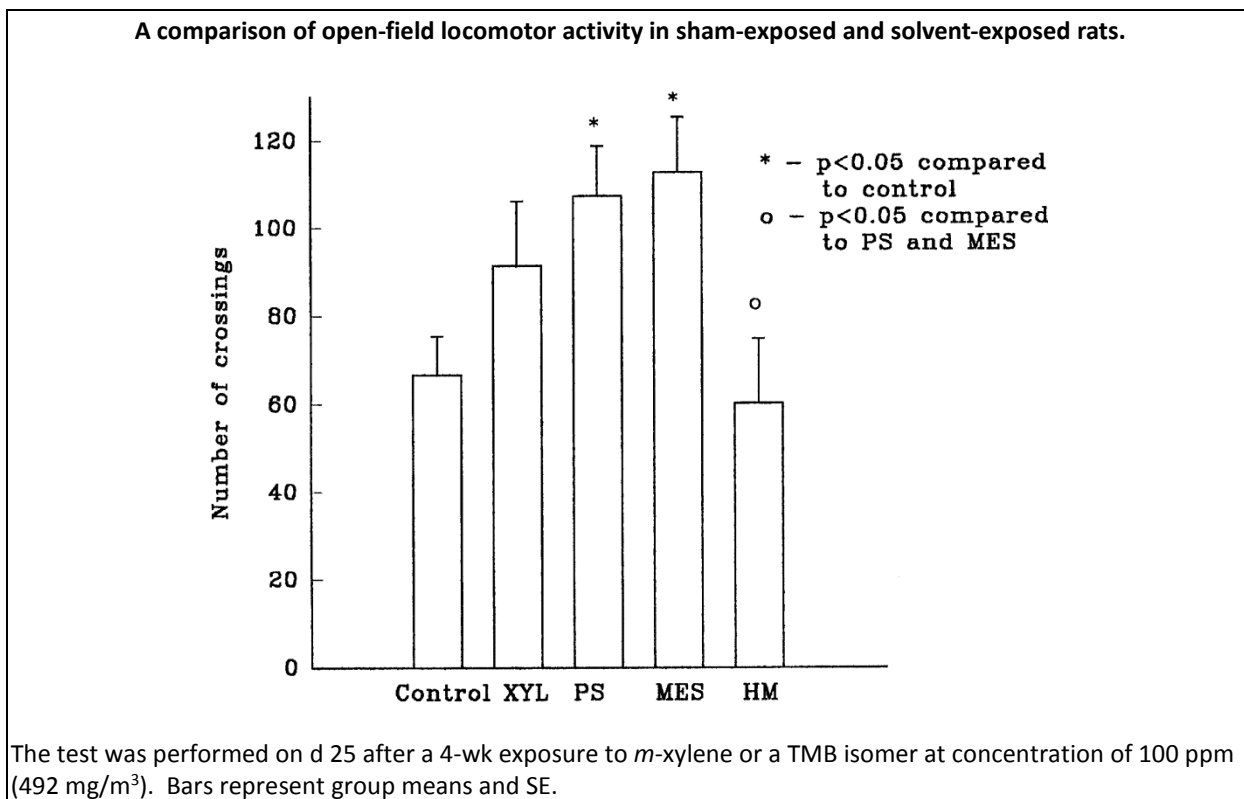
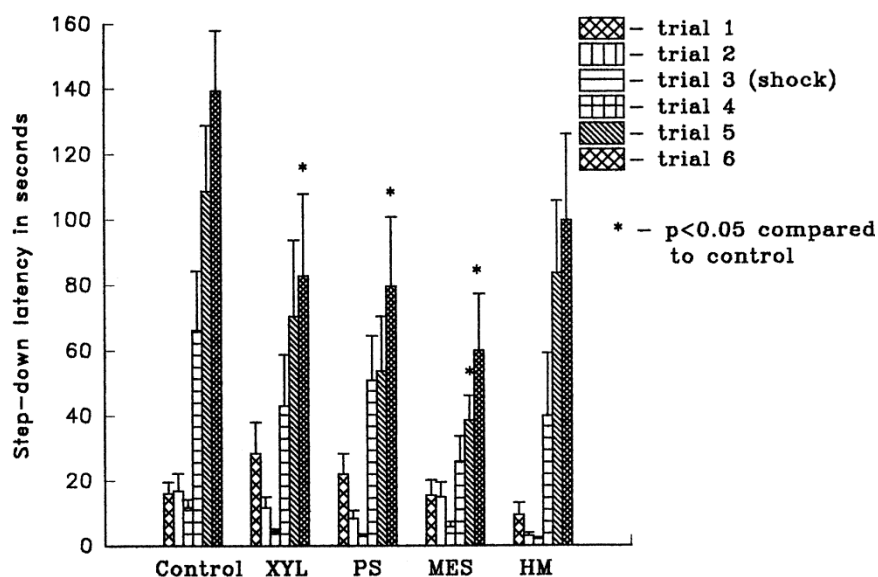
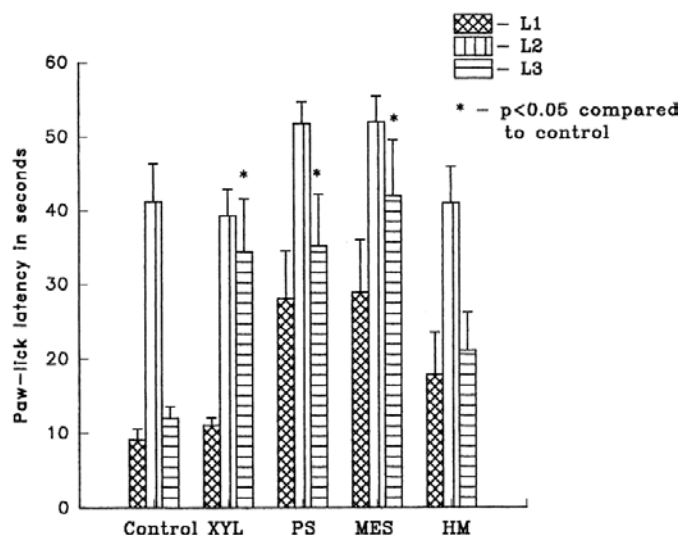


Diagram illustrating the effect of a 4-wk inhalation exposure to *m*-xylene or a TMB isomer at concentration of 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) on the step-down response latency in the passive avoidance test.



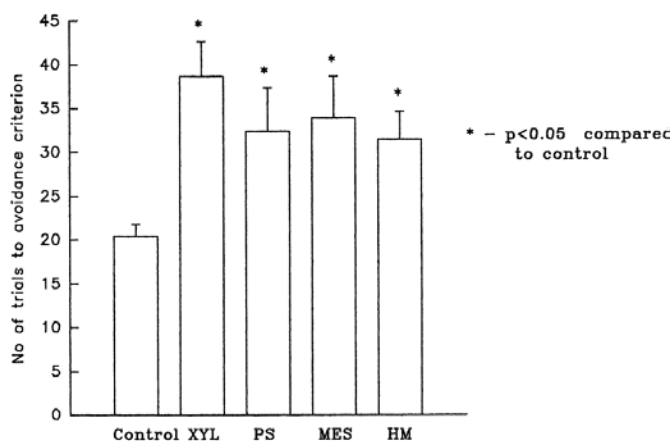
The test was performed on d 39–48 after exposure. Trials 1, 2, and 3 were performed at 24-hr intervals. The step-down response was punished by a 10 sec footshock in trial 3 only. Trials 4, 5, and 6 were performed 24 hrs, 3 d, and 7 d after trial 3, respectively. The maximum time of staying on the platform was 180 sec. Bars represent means and SE.

A comparison of sham-exposed and solvent-exposed rats with respect to the latency of the paw-lick response to heat (54.5°C) before (L1), several sec after (L2), and 24 hrs after a 2-min intermittent footshock.



The test was performed on d 50 and 51 after a 4-wk inhalation exposure to *m*-xylene or a TMB isomer at a concentration of 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>). Bars represent group means and SE.

Active avoidance learning in rats after a 4-wk inhalation exposure to *m*-xylene or a TMB isomer at a concentration of 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).



In one massed-trial session (inter-trial interval 20–40 sec; maximum number of trials 60) the rats learned to shuttle between two neighboring compartments in order to avoid a footshock. The test was performed on d 54–60 after exposure. Bars represent group means and SE of the number of trials.

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Deleterious effects on locomotor activity, passive avoidance learning, and paw-lick latencies	N/A	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB

**Comments:** CNS disturbances were observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after the metabolic clearance of 1,2,4-TMB from the test animals. Duration of exposure was only 4 wks. Generally, short-term exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.

Table C-25. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Janik-Spiechowicz et al. \(1998\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Balb/c mice	M & F	4 or 5 mice/dose group	i.p. injection	0, 1,470, 2,160, and 2,940 mg/kg body weight	Single exposure, or two i.p. injections spaced out over 24 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were given one or two i.p. injections of 1,2,3-TMB.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Most deaths occurred within the first 2 d following single injections.</li> <li>LD<sub>50</sub> was determined to be 3,670 mg/kg for males and 2,700 mg/kg for females.</li> <li>Micronuclei and chromatid exchange assays were conducted on extracted bone marrow to assess genotoxicity.</li> <li>Multiple indicators of genotoxicity were used, giving adequate evidence to assess the genotoxic potential of acute exposure to 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB.</li> </ul>					
<b>Dose-related increase in the number of His<sup>+</sup> revertants for 1,2,3-TMB in <i>Salmonella typhimurium</i> strains.</b>					
<p>Legend: dose [<math>\mu</math>l/plate]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-S9 +S9 20</li> <li>-S9 +S9 10</li> <li>-S9 +S9 5</li> <li>-S9 +S9 1</li> <li>Solvent control</li> </ul> <p>Revertants / plate</p> <p>* - mutagenic effect (a 2-fold or greater increase in the number of revertants per plate, as compared with the solvent control number)</p> <p>Spontaneous revertants: TA97a 129<math>\pm</math>10 (-S9); 141<math>\pm</math>17 (+S9);  TA98 23<math>\pm</math>2 (-S9); 35<math>\pm</math>6 (+S9);  TA100 126<math>\pm</math>4 (-S9); 119<math>\pm</math>5 (+S9);  TA102 282<math>\pm</math>33 (-S9); 315<math>\pm</math>32 (+S9)</p>					

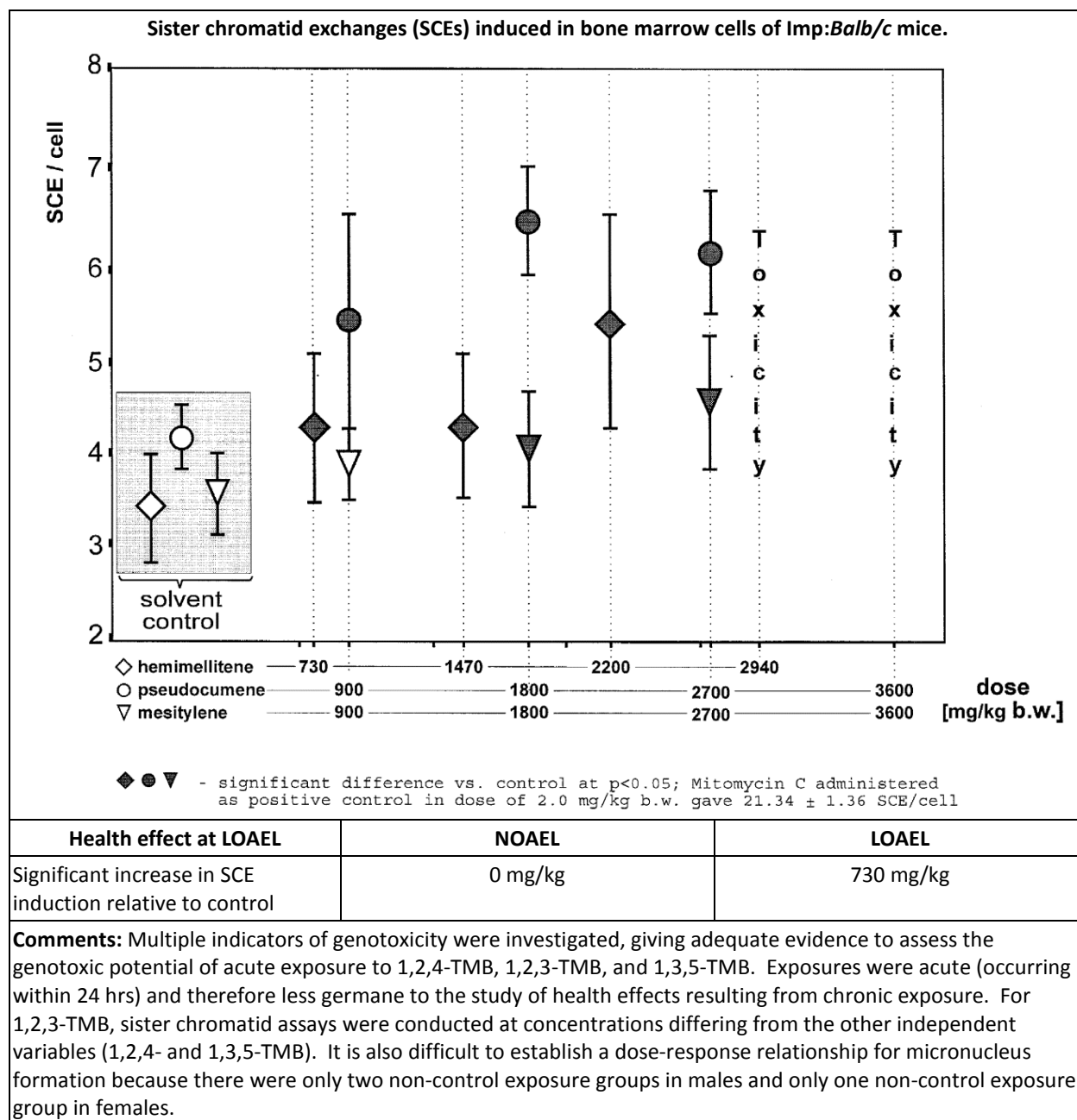
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Observation	Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (µg or µL)							
	0	100 (solvent control)	1	5	10	20	30	
TA97a (-S9)	212 ± 7	126 ± 13	148 ± 23	158 ± 10	165 ± 8	141 ± 25	115 ± 3	
TA97a (+S9)	145 ± 5	141 ± 12	152 ± 7	168 ± 8	176 ± 21	155 ± 20	106 ± 7	
TA98 (-S9)	24 ± 3	23 ± 3	24 ± 3	29 ± 5	41 ± 7	27 ± 8	TOX <sup>a</sup>	
TA98 (+S9)	31 ± 3	31 ± 5	35 ± 4	28 ± 1	29 ± 4	30 ± 3	29 ± 6	
TA100 (-S9)	123 ± 71	125 ± 41	138 ± 15	148 ± 18	143 ± 9	124 ± 7	118 ± 4	
TA100 (+S9)	25 ± 4	21 ± 10	126 ± 62	125 ± 5	112 ± 4	108 ± 3	110 ± 4	
TA102 (-S9)	258 ± 6	280 ± 12	290 ± 33	262 ± 16	273 ± 20	214 ± 8	TOX	
TA102 (+S9)	294 ± 11	315 ± 14	279 ± 24	276 ± 11	276 ± 11	236 ± 32	TOX	
	Exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (µg or µL)							
Observation	0	100 (solvent control)	1	5	10	20	30	40
TA97a (-S9)	127 ± 15	131 ± 10	141 ± 13	149 ± 29	139 ± 17	129 ± 13	125 ± 8	NT <sup>b</sup>
TA97a (+S9)	183 ± 6	157 ± 19	180 ± 26	196 ± 16	155 ± 30	137 ± 29	138 ± 20	128 ± 11
TA98 (-S9)	22 ± 4	22 ± 4	27 ± 3	28 ± 5	25 ± 2	37 ± 5	23 ± 5	TOX
TA98 (+S9)	30 ± 3	32 ± 5	31 ± 4	35 ± 5	31 ± 2	39 ± 5	28 ± 2	31 ± 1
TA100 (-S9)	138 ± 13	143 ± 15	143 ± 4	152 ± 8	140 ± 26	154 ± 14	130 ± 7	TOX
TA100 (+S9)	142 ± 10	138 ± 82	137 ± 3	147 ± 29	139 ± 16	131 ± 10	108 ± 11	115 ± 6
TA102 (-S9)	263 ± 23	60 ± 12	268 ± 17	280 ± 19	261 ± 25	238 ± 5	198 ± 2	NT
TA102 (+S9)	337 ± 13	336 ± 23	347 ± 34	334 ± 30	353 ± 11	340 ± 37	324 ± 10	NT
Observation	Exposure to 1,2,3-TMB (mg/kg body weight)							
	0		1,470		2,160		2,940	
	Percentage of polychromatic erythrocytes with micronuclei (± SD)							
Males 30-hr harvest time	–		0.17 ± 0.06		–		0.22 ± 0.07	
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.18 ± 0.09		0.17 ± 0.05		–		0.21 ± 0.10	
Males 72-hr harvest time	–		0.17 ± 0.05		–		0.21 ± 0.11	
Females 30-hr harvest time	–		–		0.22 ± 0.09		–	
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.20 ± 0.08		–		0.20 ± 0.08		–	
Females 72-hr harvest time	–		–		0.20 ± 0.14		–	
	Ratio of polychromatic to normochromatic erythrocytes							
Males 30-hr harvest time	–		0.82		–		0.85	
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.81		0.45		–		0.72	
Males 72-hr harvest time	–		0.50		–		0.62	
Females 30-hr harvest time	–		–		0.90		–	
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.95		–		0.84		–	
Females 72-hr harvest time	–		–		0.78		–	

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Observation	Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (mg/kg body weight)			
	0	2,000	3,280	4,000
	Percentage of polychromatic erythrocytes with micronuclei ( $\pm$ SD)			
Males 30-hr harvest time	–	0.15 $\pm$ 0.10	–	0.23 $\pm$ 0.10
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.18 $\pm$ 0.07	0.18 $\pm$ 0.10	–	0.16 $\pm$ 0.8
Males 72-hr harvest time	–	0.20 $\pm$ 0.08	–	0.16 $\pm$ 0.07
Females 30-hr harvest time	–	–	0.23 $\pm$ 0.5	–
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.23 $\pm$ 0.05	–	0.18 $\pm$ 0.05	–
Females 72-hr harvest time	–	–	0.13 $\pm$ 0.05	–
	Ratio of polychromatic to normochromatic erythrocytes			
Males 30-hr harvest time	–	1.18	–	1.16
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.95	1.02	–	0.74
Males 72-hr harvest time	–	1.02	–	0.68*
Females 30-hr harvest time	–	–	0.98	–
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.95	–	1.01	–
Females 72-hr harvest time	–	–	0.85	–
Observation	Exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (mg/kg body weight)			
	0	1,800	2,960	3,600
	Percentage of polychromatic erythrocytes with micronuclei ( $\pm$ SD)			
Males 30-hr harvest time	–	0.20 $\pm$ 0.00	–	0.24 $\pm$ 0.11
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.21 $\pm$ 0.08	0.17 $\pm$ 0.09	–	0.17 $\pm$ 0.05
Males 72-hr harvest time	–	0.17 $\pm$ 0.09	–	0.14 $\pm$ 0.05
Females 30-hr harvest time	–	–	0.17 $\pm$ 0.09	–
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.20 $\pm$ 0.08	–	0.20 $\pm$ 0.00	–
Females 72-hr harvest time	–	–	0.22 $\pm$ 0.05	–
	Ratio of polychromatic to normochromatic erythrocytes			
Males 30-hr harvest time	–	0.62	–	0.40*
Males 48-hr harvest time	0.61	0.56	–	0.33
Males 72-hr harvest time	–	0.58	–	0.42*
Females 30-hr harvest time	–	–	0.51	–
Females 48-hr harvest time	0.60	–	0.60	–
Females 72-hr harvest time	–	–	0.58	–
*Significant difference versus control at $p \leq 0.05$ .				
<sup>a</sup> TOX = toxic effects (background growth reduced).				
<sup>b</sup> NT = not tested.				



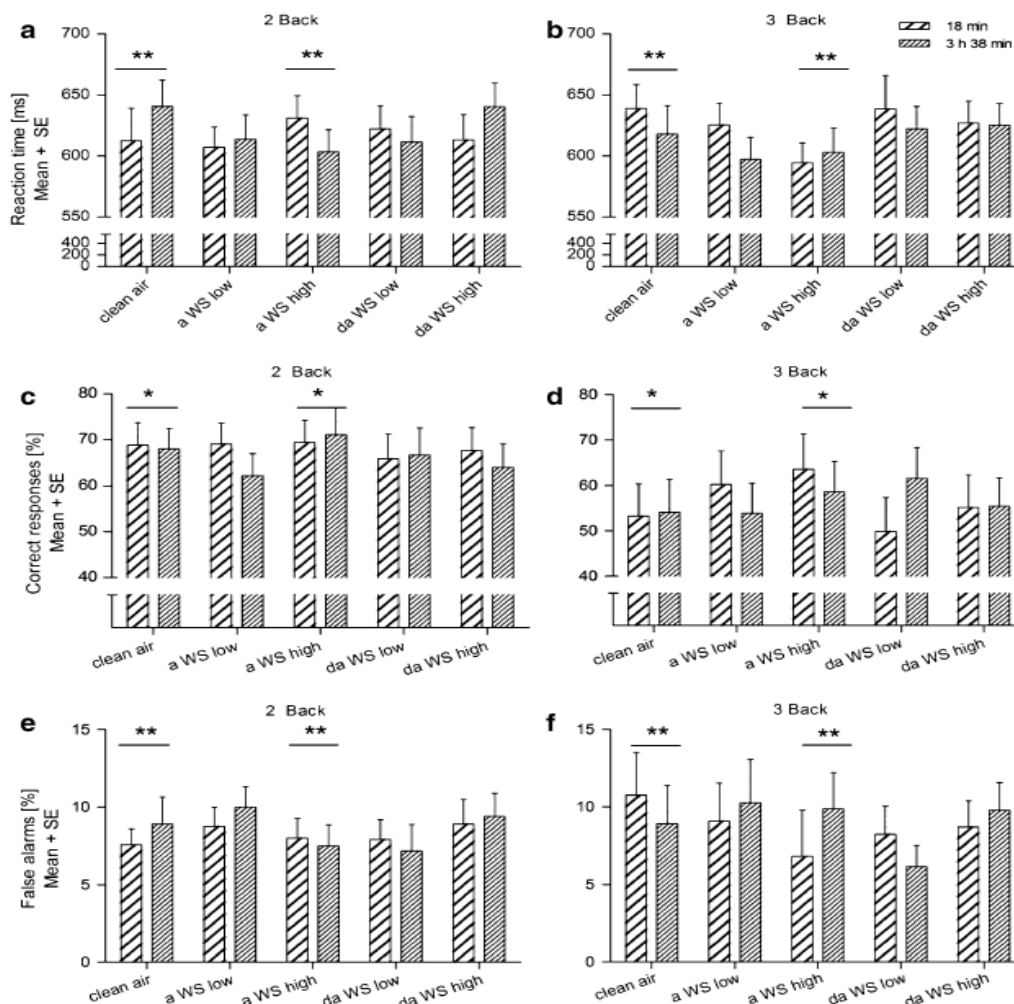


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Table C-26. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Juran et al. \(2014\)](#)

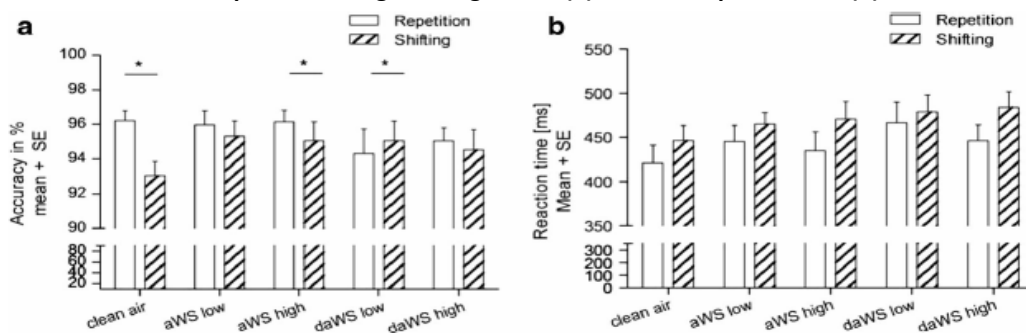
Study design								
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration			
Humans	M & F	6 rats/sex/dose group	Inhalation	100 or 300 mg/m <sup>3</sup> aromatic or dearomatized white spirit	4 hrs for 5 consecutive d			
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Males and females were exposed to 100 or 300 mg/m<sup>3</sup> of aromatic or dearomatized white spirit in an inhalation chamber for 4 hrs/d for 5 d.</li><li>• White spirit concentrations were determined via gas chromatography at 5-min intervals.</li><li>• Humans exhibited weak and inconsistent neurobehavioral impairment after 4-hr exposures.</li><li>• No significant effect on response inhibition was observed.</li><li>• Exposure concentrations correspond to recommendations from the Scientific Committee on Occupational Exposure Limits of the European Commission.</li><li>• The NOAEL was 100 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.</li></ul>								
<b>Performance in vigilance task is given as (a) absolute omission errors and (b) reaction times.</b>								
Source: <a href="#">Juran et al. (2014)</a> .								
Performance in the divided attention task								
Time	Reaction time (ms)				False alarm (%)		Misses (%)	
	Visual		Auditory					
	Mean	SE	Mean	SE	Mean	SE	Mean	SE
53 min	725	18.7	517	22.2	2.1	0.4	4.2	1.4
3 hrs 48 min	741	22.2	506	23	2.2	0.4	3.9	1.4
<b>Comments:</b> Mean and SEs given for 12 participants in two modalities and two task performances. Visual reaction times significantly slower than auditory ones ( $p < 0.001$ ), and only visual reaction times showed a significant increase over time. Accuracy in the form of false alarms and misses did not vary over time or between visual and auditory trials.								

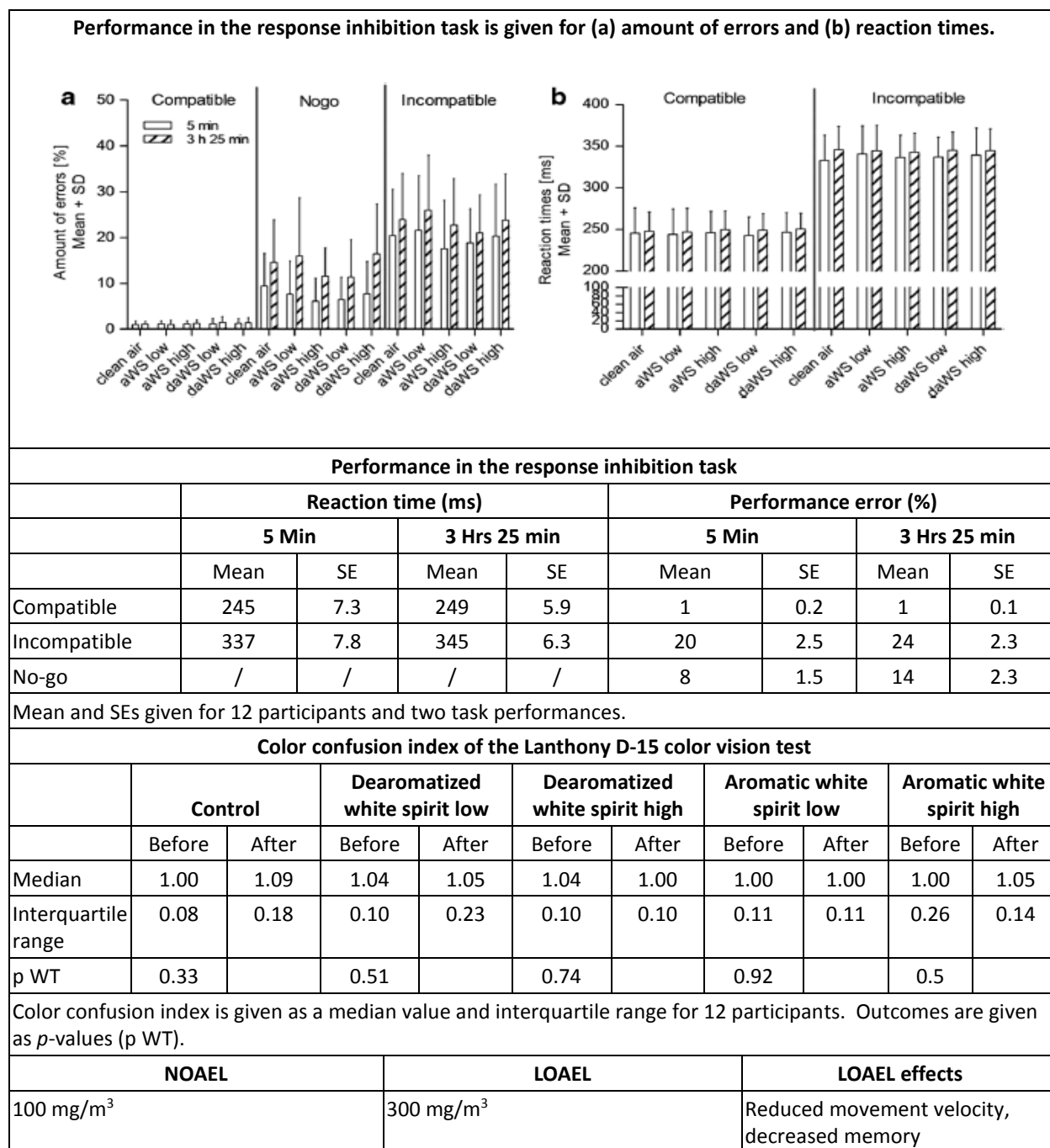
Speed (reaction times; upper panel) accuracy (hits; middle panel) and false alarms (lower panel) of the 2- and 3-back condition of the working memory task.



Source: [Juran et al. \(2014\)](#).

Performance in the response shifting task is given as (a) correct responses and (b) reaction times.





**Table C-27. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Koch Industries \(1995b\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley CD	M/F	20 rats/dose	Gavage	0, 50, 200, and 600 mg/kg-d 1,3,5-TMB	90 d
Additional study details					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats were treated with 0, 50, 200, or 600 mg/kg-d of 1,3,5-TMB (5 d/wk) and were observed daily for adverse clinical signs.</li> <li>Hematology and serum chemistry was analyzed after 30 d, at the end of the exposure period, and after a 28-d recovery period (in an additional 600 mg/kg-d “recovery” group only).</li> <li>No deaths related to 1,3,5-TMB exposure occurred during the study.</li> <li>Cumulative weight gain decreased by approximately 11% in the high-dose male group.</li> <li>High-dose females exhibited an increase in absolute and relative liver weight, while males in the same dose group showed increases in relative liver weight.</li> <li>The NOEL was 200 mg/kg.</li> </ul>					
Mean body weight after 90 d 1,3,5-TMB dosing period					
Males	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	
Mean	624	607	602	585	
SD	48.2	62.0	40.8	66.4	
Number of rats	10	10	9	20	
Females					
Mean	327	335	334	330	
SD	24.8	37.6	21.2	29.3	
Number of rats	10	10	10	20	
Mean clinical chemistry parameters, terminal and recovery in males					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Sodium, mean	142.4	142.7	143.0	142.4	141.6
Sodium, SD	1.49	0.65	1.40	1.32	1.30
Sodium, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Potassium, mean	4.32	4.51	4.37	4.54	4.33
Potassium, SD	0.397	0.339	0.328	0.270	0.240
Potassium, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Chloride, mean	105.3	105.3	106.0	106.2	104.7
Chloride, SD	2.59	2.33	1.72	2.18	0.88
Chloride, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Creatine kinase, mean	594	962	934	595	884
Creatine kinase, SD	340.4	929.8	799.2	389.1	353.4
Creatine kinase, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
AP, mean	107	112	121	156*	77
AP, SD	28.1	26.5	33.7	56.2	20.5

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AP, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
ALT, mean	29	30	25	33	25
ALT, SD	6.4	9.8	7.0	9.1	4.4
ALT, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
AST, mean	72	91	86	85	89
AST, SD	18.9	31.9	25.5	25.0	16.7
AST, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
GGT, mean	3	2	2	2	1
GGT, SD	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0	1.5
GGT, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
BUN, mean	11.8	12.3	12.3	11.5	13.5
BUN, SD	1.45	1.87	1.22	1.30	1.53
BUN, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Creatinine, mean	0.42	0.43	0.42	0.47	0.48
Creatinine, SD	0.092	0.079	0.110	0.065	0.067
Creatinine, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Total protein, mean	6.0	5.9	6.0	6.1	6.0
Total protein, SD	0.38	0.24	0.31	0.42	0.25
Total protein, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Albumin, mean	3.6	3.6	3.7	3.8	3.7
Albumin, SD	0.23	0.19	0.19	0.22	0.09
Albumin, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Globulin, mean	2.4	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
Globulin, SD	0.27	0.18	0.16	0.24	0.24
Globulin, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Albumin/globulin ratio, mean	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.7	1.7
Albumin/globulin ratio, SD	0.19	0.17	0.11	0.15	0.17
Albumin/globulin ratio, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Glucose, mean	150.2	134.6	136.9	121.1*	168.4
Glucose, SD	22.80	15.11	15.76	13.14	26.39
Glucose, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Cholesterol, mean	38.2	33.1	31.6	45.3	35.3
Cholesterol, SD	6.83	9.13	9.93	15.99	10.10
Cholesterol, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Calcium, mean	10.2	10.2	10.2	10.2	9.9
Calcium, SD	0.22	0.29	0.37	0.23	0.24
Calcium, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Phosphorus, mean	6.5	6.7	7.0	7.6*	5.8
Phosphorus, SD	0.64	0.80	0.68	0.58	0.59
Phosphorus, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Total bilirubin, mean	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.5	0.5

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Total bilirubin, SD	0.12	0.10	0.09	0.14	0.09
Total bilirubin, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
<b>Mean clinical chemistry parameters, terminal and recovery in females</b>					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Sodium, mean	142.1	141.6	141.7	138.9*	140.9
Sodium, SD	1.10	0.96	2.07	2.83	1.47
Sodium, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Potassium, mean	3.94	4.13	4.01	3.86	4.06
Potassium, SD	0.195	0.200	0.119	0.292	0.259
Potassium, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Chloride, mean	105.9	106.2	106.1	103.0*	107.0
Chloride, SD	2.32	1.63	1.05	3.81	1.68
Chloride, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Creatine kinase, mean	404	574	381	362	532
Creatine kinase, SD	172.6	346.4	228.3	242.5	369.7
Creatine kinase, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
AP, mean	59	57	55	78	38
AP, SD	14.8	10.3	14.9	24.5	10.1
AP, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
ALT, mean	21	22	23	24	27
ALT, SD	2.3	4.0	7.3	4.1	7.1
ALT, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
AST, mean	60	75	62	60	77
AST, SD	16.5	18.6	15.2	15.0	21.4
AST, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
GGT, mean	2	3	3	3	2
GGT, SD	1.1	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.4
GGT, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
BUN, mean	14.5	14.0	11.9	13.5	16.2
BUN, SD	1.34	2.57	1.49	4.61	2.31
BUN, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Creatinine, mean	0.53	0.51	0.53	0.56	0.55
Creatinine, SD	0.106	0.085	0.099	0.110	0.099
Creatinine, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Total protein, mean	6.2	6.3	6.6	6.5	6.3
Total protein, SD	0.44	0.41	0.69	0.68	0.66
Total protein, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Albumin, mean	4.1	4.3	4.5	4.5	4.3
Albumin, SD	0.29	0.36	0.58	0.56	0.51
Albumin, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10

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Globulin, mean	2.1	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.0
Globulin, SD	0.21	0.17	0.19	0.20	0.18
Globulin, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Albumin/globulin ratio, mean	2.0	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1
Albumin/globulin ratio, SD	0.16	0.22	0.26	0.23	0.18
Albumin/globulin ratio, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Glucose, mean	131.8	136.4	140.1	132.8	150.7
Glucose, SD	7.65	11.72	14.48	15.91	19.18
Glucose, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Cholesterol, mean	36.2	35.2	38.8	51.2*	28.7
Cholesterol, SD	8.83	6.64	6.24	17.84	12.93
Cholesterol, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Calcium, mean	10.1	10.2	10.4	10.5	10.0
Calcium, SD	0.35	0.24	0.42	0.63	0.36
Calcium, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Phosphorus, mean	6.1	6.1	6.4	7.5	5.3
Phosphorus, SD	1.08	1.27	1.18	1.24	0.80
Phosphorus, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Total bilirubin, mean	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.5	0.5
Total bilirubin, SD	0.08	0.10	0.08	0.07	0.07
Total bilirubin, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Mean male hematology parameters terminal and recovery</b>					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
WBCs, mean	9.1	8.1	8.1	7.7	7.8
WBCs, SD	2.70	2.50	1.74	1.76	1.24
WBCs, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
RBCs, mean	8.94	8.50	8.98	8.72	8.51
RBCs, SD	0.375	0.483	0.565	0.275	0.423
RBCs, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Hemoglobin, mean	15.6	15.3	15.8	15.4	15.4
Hemoglobin, SD	0.52	0.76	0.77	0.53	0.58
Hemoglobin, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Hematocrit, mean	43.9	42.2	44.1	43.3	41.6
Hematocrit, SD	1.65	2.72	2.12	1.60	1.99
Hematocrit, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
MCV, mean	49.1	49.7	49.2	49.6	49.0
MCV, SD	1.17	1.09	1.76	1.66	1.62
MCV, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
MCH, mean	17.5	18.0	17.7	17.7	18.2
MCH, SD	0.45	0.73	0.85	0.68	0.61

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MCH, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
MCHC, mean	35.6	36.3	35.9	35.6	37.1
MCHC, SD	0.67	1.07	0.60	0.67	0.60
MCHC, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Platelet, mean	1,092	1,098	1,041	1,125	1,082
Platelet, SD	134.1	120.8	100.9	145.9	112.6
Platelet, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
<b>Mean female hematology parameters terminal and recovery</b>					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
WBCs, mean	5.5	5.6	5.4	5.7	4.6
WBCs, SD	2.05	1.53	1.64	1.99	1.55
WBCs, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
RBCs, mean	7.88	8.01	7.90	8.34	7.70
RBCs, SD	0.729	0.354	0.578	0.548	0.423
RBCs, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Hemoglobin, mean	14.8	15.0	15.2	15.3	15.1
Hemoglobin, SD	0.88	0.48	0.82	0.78	0.57
Hemoglobin, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Hematocrit, mean	41.0	41.4	41.9	43.3	39.9
Hematocrit, SD	3.15	1.91	2.93	2.33	1.67
Hematocrit, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
MCV, mean	52.1	51.7	53.0	52.0	51.9
MCV, SD	1.65	1.18	1.03	1.24	1.33
MCV, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
MCH, mean	18.9	18.7	19.2	18.4	19.6
MCH, SD	0.89	0.86	0.83	0.54	0.64
MCH, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
MCHC, mean	36.2	36.2	36.3	35.4	37.7
MCHC, SD	0.79	0.86	0.83	0.54	0.64
MCHC, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Platelet, mean	1,094	1,089	1,011	1,053	1,008
Platelet, SD	153.3	132.0	97.2	125.7	105.7
Platelet, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
<b>Mean male absolute differential WBC counts (terminal and recovery)</b>					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Nucleated RBCs, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Nucleated RBCs, SD	0	0	0.7	0	0
Nucleated RBCs, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Mature neutrophils, mean	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.5	1.0

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mature neutrophils, SD	1.07	1.10	0.36	0.75	0.29
Mature neutrophils, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Lymphocytes, mean	7.1	6.2	6.4	6.0	6.6
Lymphocytes, SD	2.78	2.16	1.59	2.16	1.23
Lymphocytes, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Monocytes, mean	0.1	0.2	0.3*	0.2*	0.2
Monocytes, SD	0.09	0.09	0.17	0.18	0.10
Monocytes, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Eosinophils, mean	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Eosinophils, SD	0.06	0.09	0.07	0.05	0.07
Eosinophils, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Basophils, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Basophils, SD	0	0	0	0	0
Basophils, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Immature neutrophils, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Immature neutrophils, SD	0	0	0	0	0
Immature neutrophils, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
<b>Mean female absolute differential WBC counts (terminal and recovery)</b>					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Nucleated RBCs, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Nucleated RBCs, SD	0	0	0	0	0
Nucleated RBCs, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Mature neutrophils, mean	0.8	0.7	0.9	1.0	0.7
Mature neutrophils, SD	0.48	0.32	0.69	0.39	0.45
Mature neutrophils, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Lymphocytes, mean	4.6	4.7	4.2	4.4	3.7
Lymphocytes, SD	1.93	1.52	1.52	2.08	1.34
Lymphocytes, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Monocytes, mean	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
Monocytes, SD	0.14	0.10	0.08	0.17	0.11
Monocytes, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Eosinophils, mean	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0
Eosinophils, SD	0.07	0.07	0.09	0.09	0.07
Eosinophils, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Basophils, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Basophils, SD	0	0	0.03	0	0
Basophils, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Immature neutrophils, mean	0	0	0	0	0
Immature neutrophils, SD	0	0	0	0	0
Immature neutrophils, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mean male absolute organ weights (g)					
Parameter	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Adrenal glands, mean	0.062	0.059	0.058	0.063	0.060
Adrenal glands, SD	0.010	0.015	0.011	0.010	0.008
Adrenal glands, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Brain, mean	2.25	2.28	2.23	2.19	2.24
Brain, SD	0.073	0.090	0.094	0.084	0.112
Brain, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Kidneys, mean	3.92	3.95	4.10	4.16	4.05
Kidneys, SD	0.326	0.262	0.610	0.464	0.491
Kidneys, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Liver, mean	19.28	18.91	18.38	20.90	17.38
Liver, SD	1.843	3.074	2.885	3.313	2.222
Liver, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Lung, mean	2.19	2.19	2.20	2.06	2.04
Lung, SD	0.299	0.292	0.134	0.158	0.229
Lung, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Testes, mean	4.15	3.78	4.04	4.00	3.91
Testes, SD	0.290	0.595	0.336	0.250	0.612
Testes, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Mean female absolute organ weights (g)					
Parameter <sup>a</sup>	Dose (mg/kg-d)				
	0	50	200	600	600 (recovery)
Adrenal glands, mean	0.075	0.078	0.085	0.082	0.084
Adrenal glands, SD	0.007	0.012	0.013	0.015	0.015
Adrenal glands, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Brain, mean	2.06	2.06	2.11	2.06	2.11
Brain, SD	0.080	0.083	0.094	0.050	0.059
Brain, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Kidneys, mean	2.34	2.23	2.38	2.51	2.38
Kidneys, SD	0.314	0.228	0.116	0.264	0.248
Kidneys, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Liver, mean	9.44	9.13	10.05	11.78*	9.71
Liver, SD	1.601	0.774	0.967	1.444	1.411
Liver, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Lung, mean	1.63	1.73	1.66	1.60	1.63
Lung, SD	0.187	0.140	0.106	0.150	0.140
Lung, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Ovaries, mean	0.128	0.123	0.122	0.142	0.142
Ovaries, SD	0.023	0.039	0.042	0.058	0.036
Ovaries, number of rats	10	10	10	10	9
<b>Mean male relative<sup>b</sup> organ weights (g)</b>					
<b>Parameter<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Dose (mg/kg-d)</b>				
	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600 (recovery)</b>
Fasted body weight, mean	602	584	576	562	595
Fasted body weight, SD	46.4	60.4	40.1	52.2	81.8
Fasted body weight, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Adrenal glands, mean	0.011	0.010	0.010	0.011	0.010
Adrenal glands, SD	0.002	0.002	0.002	0.001	0.001
Adrenal glands, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Brain, mean	0.38	0.39	0.39	0.39	0.38
Brain, SD	0.033	0.032	0.035	0.035	0.044
Brain, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Kidneys, mean	0.65	0.68	0.71	0.74*	0.68
Kidneys, SD	0.052	0.052	0.082	0.045	0.039
Kidneys, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Liver, mean	3.20	3.23	3.19	3.71*	2.93
Liver, SD	0.158	0.336	0.402	0.288	0.274
Liver, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Lung, mean	0.37	0.38	0.38	0.37	0.34
Lung, SD	0.045	0.052	0.027	0.038	0.042
Lung, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
Testes, mean	0.69	0.65	0.71	0.72	0.67
Testes, SD	0.060	0.101	0.092	0.089	0.136
Testes, number of rats	10	10	9	10	10
<b>Mean female relative<sup>b</sup> organ weights (g)</b>					
<b>Parameter<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>Dose (mg/kg-d)</b>				
	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>600</b>	<b>600 (recovery)</b>
Fasted body weight, mean	309	317	316	308	336
Fasted body weight, SD	23.4	34.8	20.0	28.2	33.9
Fasted body weight, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Adrenal glands, mean	0.025	0.025	0.027	0.027	0.025
Adrenal glands, SD	0.003	0.005	0.005	0.004	0.005
Adrenal glands, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Brain, mean	0.67	0.66	0.67	0.68	0.63
Brain, SD	0.067	0.075	0.047	0.065	0.059
Brain, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10
Kidneys, mean	0.76	0.71	0.76	0.82	0.71
Kidneys, SD	0.059	0.088	0.051	0.059	0.040

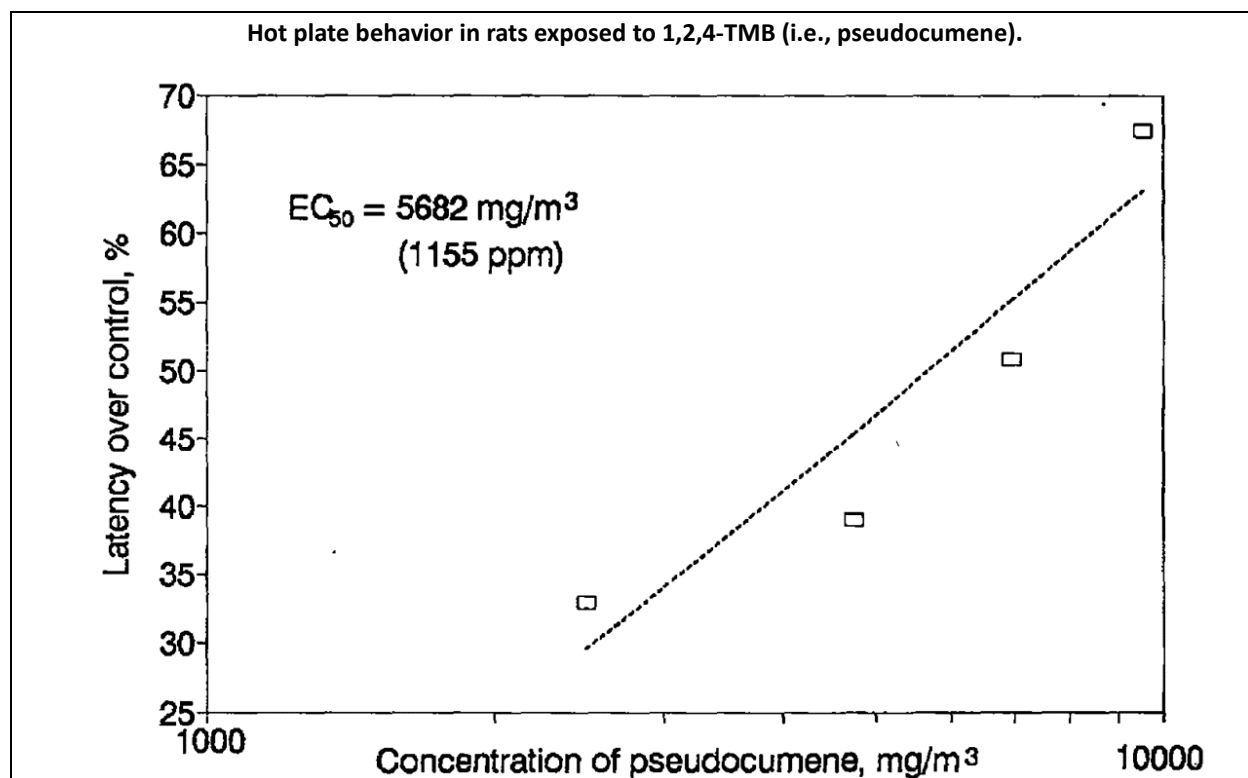
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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

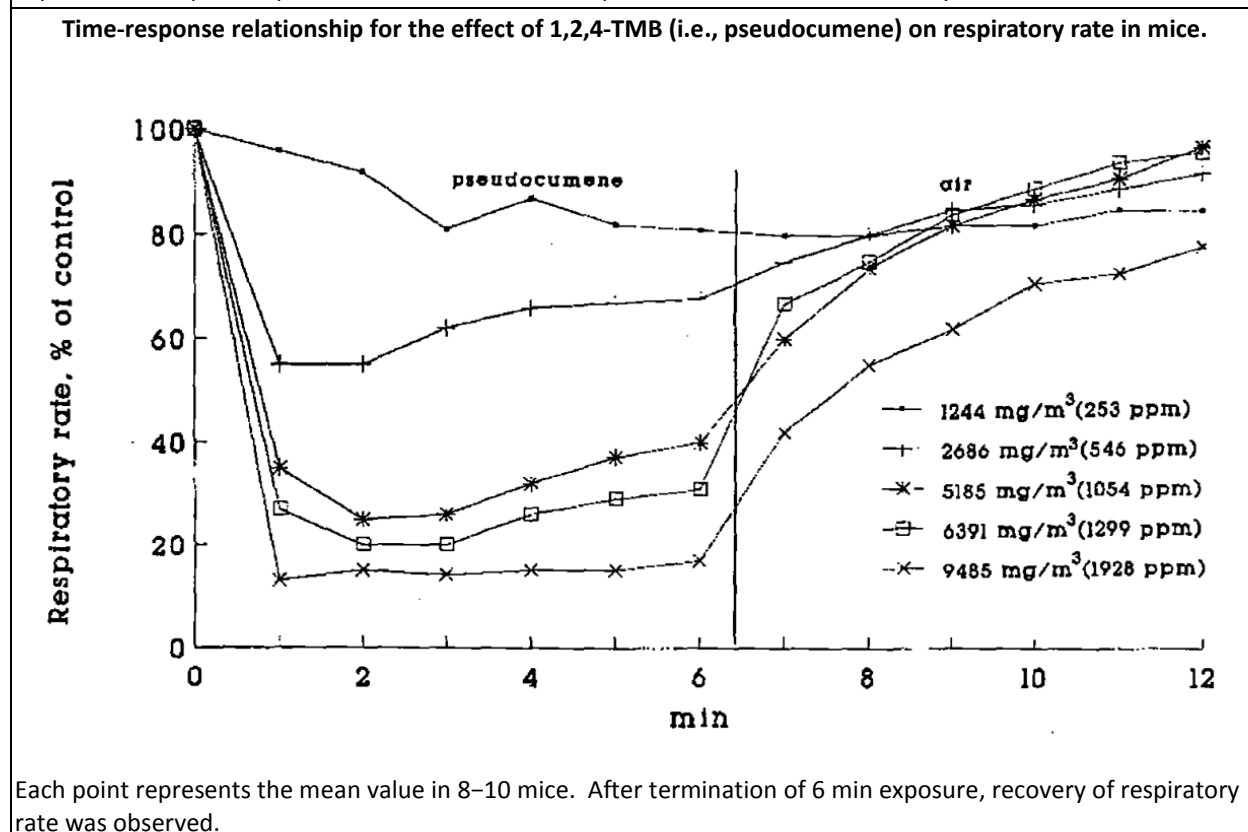
Kidneys, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10					
Liver, mean	3.04	2.90	3.19	3.82*	2.88					
Liver, SD	0.365	0.330	0.357	0.223	0.207					
Liver, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10					
Lung, mean	0.53	0.55	0.53	0.52	0.49					
Lung, SD	0.071	0.059	0.052	0.047	0.079					
Lung, number of rats	10	10	10	10	10					
Ovaries, mean	0.041	0.040	0.039	0.046	0.043					
Ovaries, SD	0.006	0.015	0.014	0.018	0.011					
Ovaries, number of rats	10	10	10	10	9					
Summary of gross necropsy observations (count)										
Tissue and observation	Dose (mg/kg-d)									
	0		50		200		600		600 (recovery)	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Number of gross lesions observed	9	8	8	8	7	9	8	10	8	10
Mandibular lymph nodes; enlarged/red	— <sup>c</sup>	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Mandibular lymph nodes; enlarged	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Tibia; lesion (fracture)	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Adrenals; small, unilateral	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Testes; small, white (right)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Testes; absent (left)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Eye; opaque (left)	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Thymus; focus, red	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thymus; mottled	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Lung enlarged	—	—	—	—	1 <sup>d</sup>	—	—	—	—	—
Large intestine, cecum; focus, red	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Liver; pale	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
*Significantly different from vehicle control, $p \leq 0.05$ .										
<sup>a</sup> Units of measure: sodium (mE/litter serum); potassium (mE/litter serum); chloride (mE/litter serum); creatine kinase (IU/liter serum); AP (IU/liter serum); ALT (IU/liter serum); AST (IU/liter serum); GGT (IU/liter serum); BUN (mg N/dL serum); creatinine (mg/dL serum); total protein (g protein/dL serum); albumin (g/dL serum); globulin (g/dL serum); albumin/globulin ratio; glucose (mg/dL serum); cholesterol (mg/dL serum); total bilirubin (mg/dL serum); WBC ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); RBC ( $10^6/\text{mm}^3$ ); hemoglobin (g/dL blood); hematocrit (%); MCV (femoliter); MCH (picogram); MCHC (%); Platelet ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); nucleated RBCs (number/100 WBCs); mature neutrophils ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); lymphocytes ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); monocytes ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); eosinophils ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); basophils ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ ); immature neutrophils ( $10^3/\text{mm}^3$ )										
<sup>b</sup> Relative organ weight = [absolute organ weight (g)/fasted body weight (g)] × 100.										
<sup>c</sup> Zero incidence.										
<sup>d</sup> Animal died due to gavage error (accidental death).										
BUN = blood urea nitrogen; GGT = gamma-glutamyl transpeptidase (IU/liter serum).										
Comments: 1,3,5-TMB was the only isomer tested in this study. Effects reported in study appeared reversible in the recovery group, which was observed for 28 d following cessation of exposure.										

1 Table C-28. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Korsak et al. \(1995\)](#)

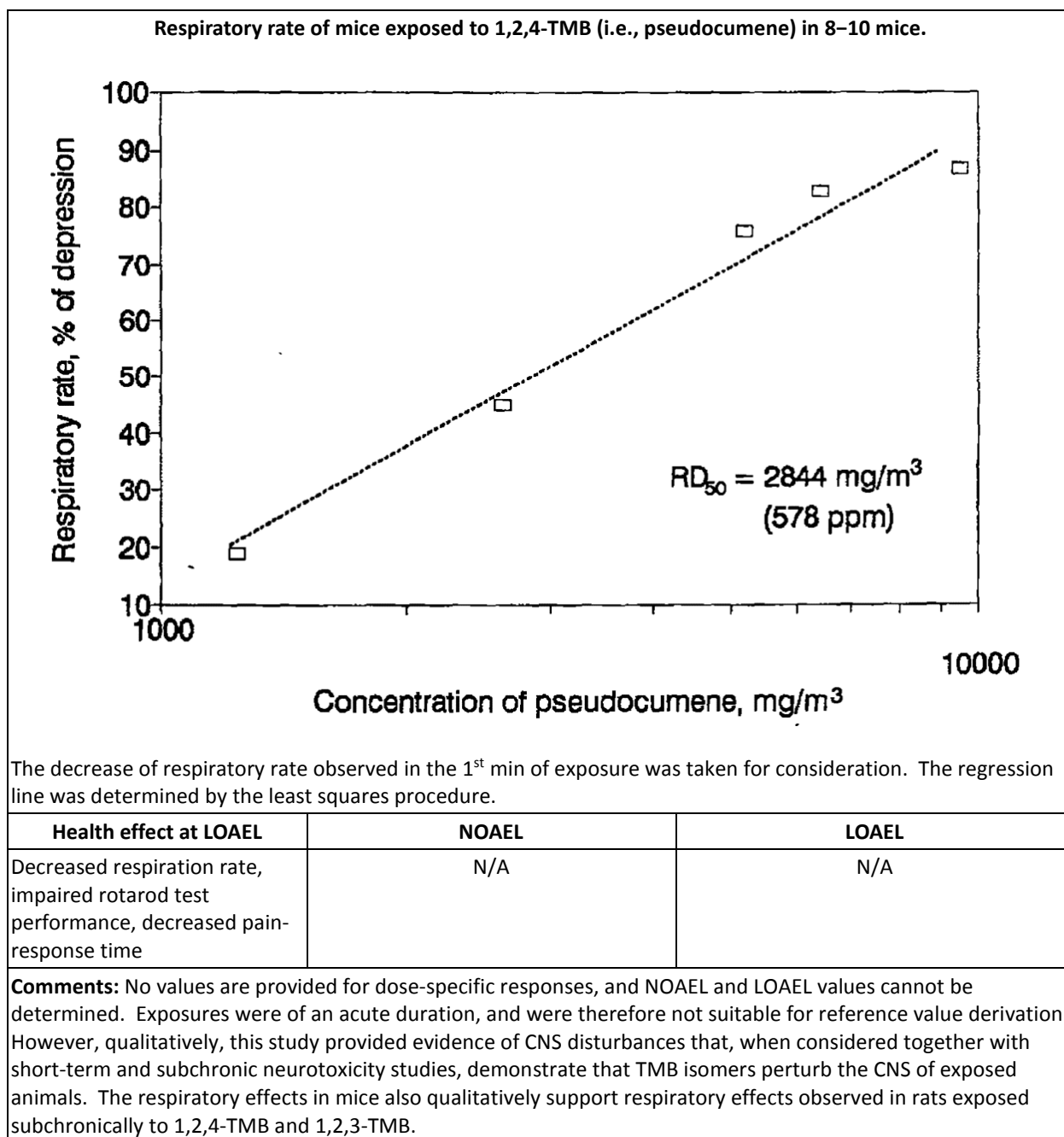
Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
IMP:DAK Wistar rats and Balb/C mice	M	8–10/dose	Inhalation	250–2,000 ppm (1,230–9,840 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	4 hrs—neurotoxicity tests 6 min—respiratory tests
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in a dynamic inhalation chamber (1.3 m<sup>3</sup> volume) with 12–15 air changes/hr.</li> <li>Mean initial body weights were 250–300 g for rats and 23–30 g for mice; animals were housed in wire mesh stainless steel cages, with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups. Before rotarod experiment, rats were trained, and only rats that balanced for 2 min on 10 consecutive d were used.</li> <li>Rotarod, hot plate, and respiratory tests were conducted to measure effects on neuromuscular activity, pain sensitivity, and respiratory rate respectively.</li> </ul>					
<p align="center"><b>Rotarod performance of rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB (i.e., pseudocumene).</b></p> <p align="center">Rats were exposed to vapors of solvent for 4 hrs. Rotarod performance was tested immediately after termination of exposure. Each point represents probit of failures on rotarod in a group of 10 rats.</p>					



Rats were exposed to vapors of solvent for 4 hrs. Hot plate behavior was tested immediately after termination of exposure. Each point represents the mean value of separate measurements of latency over the control in 10 rats.



Each point represents the mean value in 8-10 mice. After termination of 6 min exposure, recovery of respiratory rate was observed.

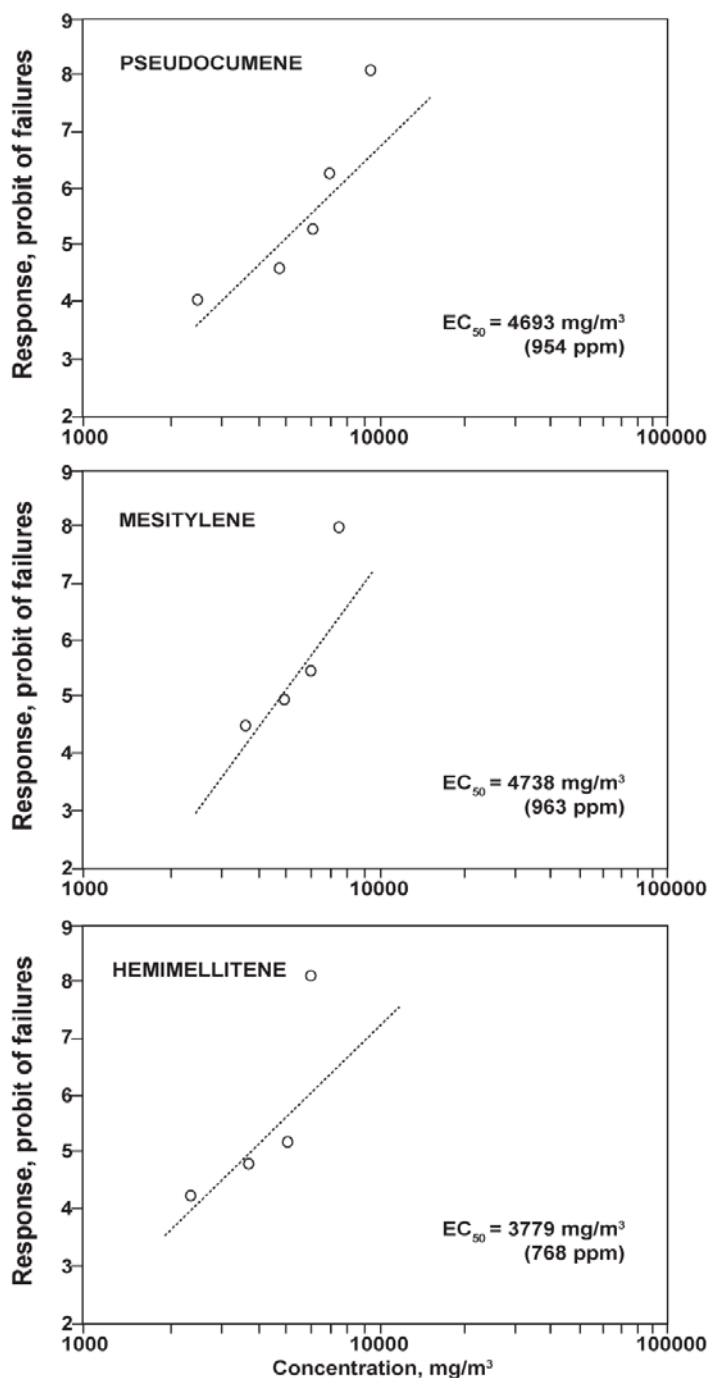




**Table C-29. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
IMP: Wistar rats	M	9–10/dose (1,2,4-TMB) 10–30/dose (1,2,3-TMB)	Inhalation (4 hrs or 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk, for 3 mo)	Acute exposure: 250–2,000 ppm 1,230–9,840 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB Subchronic exposure: 0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	4 hrs or 3 mo
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to either 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB in a dynamic inhalation chamber (1.3 m<sup>3</sup> volume) with 16 air changes/hr.</li> <li>Mean initial body weights were 250–300 g; rats were housed in wire mesh stainless steel cages, with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Rotarod and hot plate tests were conducted to measure effects on neuromuscular function and pain sensitivity respectively.</li> <li>Rotarod performance was tested immediately after termination of exposure.</li> <li>Normal neuromuscular function was indicated by the rats' ability to remain on a rod rotating at 12 rotations/min for 2 min.</li> <li>Hot plate behavior was tested immediately after termination of exposure.</li> <li>Latency of 60 sec was considered as 100% inhibition of pain sensitivity.</li> <li>Authors investigated the effects of exposure to 1,2,3-, 1,2,4- and 1,3,5-TMB on rotarod test performance and pain-sensing response 2 wks after the termination of exposure.</li> </ul>					

Rotarod performance of rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB (hemimellitene), 1,2,4-TMB (pseudocumene), or 1,3,5-TMB (mesitylene).

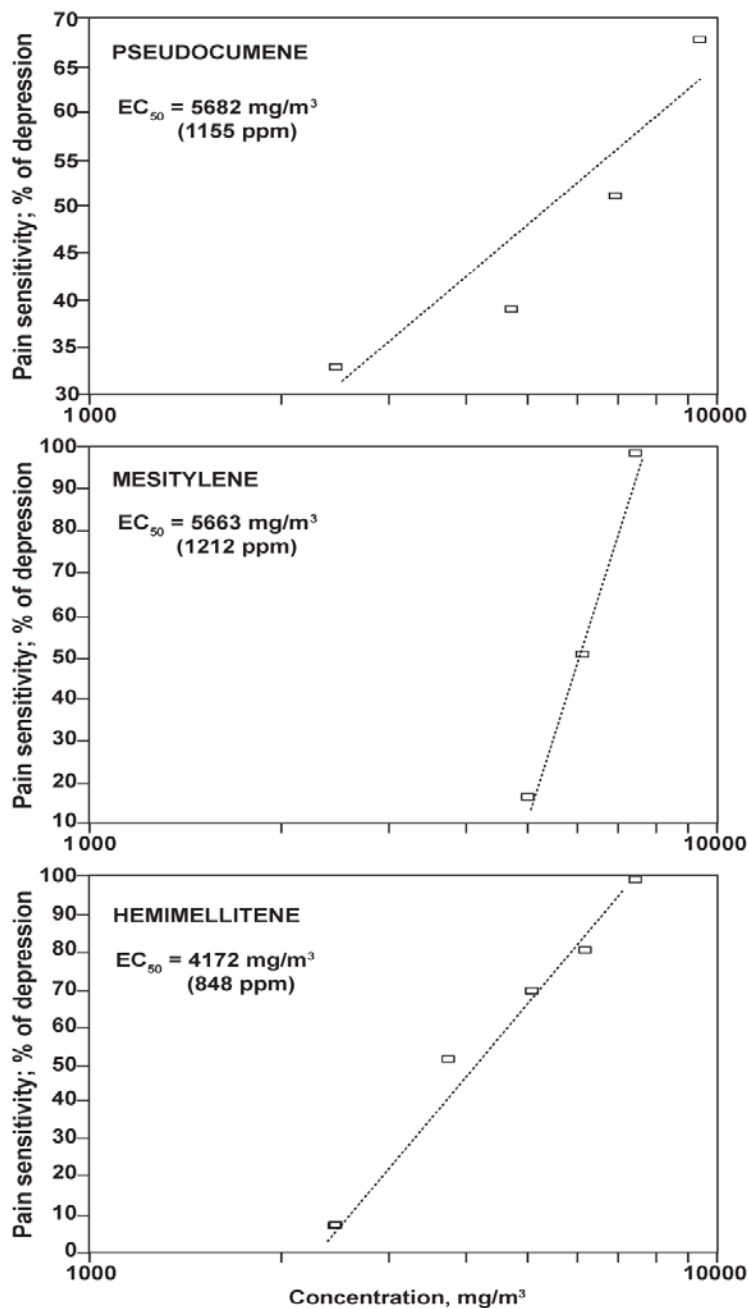


Rats were exposed to solvent vapors for 4 hrs. Rotarod performance was tested immediately after termination of exposure. Each point represents probit of failures on rotarod in a group of 10 rats. Normal neuromuscular function was indicated by the rats' ability to remain on a rod rotating at 12 rotations/min for 2 min. The rotating rod was suspended 20 cm above metal bars connected to a 80 V/2 mA power source.

Source: Reproduced from [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#).

Hot plate behaviors in rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB (hemimellitene), 1,2,4-TMB (pseudocumene), or 1,3,5-TMB (mesitylene).

Effects of exposure to trimethylbenzene isomers

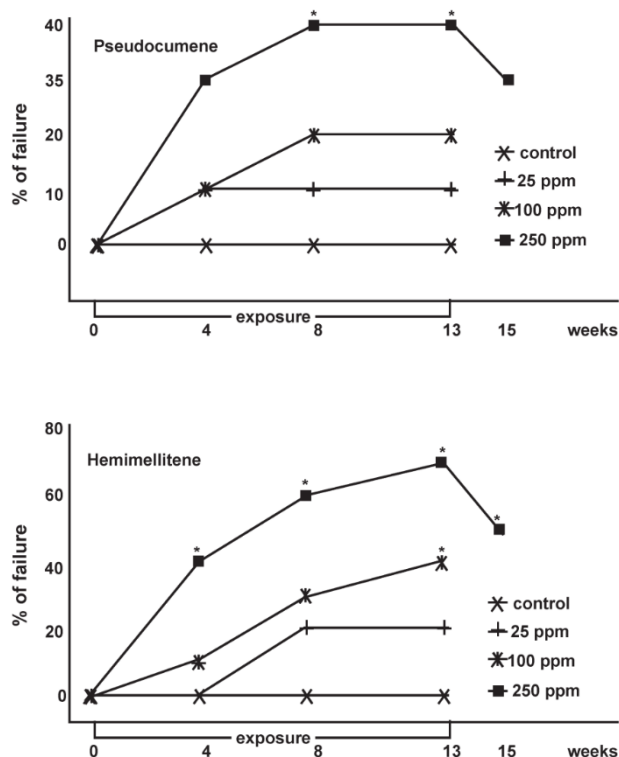


Hot plate behavior was tested immediately after termination of exposure. Each point represents the mean value of separate measurements of latency in 10 rats. Latency of 60 sec was considered as 100% inhibition of pain sensitivity.

Source: Reproduced from [Korsak and Rydzynski \(1996\)](#).

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Rotarod performance of rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB (hemimellitene) or 1,2,4-TMB (pseudocumene) at concentrations of 25, 100, and 250 ppm (123, 492, 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).**



Rats were exposed to vapors of solvents for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk, 3 mo. Statistical significance marked by asterisks,  $p < 0.005$ .

Source: Reproduced from [Korsak and Rydzyński \(1996\)](#).

Observation	Latency of the paw-lick response, sec	
	1,2,4-TMB	1,2,3-TMB
Control	15.4 ± 5.8	9.7 ± 2.1
25 ppm (100 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	18.2 ± 5.7	11.8 ± 3.8*
100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	27.6 ± 3.2**	16.3 ± 6.3***
250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	30.1 ± 7.9**	17.3 ± 3.4**
250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 2 wks after termination of exposure	17.3 ± 3.9	11.0 ± 2.4
*Statistically significant from controls at $p \leq 0.05$ . **Statistically significant from controls at $p \leq 0.01$ . ***Level of significance not reported in Table 1 from <a href="#">Korsak and Rydzyński (1996)</a> ; however, the results of an ad-hoc t-test (performed by EPA) indicated significance at $p < 0.01$ .		
Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Decreased pain sensitivity	N/A for 1,2,3-TMB 25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,2,4-TMB	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,2,3-TMB 100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,2,4-TMB

## ***Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes***

**Comments:** Although rotarod data are useful in providing a qualitative description of neuromuscular impairment following 1,2,4-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB exposure, in comparison to effects on pain sensitivity, the data are not considered as robust regarding suitability for derivation of reference values. Namely, data are presented as dichotomized values instead of a continuous measurement of latency. The acute exposures were not suitable for reference value derivation. However, qualitatively, effects observed following acute exposures provided evidence of CNS disturbances that, when considered together with subchronic neurotoxicity tests, demonstrate that TMB isomers perturb the CNS of exposed animals. It is unclear whether the latency to paw-lick and rotarod tests were performed sequentially in the same cohort of animals.

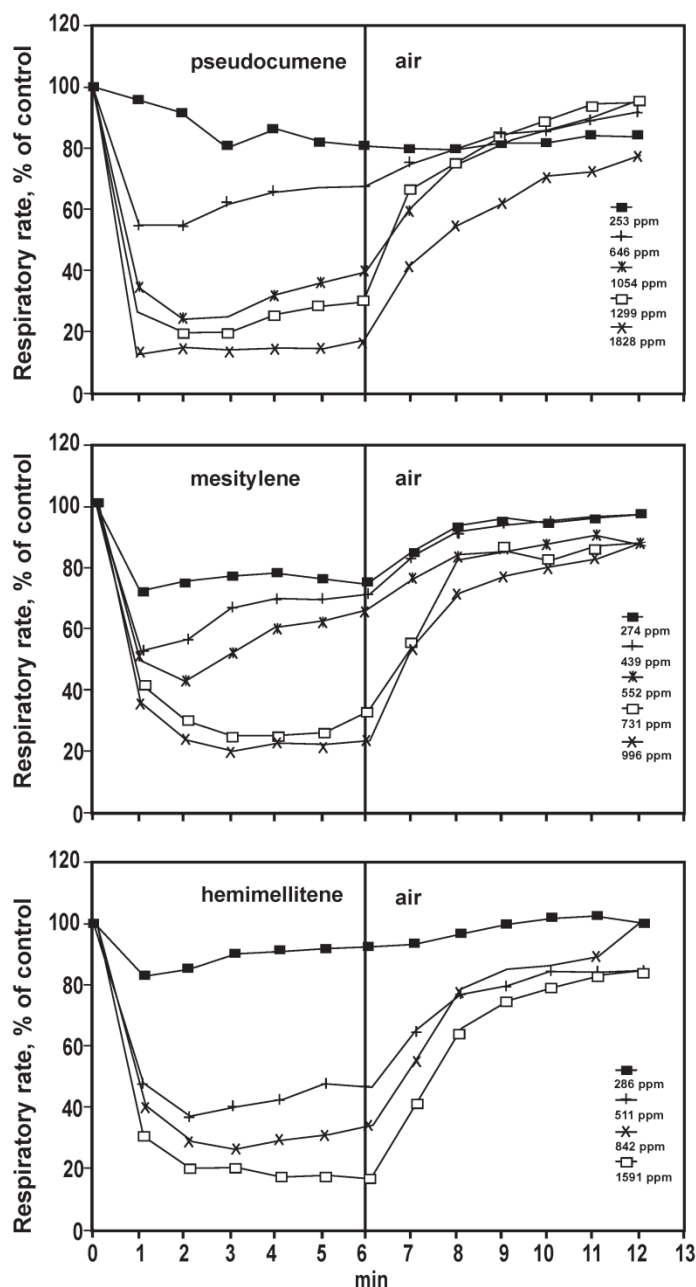
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1 **Table C-30. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Korsak et al. \(1997\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
IMP:DAK Wistar rats and Balb/C mice	M	Acute: 8/dose Subchronic: 6–7/dose	Acute: Inhalation Subchronic: Inhalation	Acute: 250–2,000 ppm (1,230–9,840 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB Subchronic: 0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB	Acute: 6 min Subchronic: 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 90 d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in a dynamic inhalation chamber (1.3 m<sup>3</sup> volume) with 12–15 air changes/hr.</li><li>Rats weighed 250–300 g and were housed in stainless steel wire mesh cages, with food and water provided ad libitum.</li><li>Rats were anesthetized 24 hrs after termination of exposure, and bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) fluid was collected from lung lavage.</li><li>All rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB survived until the end of exposure and no clinical observations of toxicological significance were reported.</li></ul>					
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	123	492	1,230	
	Body weight (mean ± SD)				
Body weight (g)	411 ± 28	383 ± 25	409 ± 56	416 ± 27	
	BAL cell counts (mean ± SD)				
Total cells (10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.93 ± 0.79	5.82 ± 1.32***	5.96 ± 2.80**	4.45 ± 1.58*	
Macrophages (10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup> )	1.83 ± 0.03	3.78 ± 0.8	4.95 ± 0.2**	3.96 ± 0.3**	
Polymorphonuclear leucocytes (10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.04 ± 0.02	1.54 ± 0.7	0.52 ± 0.6	0.21 ± 0.3	
Lymphocytes (10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.06 ± 0.01	0.5 ± 0.2	0.5 ± 0.4	0.2 ± 0.1	
Cell viability (%)	98.0 ± 1.7	95.5 ± 1.6	95.3 ± 3.5	95.3 ± 3.1	
	BAL protein levels and enzyme activities (mean ±SD)				
Total protein (mg/mL) <sup>a</sup>	0.19 ± 0.04	0.26 ± 0.07*	0.26 ± 0.06*	0.24 ± 0.08	
Mucoproteins (mg/mL) <sup>a</sup>	0.16 ± 0.03	0.14 ± 0.02*	0.13 ± 0.02	0.12 ± 0.02	
Lactate dehydrogenase (mU/mL) <sup>a</sup>	34.2 ± 8.52	92.5 ± 37.2***	61.3 ± 22.9*	53.8 ± 28.6	
Acid phosphatase mU/mL) <sup>a</sup>	0.87 ± 0.20	1.28 ± 0.37*	1.52 ± 0.42*	1.26 ± 0.22*	
*Statistically significant from control at <i>p</i> < 0.05. **Statistically significant from control at 0.01. ***Statistically significant from control at 0.001. <sup>a</sup> Jonckheere’s test for trend: total protein, <i>p</i> = 0.0577; mucroprotein, <i>p</i> = 0.3949; lactate dehydrogenase, <i>p</i> = 0.2805; and acid phosphatase, <i>p</i> = 0.0164.					

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Time-response relationship for the effect of 1,2,4-TMB (i.e., pseudocumene) on respiratory rate in mice.



Each point represents the mean value in 8–10 mice. After termination of 6 min exposure, recovery of respiratory rate was observed.

Source: Reproduced from [Korsak et al. \(1997\)](#).

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Increased total BAL cells	N/A	123 mg/m <sup>3</sup>
<b>Comments:</b> The observed markers of inflammation are coherent with the observed respiratory irritative effects observed in mice exposed to 1,2,4-TMB acute (i.e., 6 min). The authors did not report at which dose groups the numbers of polymorphonuclear leucocytes and lymphocytes were significantly elevated relative to control.		

1

Table C-31. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Korsak et al. \(2000a\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
IMP: Wistar rats	M & F	10/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup>	90 d
Additional study details					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB in a dynamic inhalation chamber (1.3 m<sup>3</sup> volume) with 16 air changes/hr.</li> <li>Mean initial body weights were 213 ± 20 for males and 160 ± 11 for females; rats were housed in polypropylene cages with wire-mesh covers (five animals/cage), with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Hematological parameters were evaluated prior to exposure and 1 wk prior to termination of exposure, and for the 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> exposure group, also evaluated 2 wks after termination of exposure; blood clinical chemistry parameters were evaluated 18 hrs after termination of exposure (animals were deprived of food for 24 hrs).</li> <li>Necropsy was performed on all animals. Pulmonary lesions were graded using an arbitrary scale: 1 = minimal, 2 = mild, 3 = moderate, 4 = marked.</li> </ul>					
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	123	492	1,230	
Body and organ weights (mean ± SD)					
Males					
Terminal body weight (g)	368 ± 22	390 ± 26	399 ± 22	389 ± 29	
Absolute organ weight (g)					
Lungs	1.78 ± 0.28	1.83 ± 0.25	2.93 ± 0.26*	1.78 ± 0.36	
Liver	10.27 ± 1.82	11.43 ± 1.05	10.78 ± 1.33	10.86 ± 2.04	
Spleen	0.68 ± 0.08	0.85 ± 0.19*	0.79 ± 0.09	0.72 ± 0.08	
Kidney	2.06 ± 0.13	2.24 ± 0.15	2.14 ± 0.15	2.18 ± 0.16	
Adrenals	0.048 ± 0.007	0.046 ± 0.0050	0.054 ± 0.011	0.047 ± 0.005	
Testes	3.72 ± 0.35	3.90 ± 0.38	4.03 ± 0.27	3.87 ± 0.24	
Heart	0.90 ± 0.04	0.94 ± 0.06	0.94 ± 0.08	0.96 ± 0.07	
Relative organ weight (g)					
Lungs	0.496 ± 0.056	0.475 ± 0.056	0.586 ± 0.115	0.477 ± 0.080	
Liver	2.896 ± 0.456	2.894 ± 0.427	2.990 ± 0.465	2.901 ± 0.479	
Spleen	0.189 ± 0.011	0.220 ± 0.041	0.210 ± 0.018	0.200 ± 0.018	
Kidney	0.588 ± 0.029	0.585 ± 0.022	0.587 ± 0.065	0.586 ± 0.040	
Adrenals	0.011 ± 0.003	0.010 ± 0.000	0.022 ± 0.024	0.011 ± 0.003	
Testes	1.041 ± 0.076	1.020 ± 0.079	1.067 ± 0.102	1.039 ± 0.077	
Heart	0.252 ± 0.013	0.239 ± 0.020	0.249 ± 0.014	0.258 ± 0.020	



**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

	Females					
Terminal body weight (g)	243 ± 16	243 ± 19	230 ± 14	229 ± 21		
Absolute organ weight (g)						
Lungs	1.29 ± 0.18	1.32 ± 0.12	1.25 ± 0.13	1.23 ± 0.11		
Liver	6.48 ± 1.02	6.54 ± 0.69	5.81 ± 0.83	6.72 ± 1.34		
Spleen	0.59 ± 0.08	0.61 ± 0.11	0.49 ± 0.06*	0.52 ± 0.08		
Kidney	1.55 ± 0.12	1.50 ± 0.14	1.38 ± 0.11*	1.44 ± 0.19		
Adrenals	0.065 ± 0.007	0.070 ± 0.008	0.066 ± 0.010	0.061 ± 0.013		
Ovaries	0.09 ± 0.02	0.09 ± 0.01	0.09 ± 0.27	0.09 ± 0.02		
Heart	0.66 ± 0.07	0.64 ± 0.05	0.61 ± 0.07	0.63 ± 0.06		
Relative organ weight (g)						
Lungs	0.555 ± 0.058	0.581 ± 0.040	0.596 ± 0.051	0.569 ± 0.053		
Liver	2.770 ± 0.222	2.881 ± 0.309	2.758 ± 0.223	3.078 ± 0.434		
Spleen	0.255 ± 0.025	0.266 ± 0.031	0.237 ± 0.036	0.24 ± 0.033		
Kidney	0.667 ± 0.030	0.661 ± 0.047	0.660 ± 0.042	0.662 ± 0.036		
Adrenals	0.0028 ± 0.006	0.031 ± 0.006	0.032 ± 0.006	0.029 ± 0.006		
Ovaries	0.043 ± 0.008	0.041 ± 0.006	0.045 ± 0.013	0.047 ± 0.009		
Heart	0.284 ± 0.023	0.283 ± 0.025	0.291 ± 0.025	0.289 ± 0.015		
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )					
	0	123	492	1,230	1,230 <sup>a</sup>	Trend test <sup>b</sup>
	Hematological parameters (mean ± SD)					
	Males					
Hematocrit (%)	49.9 ± 1.9	50.4 ± 2.0	50.0 ± 1.9	50.6 ± 1.5	50.1 ± 1.1	0.2993
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	15.1 ± 1.1	15.6 ± 0.9	15.4 ± 0.9	15.4 ± 0.6	16.0 ± 1.0	0.2112
RBCs (× 10 <sup>6</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	9.98 ± 1.68	9.84 ± 1.82	8.50 ± 1.11	7.70 ± 1.38**	7.61 ± 1.6	0.0004
WBCs (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	8.68 ± 2.89	8.92 ± 3.44	8.30 ± 1.84	15.89 ± 5.74**	7.11 ± 2.1	0.0019
Rod neutrophil (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.4 ± 0.5	0.2 ± 0.4	0.9 ± 1.5	0.7 ± 0.8	0.0589
Segmented neutrophil (%)	24.1 ± 9.2	19.7 ± 6.5	20.7 ± 7.7	18.9 ± 10.8	29.4 ± 6.4	0.0730
Eosinophil (%)	1.2 ± 1.7	1.2 ± 1.0	0.4 ± 0.6	1.7 ± 1.4	1.5 ± 1.5	0.2950
Lymphocyte (%)	73.5 ± 10.3	76.2 ± 7.1	76.8 ± 8.5	75.8 ± 16.0	65.4 ± 8.9	0.1297
Monocyte (%)	1.1 ± 1.3	2.5 ± 2.1	2.3 ± 2.2	1.8 ± 2.5	2.7 ± 2.5	0.3818
Lymphoblast (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.8 ± 1.3	0.3 ± 0.9	0.1387
Myelocyte (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.2 ± 0.4	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.4046
Erythroblase (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5000
Reticulocyte (%)	3.1 ± 2.3	2.3 ± 1.4	2.8 ± 2.1	3.1 ± 2.5	6.4 ± 3.2	0.4900
Platelet (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	294 ± 46	293 ± 73	359 ± 46	335 ± 80	386 ± 70	0.0741
Clotting time (sec)	43 ± 19	41 ± 17	37 ± 13	33 ± 7	56 ± 21	0.1457

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	Females					
Hematocrit (%)	46.0 ± 1.6	46.6 ± 2.7	47.0 ± 2.7	46.5 ± 4.1	45.8 ± 1.3	0.2336
Hemoglobin (g/dL)	14.5 ± 0.9	13.8 ± 1.3	14.4 ± 0.9	14.2 ± 0.9	14.9 ± 0.9	0.3461
RBCs (× 10 <sup>6</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	8.22 ± 1.16	7.93 ± 2.04	8.51 ± 1.13	7.71 ± 1.58	6.99 ± 1.8	0.1891
WBCs (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	7.50 ± 1.31	6.76 ± 2.95	9.55 ± 4.48	9.83 ± 3.74	7.11 ± 2.4	0.0307
Rod neutrophil (%)	1.4 ± 1.6	0.5 ± 0.7	0.4 ± 0.5	0.4 ± 0.9	0.5 ± 0.7	0.3270
Segmented neutrophil (%)	22.8 ± 6.5	15.5 ± 7.9	20.7 ± 7.5	17.4 ± 9.3	20.5 ± 9.5	0.1868
Eosinophil (%)	1.2 ± 0.6	16 ± 1.6	1.1 ± 1.7	1.2 ± 2.1	2.0 ± 1.7	0.1051
Lymphocyte (%)	73.2 ± 7.9	79.4 ± 8.4	75.5 ± 7.4	78.8 ± 11.6	74.1 ± 9.5	0.2140
Monocyte (%)	1.2 ± 1.3	2.6 ± 2.8	1.3 ± 1.7	1.5 ± 0.8	1.5 ± 1.4	0.4156
Lymphoblast (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.1 ± 0.3	0.5 ± 1.5	0.7 ± 1.1	0.8 ± 1.3	0.1361
Myelocyte (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5 ± 1.5	0.1 ± 0.3	0.1 ± 0.3	0.3189
Erythroblase (%)	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5000
Reticulocyte (%)	3.5 ± 2.6	1.7 ± 2.0	1.8 ± 0.9	1.0 ± 0.6*	5.8 ± 3.6	0.0137
Platelet (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> )	306 ± 34	234 ± 50*	303 ± 48	325 ± 57	349 ± 77	0.1542
Clotting time (sec)	30 ± 10	23 ± 4	19 ± 5**	22 ± 7*	48 ± 19	0.0034
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )					Trend test <sup>b</sup>
	0	123	492	1,230		
	Clinical chemistry parameters (mean ± SD)					
	Males					
AST (U/dL)	138.7 ± 20.6	141.3 ± 21.0	134.5 ± 27.0	138 ± 35.0		0.2223
ALT (U/dL)	51.7 ± 5.9	48.3 ± 7.8	49.7 ± 9.1	46.8 ± 5.1		0.0637
ALP (U/dL)	80.4 ± 12.0	86.2 ± 22.0	84.9 ± 21.0	90.5 ± 19.0		0.1518
SDH (U/dL)	6.6 ± 1.4	8.1 ± 0.8**	7.8 ± 1.0*	8.0 ± 1.1**		0.0083
GGT (μU/mL)	0.22 ± 0.44	0.20 ± 0.42	0.20 ± 0.42	0.20 ± 0.42		0.4700
Bilirubin (mg/dL)	1.027 ± 0.193	0.974 ± 0.338	1.106 ± 0.289	0.932 ± 0.175		0.2594
Total cholesterol (mg/dL)	63.6 ± 13.0	69.1 ± 12.0	72.4 ± 14.9	70.6 ± 19.5		0.0920
Glucose (mg/dL)	141.9 ± 23.9	163.8 ± 29.7	157.9 ± 23.2	162.2 ± 28.9		0.0876
Total protein (g)	5.43 ± 1.00	5.47 ± 1.39	5.34 ± 1.29	5.82 ± 1.49		0.3242
Albumin (g)	3.25 ± 0.60	3.45 ± 0.56	3.41 ± 0.83	3.53 ± 0.66		0.2279
Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.506 ± 0.099	0.437 ± 0.138	0.510 ± 0.150	0.490 ± 0.178		0.3982
Urea (mg/dL)	54.2 ± 8.6	48.8 ± 8.3	47.6 ± 3.4	49.0 ± 8.7		0.1145
Calcium (mg/dL)	10.4 ± 0.5	10.8 ± 0.5	10.7 ± 0.8	10.8 ± 0.7		0.2449
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	6.27 ± 0.49	6.50 ± 0.57	6.49 ± 0.61	6.46 ± 0.78		0.1580
Sodium (mmol/L)	139.0 ± 1.4	1,393 ± 1.3	139.6 ± 1.4	139.0 ± 1.4		0.4950
Potassium (mmol/L)	4.87 ± 0.36	4.97 ± 0.34	4.97 ± 0.25	4.83 ± 0.40		0.2907
Chloride (mmol/L)	106.6 ± 1.2	106.1 ± 1.7	106.3 ± 1.5	106.7 ± 1.2		0.4353

*This document is a draft for review purposes only and does not constitute Agency policy.*

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	Females					
AST (U/dL)	139.4 ± 16.6	136.7 ± 27.1	145.5 ± 22.7	141.4 ± 15.6	0.2118	
ALT (U/dL)	49.8 ± 6.3	51.4 ± 8.2	50.4 ± 9.0	55.1 ± 9.5	0.1844	
ALP (U/dL)	41.2 ± 7.8	37.2 ± 6.8	39.8 ± 11.0	49.8 ± 15.5	0.1740	
SDH (U/dL)	5.9 ± 1.5	7.3 ± 1.7	7.1 ± 1.8	7.0 ± 1.6	0.0637	
GGT (μU/mL)	0.20 ± 0.42	0.30 ± 0.48	0.10 ± 0.32	0.44 ± 0.53	0.2821	
Bilirubin (mg/dL)	0.745 ± 0.342	0.690 ± 0.396	0.743 ± 0.248	0.642 ± 0.257	0.3092	
Total cholesterol (mg/dL)	64.5 ± 11.9	65.7 ± 12.8	64.1 ± 10.8	62.5 ± 7.6	0.4775	
Glucose (mg/dL)	118.2 ± 28.8	138.8 ± 38.5	104.5 ± 23.8	129.9 ± 39.7	0.4838	
Total protein (g)	6.91 ± 0.53	7.44 ± 0.89	7.08 ± 0.35	6.94 ± 0.64	0.4036	
Albumin (g)	3.42 ± 0.24	3.46 ± 0.27	3.61 ± 0.26	3.42 ± 0.15	0.2408	
Creatinine (mg/dL)	0.655 ± 0.135	0.553 ± 0.104	0.629 ± 0.153	0.577 ± 0.133	0.1641	
Urea (mg/dL)	52.7 ± 7.8	49.6 ± 6.7	52.8 ± 10.5	52.2 ± 11.8	0.4718	
Calcium (mg/dL)	10.5 ± 0.6	10.8 ± 0.8	10.6 ± 0.5	10.8 ± 0.6	0.3011	
Phosphorus (mg/dL)	4.75 ± 0.54	5.05 ± 0.70	5.34 ± 0.74	4.90 ± 1.01	0.4050	
Sodium (mmol/L)	137.9 ± 1.7	138.0 ± 1.8	137.8 ± 2.5	138.2 ± 2.2	0.3628	
Potassium (mmol/L)	4.54 ± 0.22	4.39 ± 0.61	4.51 ± 0.26	4.46 ± 0.25	0.4108	
Chloride (mmol/L)	104.9 ± 2.0	105.5 ± 1.3	105.9 ± 1.6	106.4 ± 1.8	0.0601	
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) [dose group ID]					
	0 [1]	123 [2]	492 [3]	1,230 [4]	Comparison to controls <sup>c</sup>	Trend test <sup>b</sup>
	Males					
Proliferation of peribronchial lymphatic tissue (0–4) <sup>d</sup>	16.0 <sup>e</sup>	15.6	30.6	17.4	1–3*	0.13
Formation of lympho-epithelium in bronchii (0–4)	18.1	15.6	27.9	18.2		22
Bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia (0–4)	19.0	18.3	26.1	16.5		0.49
Interstitial lymphocytic infiltration (0–3)	14.8	18.4	26.9	19.4	1–3*	0.12
Alveolar macrophages (0–3)	14.1	14.8	24.1	26.4	1–4*	0.002
Cumulative score of all individuals	13.9	15.1	29.1	21.3	1–3*	0.02

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	Females					
Proliferation of peribronchial lymphatic tissue (0–4) <sup>k</sup>	19.4	21.7	21.2	17.5		0.36
Formation of lympho-epithelium in bronchii (0–4)	18.3	20.1	25.1	16.1		0.48
Bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia (0–4)	19.0	22.9	19.0	19.0		0.48
Interstitial lymphocytic infiltration (0–3)	15.8	14.5	21.5	29.2	1–4*	0.0017
Alveolar macrophages (0–3)	19.7	14.9	16.6	29.8	ns	0.03
Cumulative score of all individuals	16.8	15.3	21.3	27.3	ns	0.01
*Statistically significant from controls at $p < 0.05$ .						
**Statistically significant from controls at $p < 0.01$ .						
<sup>a</sup> Effects measured in rats exposed to 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 2 wks after termination of exposure.						
<sup>b</sup> $p$ -value reported from Jonckheere’s trend test.						
<sup>c</sup> Reports the results of pair-wise statistical significance of exposure groups compared to controls (i.e., 1–3 would indicate that the 492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> was statistically significantly different from controls).						
<sup>d</sup> Grading system (0–4, 0–3; see Additional study details above).						
<sup>e</sup> Results presented as ranges of the Kruskal-Willis test.						
SDH = sorbitol dehydrogenase.						
Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL			LOAEL		
Increased pulmonary lesions, decreased RBCs, and increased WBCs in males	123 mg/m <sup>3</sup>			492 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
<b>Comments:</b> The observed inflammatory lesions are coherent with observations of increased inflammatory cell populations in BAL fluid in <a href="#">Korsak et al. (1997)</a> . The authors did not report the incidences of pulmonary lesions, but rather the results of the Kruskal-Wallis test. This makes it difficult to interpret the dose-response relationship and limits analysis of these endpoints to the NOAEL/LOAEL method for determining a POD, rather than using BMD modeling.						

1 Table C-32. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Korsak et al. \(2000b\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Concentration range	Exposure duration
IMP: Wistar rats	M & F	10/dose, 20 in 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> group	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB	90 d
Additional study details					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,3-TMB in a dynamic inhalation chamber (1.3 m<sup>3</sup> volume) with 16 air changes/hr.</li> <li>Mean initial body weights were 290 ± 25 g for males and 215 ± 13 g for females; rats were housed in polypropylene cages with wire-mesh covers (five animals/cage), with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Hematological parameters were evaluated prior to exposure and 1 wk prior to termination of exposure, and for the 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> exposure group, also evaluated 2 wk after termination of exposure; blood clinical chemistry parameters were evaluated 18 hrs after termination of exposure (animals were deprived of food for 24 hrs).</li> <li>Necropsy was performed on all animals.</li> <li>Pulmonary effects were graded using an arbitrary scale: 0 = normal status, 1 = minimal, 2 = mild, 3 = moderate, 4 = marked.</li> </ul>					
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	123	492	1,230	
	Body and organ weights (mean ± SD)				
	Males				
Terminal body weight (g)	390 ± 35	408 ± 50	404 ± 33	413 ± 46	
Absolute organ weight (g)					
Lungs	1.90 ± 0.22	1.86 ± 0.26	1.99 ± 0.37	1.88 ± 0.34	
Liver	8.28 ± 0.97	8.83 ± 1.40	9.05 ± 0.99	9.54 ± 1.50	
Spleen	0.71 ± 0.06	0.12 ± 0.10	0.82 ± 0.11	0.79 ± 0.20	
Kidney	2.34 ± 0.27	2.29 ± 0.23	2.48 ± 0.25	2.50 ± 0.25	
Adrenals	0.059 ± 0.012	0.061 ± 0.016	0.061 ± 0.013	0.061 ± 0.012	
Testes	3.78 ± 0.44	3.69 ± 0.24	3.71 ± 0.36	3.91 ± 0.12	
Heart	1.04 ± 0.13	0.98 ± 0.11	1.08 ± 0.13	1.15 ± 0.19	
Relative organ weight (g)					
Lungs	0.510 ± 0.071	0.479 ± 0.026	0.504 ± 0.082	0.468 ± 0.073	
Liver	2.208 ± 0.163	2.271 ± 0.129	2.287 ± 0.115	2.414 ± 0.214*	
Spleen	0.190 ± 0.019	0.187 ± 0.015	0.207 ± 0.021	0.203 ± 0.058	
Kidney	0.623 ± 0.049	0.594 ± 0.029	0.629 ± 0.033	0.637 ± 0.060	
Adrenals	0.016 ± 0.003	0.016 ± 0.003	0.015 ± 0.003	0.016 ± 0.003	
Testes	1.014 ± 0.087	0.961 ± 0.091	0.941 ± 0.063	1.002 ± 0.106	
Heart	0.277 ± 0.027	0.252 ± 0.018	0.274 ± 0.032	0.284 ± 0.026	

**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

	Females					
Terminal body weight (g)	268 ± 18	262 ± 21	263 ± 14	259 ± 23		
Absolute organ weight (g)						
Lungs	1.62 ± 0.15	1.55 ± 0.33	1.47 ± 0.18	1.51 ± 0.16		
Liver	6.05 ± 0.42	5.85 ± 0.47	5.94 ± 0.51	6.05 ± 0.44		
Spleen	0.63 ± 0.05	0.61 ± 0.10	0.57 ± 0.05*	0.56 ± 0.06*		
Kidney	1.58 ± 0.16	1.53 ± 0.12	1.54 ± 0.10	1.62 ± 0.16		
Adrenals	0.080 ± 0.014	0.082 ± 0.010	0.083 ± 0.011	0.075 ± 0.015		
Ovaries	0.12 ± 0.03	0.12 ± 0.03	0.13 ± 0.02	0.14 ± 0.04		
Heart	0.74 ± 0.05	0.71 ± 0.50	0.75 ± 0.06	0.73 ± 0.08		
Relative organ weight (g)						
Lungs	0.651 ± 0.053	0.637 ± 0.122	0.604 ± 0.049	0.639 ± 0.076		
Liver	2.434 ± 0.143	2.400 ± 0.088	2.448 ± 0.190	2.555 ± 0.214		
Spleen	0.257 ± 0.027	0.249 ± 0.032	0.234 ± 0.19	0.237 ± 0.022		
Kidney	0.639 ± 0.076	0.628 ± 0.024	0.638 ± 0.032	0.686 ± 0.058		
Adrenals	0.032 ± 0.005	0.034 ± 0.004	0.034 ± 0.005	0.032 ± 0.008		
Ovaries	0.051 ± 0.014	0.050 ± 0.014	0.056 ± 0.006	0.060 ± 0.018		
Heart	0.298 ± 0.016	0.291 ± 0.012	0.309 ± 0.024	0.307 ± 0.026		
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )					
	0	123	492	1,230	1,230 <sup>a</sup>	Trend test <sup>b</sup>
	Hematological parameters (mean ± SD)					
Hematocrit (%), males	46.4 ± 1.6	45.8 ± 2.6	45.7 ± 1.3	45.5 ± 2.1	43.5 ± 26	0.1615
Hematocrit (%), females	42.7 ± 2.2	45.0 ± 2.4	41.8 ± 1.6	41.5 ± 24	41.7 ± 20	0.0198
Hemoglobin (g/dL), males	16.4 ± 1.0	17.6 ± 1.6	17.6 ± 0.8	15.0 ± 1.2	ND	0.0688
Hemoglobin (g/dL), females	13.9 ± 0.7	15.1 ± 1.0*	14.6 ± 0.6	14.7 ± 0.9	ND	0.0748
RBCs (× 10 <sup>6</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), males	9.49 ± 2.03	10.25 ± 1.29	10.11 ± 1.27	8.05 ± 1.38*	8.6 ± 1.5	0.0011
RBCs (× 10 <sup>6</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), females	8.03 ± 1.11	8.73 ± 1.24	7.79 ± 1.57	7.27 ± 1.32	6.6 ± 1.8	0.0185
WBCs (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), males	10.09 ± 2.23	9.38 ± 3.29	7.71 ± 3.45	9.03 ± 275	6.3 ± 4.6	0.1661
WBCs (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), females	10.71 ± 4.28	9.54 ± 2.37	13.02 ± 3.07	13.01 ± 4.53	62 ± 2.5	0.0189
Rod neutrophil (%), males	0.8 ± 1.0	1.0 ± 1.1	0.4 ± 0.5	0.5 ± 0.6	5.2 ± 3.0	0.1878
Rod neutrophil (%), females	0.4 ± 0.8	0.6 ± 0.6	1.1 ± 1.4	0.4 ± 0.8	1.8 ± 2.2	0.4711
Segmented neutrophil (%), males	24.8 ± 4.5	25.4 ± 5.8	20.7 ± 5.8	17.7 ± 8.3*	27.5 ± 9.2	0.0032
Segmented neutrophil (%), females	23.1 ± 6.1	19.7 ± 3.4	16.4 ± 4.2*	11.9 ± 7.1**	19.6 ± 8.3	0.0000
Eosinophil (%), males	1.3 ± 1.4	0.8 ± 1.0	0.8 ± 1.1	0.6 ± 0.8	0.6 ± 0.6	0.1439
Eosinophil (%), females	1.4 ± 1.0	0.6 ± 0.6	0.7 ± 0.8	0.8 ± 0.9	0.7 ± 0.8	0.2778
Lymphocyte (%), males	71.2 ± 5.0	71.6 ± 6.8	75.4 ± 4.7	79.3 ± 78.0**	63.7 ± 11.3	0.0015
Lymphocyte (%), females	73.2 ± 7.9	77.5 ± 4.9	80.4 ± 5.1	84.0 ± 78.0**	75.7 ± 9.9	0.0003
Monocyte (%), males	1.9 ± 1.6	1.3 ± 1.4	2.3 ± 20	1.6 ± 22	3.1 ± 3.7	0.3014
Monocyte (%), females	2.0 ± 2.0	1.6 ± 1.6	1.1 ± 1.3	2.1 ± 1.7	1.3 ± 1.8	0.2426

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Lymphoblast (%), males	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.2 ± 0.6	0.2 ± 0.6	0.0 ± 0.0	0.2911
Lymphoblast (%), females	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.1 ± 0.3	0.3 ± 0.7	0.0 ± 0.0	0.1403
Myelocyte (%), males	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5000
Myelocyte (%), females	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5 ± 0.2	0.0 ± 0.0	0.3963
Erythroblast (%), males	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.5000
Erythroblast (%), females	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.1 ± 0.3	0.0 ± 0.0	0.2995
Reticulocyte (%), males	2.8 ± 1.3	2.1 ± 1.7	3.8 ± 2.1	4.5 ± 1.8*	6.9 ± 3.1**	0.0017
Reticulocyte (%), females	2.6 ± 0.9	4.6 ± 2.5*	5.2 ± .50*	4.4 ± 3.0	6.8 ± 3.5	0.0459
Platelet (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), males	262 ± 51	266 ± 70	257 ± 81	242 ± 76	277 ± 80	0.1708
Platelet (× 10 <sup>3</sup> /mm <sup>3</sup> ), females	224 ± 68	290 ± 70	249 ± 53	204 ± 44	258 ± 45	0.0329
Clotting time (sec), males	29.7 ± 8.6	23.0 ± 10.0	37.9 ± 9.9	29.2 ± 15.6	21.7 ± 5.4	0.4650
Clotting time (sec), females	27.2 ± 2.8	25.0 ± 9.4	23.8 ± 9.5	25.1 ± 12.1	25.9 ± 8.0	0.3479
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )					Trend test <sup>b</sup>
	0	123	492	1,230		
	Clinical chemistry parameters (mean ± SD)					
AST (U/dL), males	107.8 ± 14.2	102.9 ± 15.1	103.6 ± 14.5	119.6 ± 27.3	0.2223	
AST (U/dL), females	96.1 ± 9.4	96.9 ± 9.9	117.1 ± 23.9	104.6 ± 15.7	0.2118	
ALT (U/dL), males	41.3 ± 2.0	40.7 ± 3.1	41.5 ± 5.5	45.5 ± 5.6	0.0637	
ALT (U/dL), females	39.7 ± 3.5	39.5 ± 6.4	36.2 ± 3.3	30.5 ± 9.9**	0.1844	
ALP (U/dL), males	70.5 ± 15.2	70.6 ± 11.7	66.5 ± 10.8	63.7 ± 15.7	0.1518	
ALP (U/dL), females	21.5 ± 2.7	25.8 ± 8.4	31.1 ± 8.6*	30.5 ± 9.9*	0.1740	
SDH (U/dL), males	1.6 ± 0.7	2.3 ± 1.3	2.5 ± 0.9	2.7 ± 0.7*	0.0083	
SDH (U/dL), females	1.7 ± 0.7	1.9 ± 0.9	1.5 ± 0.7	1.8 ± 1.0	0.0637	
GGT (μU/mL), males	0.77 ± 0.66	0.77 ± 0.97	0.40 ± 0.51	0.50 ± 0.75	0.4700	
GGT (μU/mL), females	0.55 ± 0.72	0.44 ± 1.01	0.66 ± 1.11	0.30 ± 0.48	0.2821	
Bilirubin (mg/dL), males	0.600 ± 0.516	0.600 ± 0.516	0.800 ± 0.422	0.625 ± 0.518	0.2594	
Bilirubin (mg/dL), females	0.911 ± 0.348	1.161 ± 0.469	0.930 ± 0.463	0.976 ± 0.421	0.3092	
Total cholesterol (mg/dL), males	63.1 ± 10.1	62.2 ± 11.6	64.5 ± 16.2	65.0 ± 9.1	0.0920	
Total cholesterol (mg/dL), females	60.1 ± 12.2	62.4 ± 15.3	62.3 ± 7.7	64.4 ± 14.1	0.4775	
Glucose (mg/dL), males	95.5 ± 13.1	110.8 ± 14.7	100.2 ± 15.2	114.5 ± 20.6	0.0876	
Glucose (mg/dL), females	115.9 ± 8.5	121.0 ± 17.5	109.2 ± 5.8	109.8 ± 10.8	0.4838	
Total protein (g), males	7.84 ± 0.13	8.02 ± 0.50	7.76 ± 0.27	8.04 ± 0.59	0.3242	
Total protein (g), females	8.24 ± 1.24	8.36 ± 1.14	8.65 ± 0.84	8.62 ± 0.96	0.4036	
Albumin (g), males	3.15 ± 0.73	3.15 ± 1.33	3.08 ± 1.30	2.95 ± 1.12	0.2279	
Albumin (g), females	3.22 ± 1.28	3.17 ± 1.03	2.58 ± 1.28	3.60 ± 1.17	0.2408	
Creatinine (mg/dL), males	41.24 ± 8.94	41.35 ± 11.28	40.79 ± 9.30	43.61 ± 13.10	0.3982	
Creatinine (mg/dL), females	62.54 ± 10.66	61.60 ± 7.07	67.11 ± 10.86	59.71 ± 7.51	0.1641	
Urea (mg/dL), males	38.7 ± 4.5	38.1 ± 9.1	36.9 ± 4.1	41.7 ± 7.5	0.1145	
Urea (mg/dL), females	42.0 ± 5.5	43.5 ± 4.4	40.0 ± 4.3	39.0 ± 29	0.4718	

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Calcium (mg/dL), males	10.6 ± 0.6	10.7 ± 0.8	10.8 ± 0.7	10.9 ± 0.5	0.2449	
Calcium (mg/dL), females	11.1 ± 0.8	11.7 ± 0.3	11.8 ± 0.2	11.8 ± 0.7	0.3011	
Phosphorus (mg/dL), males	8.60 ± 0.95	8.26 ± 0.60	9.19 ± 0.88	9.41 ± 0.55	0.1580	
Phosphorus (mg/dL), females	6.56 ± 0.70	6.25 ± 1.17	6.41 ± 1.02	7.18 ± 1.09	0.4050	
Sodium (mmol/L), males	143.9 ± 2.1	144.1 ± 1.5	143.9 ± 25	144.8 ± 24	0.4950	
Sodium (mmol/L), females	144.0 ± 1.5	143.8 ± 1.3	142.7 ± 1.3	143.8 ± 1.4	0.3628	
Potassium (mmol/L), males	4.70 ± 0.35	4.45 ± 0.28	4.75 ± 0.37	4.97 ± 0.56	0.2907	
Potassium (mmol/L), females	4.52 ± 0.41	4.51 ± 0.43	4.28 ± 0.41	4.37 ± 0.34	0.4108	
Chloride (mmol/L), males	107.3 ± 2.3	107.7 ± 4.3	106.8 ± 1.8	106.5 ± 1.9	0.4353	
Chloride (mmol/L), females	108.1 ± 3.2	108.1 ± 1.5	107.1 ± 1.3	107.2 ± 23	0.0601	
Observation	Exposure concentration (mg/m³) [Dose group ID]					
	0 [1]	123 [2]	492 [3]	1,230 [4]	Comparison to controls <sup>c</sup>	Trend test <sup>b</sup>
Proliferation of peribronchial lymphatic tissue (0–3) <sup>d</sup> , males	2.0 <sup>e</sup> (23.4) <sup>f</sup>	1.2 (11.5)	1.8 (22.0)	2.0 (23.5)	1–2*	<i>p</i> = 0.2
Proliferation of peribronchial lymphatic tissue (0–3), females	24 (22.8)	1.3 (12.1)	1.5 (16.4)	L3 (22.3)	1–2**; 1–3	<i>p</i> = 0.2
Formation of lymphoepithelium in bronchii (0–3), males	1.5 (23.9)	0.9 (14.9)	1.0 (16.0)	1.5 (25.7)	1–3*, 1–4**	<i>p</i> = 0.3
Formation of lymphoepithelium in bronchii (0–3), females	1.8 (27.9)	0.7 (11.1)	1.1 (16.9)	1.5 (23.8)		<i>p</i> = 0.3
Goblet cells (0–3), males	1.8 (18.6)	1.5 (14.5)	2.5 (28.5)	1.8 (18.2)		<i>p</i> = 0.18
Goblet cells (0–3), females	1.3 (11.9)	1.6 (16.9)	2.0 (23.1)	2.4 (28.4)	1–3*, 1–4**	<i>p</i> = 0.001
Interstitial lymphocytic infiltration (0–3), males	0.4 (18.0)	0.1 (14.1)	0.4 (18.0)	1.5 (31.0)	1–4*	<i>p</i> = 0.006
Interstitial lymphocytic infiltration (0–3), females	1.2 (23.7)	0.6 (15.3)	0.8 (17.9)	1.1 (22.9)		<i>p</i> = 0.4
Alveolar macrophages (0–3), males	0.9 (17.9)	0.9 (17.9)	1.2 (22.6)	1.2 (21.7)		<i>p</i> = 0.15
Alveolar macrophages (0–3), females	1.5 (26.1)	1.1 (21.1)	0.5 (17.8)	0.7 (14.8)		<i>p</i> = 0.01
Bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia (0–4), males	0.5 (20.1)	0.2 (16.6)	0.8 (23.8)	0.7 (19.5)		<i>p</i> = 0.3
Bronchitis and broncho-pneumonia (0–4), females	0.2 (17.6)	0.4 (22.5)	0.2 (17.5)	0.6 (21.8)		<i>p</i> = 0.3



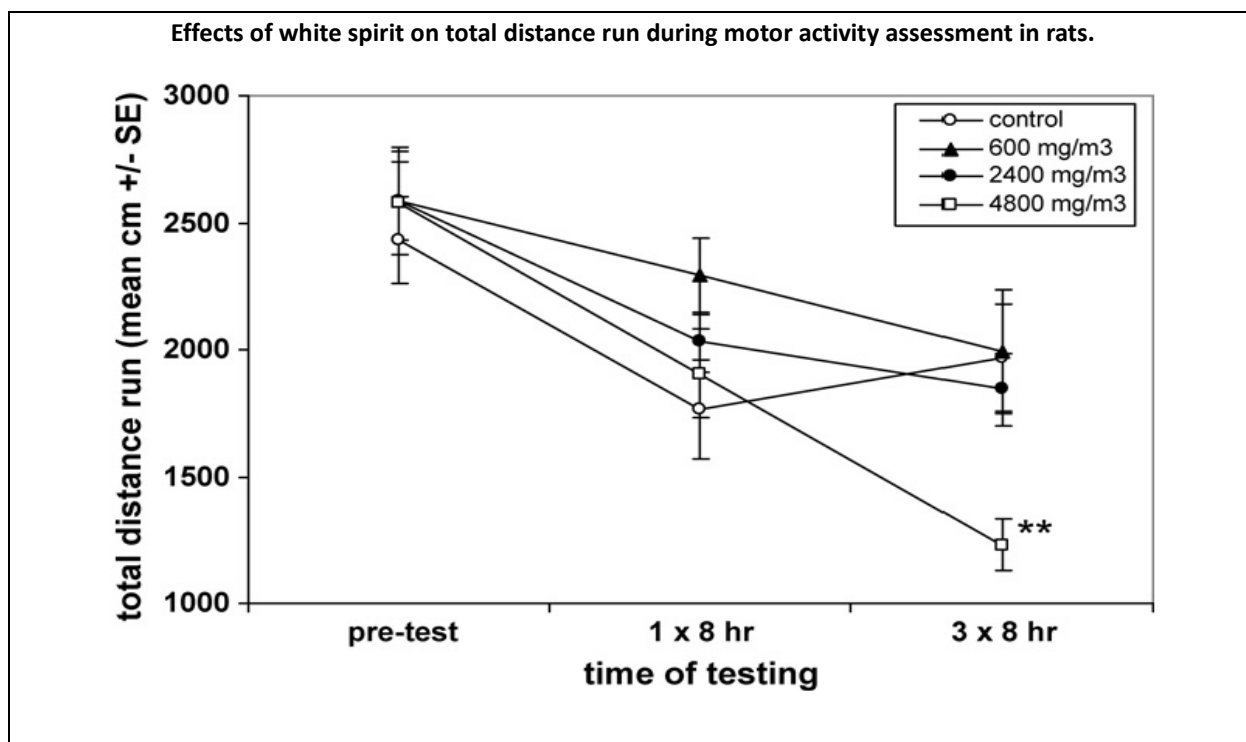
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Cumulative score of all individual males	7.1 (19.8)	4.8 (11.2)	7.7 (24.2)	8.7 (25.8)		$p = 0.01$
Cumulative score of all individual females	8.4 (24.9)	5.7 (13.5)	6.5 (16.8)	8.2 (24.6)	1–2*	$p = 0.4$
<p>*Statistically significant from controls at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math>.</p> <p>**Statistically significant from controls at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math>.</p> <p><sup>a</sup>Effects measured in rats exposed to 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 2 wks after termination of exposure.</p> <p><sup>b</sup><math>p</math>-value reported from Jonckheere’s trend test.</p> <p><sup>c</sup>Reports the results of pair-wise statistical significance of exposure groups compared to controls (i.e., 1–3 would indicate that the 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup> was statistically significantly different from controls).</p> <p><sup>d</sup>Grading system (0–4, 0–3; see Additional study details above).</p> <p><sup>e</sup>Mean.</p> <p><sup>f</sup>Results presented as ranges of the Kruskal-Willis test.</p>						
Health Effect at LOAEL	NOAEL			LOAEL		
Pulmonary lesions	492 mg/m <sup>3</sup>			1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		
<b>Comments:</b> The observed inflammatory lesions are coherent with observations of increased inflammatory cell populations in BAL fluid due to 1,2,4-TMB exposure in <a href="#">Korsak et al. (1997)</a> . The authors did not report the incidences of pulmonary lesions, but rather the results of the Kruskal-Wallis test. This makes it difficult to interpret the dose-response relationship and limits analysis of these endpoints to the NOAEL/LOAEL method for determining a POD, rather than using BMD modeling.						

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1 Table C-33. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Lammers et al. \(2007\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
WAG/RijCR/BR Wistar rats	M	8 /group	Inhalation (8 hrs/d for 3 consecutive d)	0, 600, 2,400, or 4,800 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB (as a constituent of white spirit)	3 d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB as a constituent of white spirit at concentrations of 0, 600, 2,400, or 4,800 mg/m<sup>3</sup> for 3 d. Several tests were conducted to evaluate impact of white spirit on CNS. These included tests of observation, spontaneous motor activity and learned visual discrimination.</li> <li>White spirit was found to affect performance and learned behavior in rats.</li> </ul>					
Observation	Functional observations and physiological parameters in rats following exposure to white spirit (exposure concentration mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	600	2,400	4,800	
Functional observation battery (mean ± SD)					
Gait score <sup>a</sup>					
Before first 8-hr exposure	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	
After first 8-hr exposure	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.13 ± 0.13	1.25 ± 0.16	
After third 8-hr exposure	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	
Click response <sup>b</sup>					
Before first 8-hr exposure	2.13 ± 0.13	2.63 ± 0.18	2.38 ± 0.18	2.50 ± 0.19	
After first 8-hr exposure	2.88 ± 0.13	2.50 ± 0.19	2.75 ± 0.37	2.63 ± 0.18	
After third 8-hr exposure	2.13 ± 0.13	3.25 ± 0.31*	2.88 ± 0.23	2.75 ± 0.25	
Physiological parameters (mean ± SD)					
Body weight (g)					
Before first 8-hr exposure	270.0 ± 2.61	269.2 ± 2.48	273.3 ± 3.52	272.8 ± 2.20	
After first 8-hr exposure	279.7 ± 2.53	277.7 ± 3.11	278.0 ± 3.21**	273.8 ± 2.51***	
After third 8-hr exposure	280.9 ± 2.68	278.4 ± 2.44	275.9 ± 2.83***	268.5 ± 2.67***	
Body temperature (°C)					
Before first 8-hr exposure	37.60 ± 0.34	37.33 ± 0.39	37.49 ± 0.39	37.29 ± 0.37	
After first 8-hr exposure	36.41 ± 0.05	36.25 ± 0.12	36.16 ± 0.11	35.95 ± 0.21	
After third 8-hr exposure	36.60 ± 0.10	36.44 ± 0.17	36.25 ± 0.05	36.11 ± 0.09**	



Observation	Visual discrimination performance in rats exposed to white spirit for 3 consecutive d (exposure concentration in mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) <sup>c</sup>			
	0	600	2,400	4,800
Lever response latency (sec)				
Before first 8-hr exposure	1.93 ± 0.34	2.09 ± 0.24	1.70 ± 0.15	2.29 ± 0.31**
After first 8-hr exposure	2.44 ± 0.56	2.66 ± 0.29	3.24 ± 0.21	12.00 ± 2.37**
After second 8-hr exposure	2.17 ± 0.41	2.32 ± 0.29	2.10 ± 0.18	4.88 ± 1.53**
After third 8-hr exposure	3.21 ± 1.22	2.68 ± 0.41	3.86 ± 0.65	6.31 ± 1.35**
One day after third 8-hr exposure	2.27 ± 0.52	1.93 ± 0.16	1.88 ± 0.16	2.34 ± 0.31**
Number of lever response latencies <2 sec				
Before first 8-hr exposure	68.00 ± 5.46	67.38 ± 2.58	77.12 ± 4.32***	71.25 ± 4.00**
After first 8-hr exposure	70.38 ± 2.93	61.88 ± 3.92	58.75 ± 2.58***	45.62 ± 4.87**
After second 8-hr exposure	70.62 ± 3.60	68.00 ± 3.81	69.00 ± 2.98***	61.50 ± 5.00**
After third 8-hr exposure	71.50 ± 3.38	66.38 ± 3.34	63.75 ± 5.04***	55.62 ± 5.12**
One day after third 8-hr exposure	72.50 ± 3.58	69.75 ± 2.90	73.38 ± 2.93***	64.88 ± 4.23**
Number of lever response latencies >6 sec				
Before first 8-hr exposure	3.88 ± 0.90	5.25 ± 0.84	3.25 ± 0.45*	5.62 ± 0.92**
After first 8-hr exposure	5.00 ± 1.10	7.62 ± 1.83	11.12 ± 0.85*	25.75 ± 5.05**
After second 8-hr exposure	4.38 ± 0.96	5.62 ± 0.78	5.00 ± 0.65*	12.25 ± 3.80**
After third 8-hr exposure	7.38 ± 2.07	6.88 ± 1.16	10.88 ± 1.96*	17.50 ± 2.76**
One day after third 8-hr exposure	4.62 ± 1.31	4.38 ± 1.07	3.75 ± 0.70*	6.50 ± 1.86**

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Drink response latency (sec)				
Before first 8-hr exposure	0.35 ± 0.04	0.29 ± 0.03	0.36 ± 0.03	0.32 ± 0.02
After first 8-hr exposure	0.37 ± 0.04	0.31 ± 0.03	0.39 ± 0.02	0.52 ± 0.04
After second 8-hr exposure	0.36 ± 0.04	0.28 ± 0.03	0.33 ± 0.02	0.39 ± 0.04
After third 8-hr exposure	0.38 ± 0.05	0.32 ± 0.04	0.39 ± 0.02	0.43 ± 0.07
One day after third 8-hr exposure	0.36 ± 0.03	0.31 ± 0.02	0.34 ± 0.02	0.33 ± 0.04
<p>*Statistically significant from controls at <math>p &lt; 0.05</math>. **Statistically significant from controls at <math>p &lt; 0.01</math>. ***Statistically significant from controls at <math>p &lt; 0.001</math>. <sup>a</sup>Gait score indicates the severity of gait changes and is scored as 1 (normal) to 4 (severely abnormal). <sup>b</sup>Click response was scored as 0 (no reaction) to 5 (exaggerated reaction). <sup>c</sup>Data for parameters that did not show statistically significant group differences are not shown; statistical analysis: repeated measures ANCOVA + pairwise group comparisons.</p>				
Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL		LOAEL	
N/A	N/A		N/A	
<b>Comments:</b> Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB was via white spirit, which is comprised of additional substances. LOAEL and NOAEL values cannot be extracted from this study because other constituents of the white spirit mixture may confound results.				

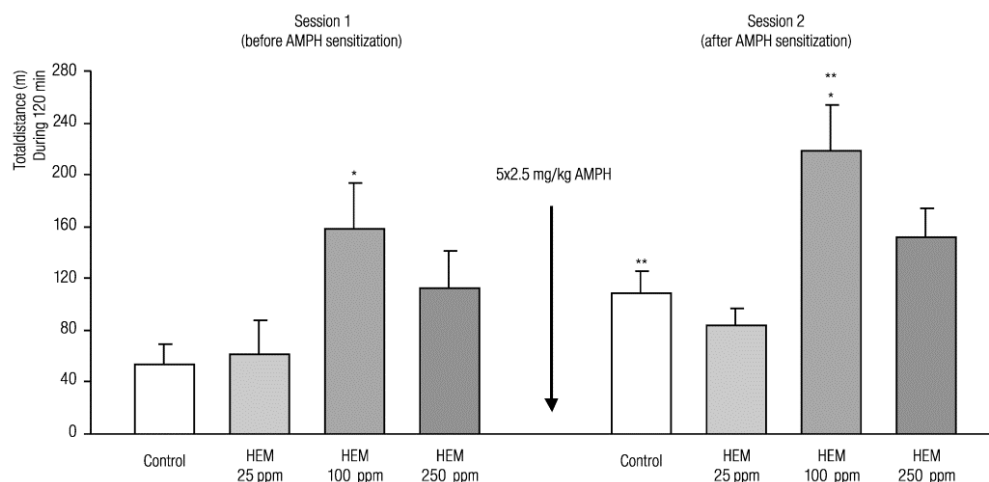
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Table C-34. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Lutz et al. \(2010\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	6–8 rats/ dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0, 25, 100, or 250 ppm (0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3- or 1,2,4-TMB	4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,3- or 1,2,4-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Behavioral sensitivity to amphetamine was measured via test of open-field locomotor activity.</li> <li>Differences were observed between 1,2,3- and 1,2,4-TMB exposed rats, with 1,2,3-TMB-exposed rats displaying greater amphetamine sensitization than 1,2,4-TMB exposed rats.</li> </ul>					
<b>Diagram illustrating the effect of prior exposure to 1,2,3-TMB on the locomotor response (all measurements) to the amphetamine challenge before (session 1) and 14 d after (session 2) a repeated (2.5 mg/kg, 1/d × 5 d) amphetamine treatment.</b>					
<p>The figure is a bar chart titled 'Diagram illustrating the effect of prior exposure to 1,2,3-TMB on the locomotor response (all measurements) to the amphetamine challenge before (session 1) and 14 d after (session 2) a repeated (2.5 mg/kg, 1/d × 5 d) amphetamine treatment.' The y-axis is 'Distance (m)' ranging from 0 to 120. The x-axis shows two sessions: Session 1 (before AMPH sensitization) and Session 2 (after AMPH sensitization). Each session has six blocks of activity. Block 1 is control (preinjection) activity. Block 2 is activity after the SAL injection. Blocks 3, 4, 5, and 6 are activity during successive 30 min sections after AMPH (0.5 mg/kg) injection. The legend indicates: Block 1 (white), Block 2 (black), Block 3 (light gray), Block 4 (medium gray), Block 5 (dark gray), and Block 6 (darkest gray). In Session 1, the HEM 100 ppm and HEM 250 ppm groups show significantly higher activity in Block 3 compared to the Control group. In Session 2, the HEM 100 ppm and HEM 250 ppm groups show significantly higher activity in Block 3 compared to the Control group. A vertical arrow labeled '5x2.5 mg/kg AMPH' points to the start of Session 2.</p>					
<p>Block 1 — control (preinjection) activity, block 2 — activity after the SAL injection, blocks 3, 4, 5 and 6 — activity during successive 30 min sections after AMPH (0.5 mg/kg) injection.</p> <p>ANOVA: group effects: <math>F(3,24) = 9.80</math>; <math>P = 0.0002</math>; session effects: <math>F(1,24) = 34.22</math>; <math>P = 0.0000</math>; interaction: <math>F(3,24) = 20.64</math>; <math>P = 0.0000</math>.</p> <p>* <math>P &lt; 0.05</math> — compared to post SAL measurement.</p> <p>** <math>P &lt; 0.05</math> — compared to control 0 in the same session.</p> <p>*** <math>P &lt; 0.05</math> — compared to corresponding measure before sensitization.</p> <p>The bars represent mean values and SEM of the ambulatory activity (distance in metres) in successive 30 min blocks in the rats exposed to hemimellitene on the locomotor response to AMPH challenge before (session 1) and 14 days after (session 2) a repeated (2.5 mg/kg, 1/day×5 days) AMPH treatment.</p>					

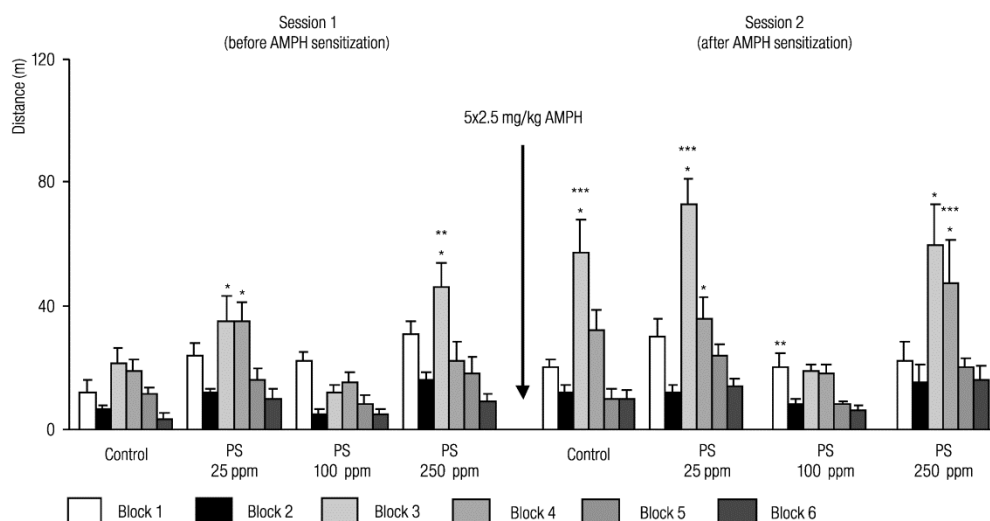
Diagram illustrating the effect of prior exposure to 1,2,3-TMB on the locomotor response (pooled measurements) to the amphetamine challenge before (session 1) and 14 d after (session 2) a repeated amphetamine treatment (2.5 mg/kg, 1/d × 5 d).



\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to control. \*\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to corresponding measure before sensitization.

Bars represent mean values and SEM of the cumulated locomotor activity (distance in metres) during the 2-hour measurement following AMPH (0.5 mg/kg) challenge.

Diagram illustrating the effect of prior exposure to 1,2,4-TMB on the locomotor response (all measurements) to the amphetamine challenge before (session 1) and 14 d after (session 2) a repeated (2.5 mg/kg, 1/d × 5 d) amphetamine treatment. Remaining notations are the same as in the figures above.



ANOVA: group effects:  $F(3,25) = 8.90$ ;  $P = 0.004$ . Session effects:  $F(1,25) = 30.91$ ;  $P = 0.0000$ . Interaction:  $F(3,25) = 29.48$ ;  $P = 0.0000$ .

\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to post SAL measurement.

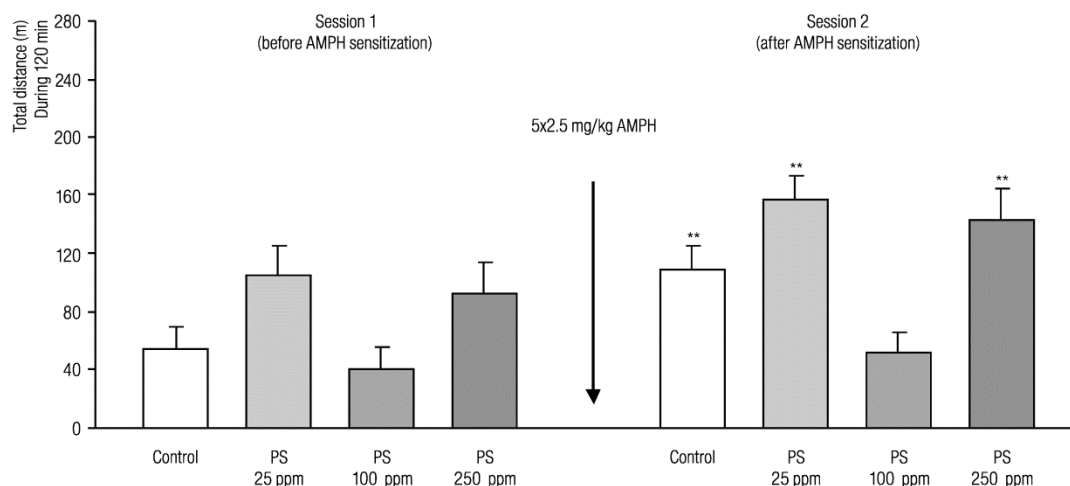
\*\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to control 0 in the same session.

\*\*\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to corresponding measure before sensitization.

The bars represent mean values and SEM of the ambulatory activity (distance in metres) in successive 30 min blocks.

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Diagram illustrating the effect of prior exposure to 1,2,4-TMB on the locomotor response (pooled measurements ) to amphetamine challenge before (session 1) and 14 d after (session 2) a repeated amphetamine treatment (2.5 mg/kg, 1/d × 5 d).



\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to control. \*\*  $P < 0.05$  — compared to corresponding measure before sensitization.

Bars represent mean values and SEM of the cumulated locomotor activity (distance in metres) during the 2-hour measurement following AMPH (0.5 mg/kg) challenge.

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Increased sensitivity to amphetamine as measured by open-field locomotion	0 ppm	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB or 1,2,3-TMB
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed increased amphetamine sensitization, particularly in rats exposed to 100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB, and provided evidence for differences in toxicity between different TMB isomers. Control group for 1,2,4-TMB also showed statistically significant increase in locomotor activity after receiving amphetamine treatment.		

1 Table C-35. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Maltoni et al. \(1997\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats: CRC/BT	M	50 males, 50 females per group	Stomach tube (in olive oil)	0 or 800 mg/kg body weight 1,2,4-TMB	4 d/wk for 104 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rats were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB for 2 yrs via stomach tube administration 4 d/wk.</li><li>• Animals were 7 wks old at start of experiments.</li><li>• Systematic necropsy was conducted upon animal death.</li><li>• A slight increase in total number of tumors was detected amongst males and females, and an increase in the number of head cancers in males was also observed.</li></ul>					
Observation			Long-term carcinogenicity of 1,2,4-TMB		
			0 mg/kg		800 mg/kg
			Total number of tumors		
Males					
Total benign and malignant tumors			54.0		62.0
Malignant tumors			24.0		26.0
Number of malignant tumors/100 rats			26.0		34.0
Females					
Total benign and malignant tumors			70.0		66.0
Malignant tumors			22.0		24.0
Number of malignant tumors/100 rats			22.0		32.0
Both sexes					
Total benign and malignant tumors			62.0		64.0
Malignant tumors			23.0		25.0
Number of malignant tumors/100 rats			24.0		33.0
			Head cancers		
Males					
Zymbal gland cancer			2.0		4.0
Ear duct cancer			–		2.0
Neuroesthesio-epitheliomas			–		2.0
Oral cavity cancers			–		2.0
Total head cancers			2.0		10.0
Females					
Zymbal gland cancer			2.0		2.0
Ear duct cancer			2.0		–
Neuroesthesioepi-theliomas			–		4.0
Oral cavity cancers			2.0		–
Total head cancers			6.0		6.0



## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Both sexes		
Zymbal gland cancer	2.0	3.0
Ear duct cancer	1.0	1.0
Neuroesthesio-epitheliomas	—	3.0
Oral cavity cancers	1.0	1.0
Total head cancers	4.0	8.0
<b>Health effect at LOAEL</b>	<b>NOAEL</b>	<b>LOAEL</b>
Various malignant and non-malignant cancers	N/A	800 mg/kg
<b>Comments:</b> Neuroesthesioepithelioma is uncommon in Sprague-Dawley rats, although there were increases in the number of neuroesthesioepithelioma in both males and females. Only one dose level was tested (800 mg/kg), making any determination of dose-response impossible. Statistical significance of data not provided, although post-hoc statistical tests performed by EPA failed to observe any statistical increase in tumors.		

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Table C-36. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Mckee et al. \(1990\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
CD-1 mice, rats	Developmental toxicity: Female  Reproductive toxicity: M & F	Developmental toxicity: 30 mice/dose  Reproductive toxicity: F <sub>0</sub> : 30 rats/sex/dose F <sub>1</sub> : 30 rats/sex/dose F <sub>2</sub> : 40 rats/sex/dose	Inhalation	0, 100, 500, or 1,500 ppm HFAN (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB)	6 hrs/d on gestational days (GDs) 6–15 – mice F <sub>0</sub> : M & F: 6 hrs/d, 10 wks; F: GDs 0–20: 6 hrs/d, 7 d/wk
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mice in the developmental toxicity test were exposed to HFAN (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB) 6 hrs/d between GDs 6 and 15.</li> <li>Rats in the reproductive toxicity test were exposed to HFAN (1,3,5-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB), in F<sub>0</sub>, F<sub>1</sub>, and F<sub>2</sub> generations for 6 hrs/d for 10 wks.</li> <li>1,500 ppm was an adverse effect level for both maternal and developmental toxicity.</li> <li>In the developmental study, maternal and fetal weight gain was slightly reduced at 500 ppm, while the 100 ppm group did not exhibit maternal or developmental toxicity.</li> <li>In the reproductive study, the parental generation had reduced weight gain, but did not exhibit reproductive toxicity, and birth weights as well as postnatal survival were similar to control values at 1,500 ppm.</li> <li>The three generation experiment demonstrated that high level exposures was toxic but had little effect on reproductive organs.</li> <li>The NOAEL was 100 ppm.</li> </ul>					
Composition of HFAN					
Compound			Weight percent		
o-Xylene			3.20		
Cumene			2.74		
n-Propylbenzene			3.97		
4-Ethyltoluene			7.05		
3-Ethyltoluene			15.1		
2-Ethyltoluene			5.44		
1,3,5-TMB			8.37		
1,2,4-TMB			40.5		
1,2,3-TMB			6.18		
≥C10s			6.19		
Total			98.74		

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mean chamber concentrations (ppm)				
Target concentrations	Nominal concentrations		Actual concentrations	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
Developmental toxicity study				
0	—	—	—	—
100	102	3.5	102	2.6
500	463	5.3	500	3.7
1,500	1,249	16.5	1,514	22.9
Reproductive toxicity Study				
0	—	—	—	—
100	107	2.4	103	2.1
500	513	12.8	495	8.0
1,500	1,483	33.0	1,480	20.5
Reproductive parameters after HFAN exposure				
Observation	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
Number of deaths/ number females	0/30	0/30	2/30	14/32 <sup>a</sup>
Number pregnant/ number mated	26/30	26/30	27/30	22/30 <sup>b</sup>
Number of litters with viable fetuses	24	21	23	13 <sup>c</sup>
Corpora lutea/dam	12.9 ± 1.8 <sup>d</sup>	12.6 ± 1.8	12.7 ± 2.3	13.8 ± 2.6
Implantations/dam	11.6 ± 1.5 <sup>d</sup>	11.0 ± 1.9	11.3 ± 1.6	12.3 ± 1.8
Live fetuses/litter	10.7 ± 1.8 <sup>d</sup>	8.7 ± 4.6*	9.3 ± 3.1	7.9 ± 4.3*
Postimplantation loss/dam	0.9 ± 0.9 <sup>d</sup>	2.3 ± 4.1	2.0 ± 3.1	4.3 ± 3.7**
Fetal body weight (grams)	1.25 ± 0.14 <sup>d</sup>	1.24 ± 0.08	1.16 ± 0.11*	0.82 ± 0.17**
Fetal sex ratio, males: females	57: 41	51:49	54:46	52:48
<p>*<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>.  **<math>p &lt; 0.01</math>.  <sup>a</sup>Includes two replacement dams added on GD 6.  <sup>b</sup>Two mice died on day 6G; pregnancy could not be determined.  <sup>c</sup>Three litters had resorptions only.  <sup>d</sup>Mean ± SD.</p>				

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Weights of pregnant mice after HFAN exposure				
	Maternal body weight			
	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
GD:				
0	25 ± 2.1 (26) <sup>a</sup>	24 ± 1.7 (24)	25 ± 2.2 (27)	25 ± 2.8 (27)
6	25 ± 2.2 (26)	25 ± 1.9 (24)	26 ± 2.3 (27)	26 ± 3.3 (21)
15	39 ± 3.3 (26)	35 ± 7.6 (24)*	36 ± 4.9 (25)*	33 ± 6.0 (13)**
18	47 ± 3.4 (22)	43 ± 9.6 (24)	44 ± 7.0 (24)	40 ± 8.7 (12)*
Maternal body weight gain				
Gestational intervals:				
Days 0–6	1 ± 1.7 (26)	1 ± 1.1 (24)	1 ± 1.12 (27)	1 ± 1.2 (21)
Days 6–15	16 ± 2.2 (26)	14 ± 6.5 (24)	14 ± 4.1 (25)**	10 ± 5.0 (13)**
Days 0–18	23 ± 2.7 (23)	19 ± 8.8 (24)	19 ± 5.6 (24)*	14 ± 6.8 (12)**
Maternal organ weights (gm)				
Lung	0.26 ± 0.03 (25)	0.27 ± 0.04 (26)	0.27 ± 0.03 (25)	0.28 ± 0.04 (16)
Liver	2.39 ± 0.34 (25)	2.35 ± 0.51 (26)	2.51 ± 0.43 (25)	2.43 ± 0.53 (16)
Kidney	0.40 ± 0.06 (25)	0.41 ± 0.06 (25)	0.42 ± 0.05 (25)	0.42 ± 0.05 (16)
* <i>p</i> < 0.05. ** <i>p</i> < 0.01. <sup>a</sup> Mean ± SD, number examined given in parentheses.				
Fetal alterations in fetuses after HFAN exposure				
Observation	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
External examination	280 (26)	226 (21)	232 (24)	128 (13)
Visceral examination	139 (26)	112 (21)	112 (24)	68 (13)
Skeletal examination	141 (26)	114 (21)	120 (24)	60 (13)
Malformations observed				
Ablepharia	–	1 (1)	1 (1)	–
Folded retina	7 (26)	5 (5)	4 (3)	1 (1)
Cleft palate	1 (1)	–	1 (1)	14 (7)
Mandibular micrognathia	–	–	1 (1)	–
Thoracogastroschisis	–	1 (1)	–	–
Syringomyelocele	–	–	–	1 (1)
Sternoschisis	–	1 (1)	–	–
Interrupted ossification of an arch	1 (1)	1 (1)	–	–
Vertebrae malformation (with or without an associated rib malformation)	5 (4)	3 (3)	4 (4)	2 (2)
Rib malformation	1 (1)	–	1 (1)	1 (1)
Interrupted ossification of a rib	1 (1)	–	–	–
Total fetuses (litters) with malformations	15 (10)	11 (8)	11 (8)	19 (7)

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Developmental variations				
Tarsal flexure	–	1 (1)	–	–
Skull reduced in ossification	–	–	–	18 (6)
Accessory skull bone	–	–	4 (3)	–
Hyoid unossified	–	–	1 (1)	–
14 <sup>th</sup> Rudimentary rib(s)	25 (15)	18 (12)	18 (12)	10 (7)
More than 13 pairs of full ribs	17 (9)	21 (12)	26 (9)	27 (10)
7 <sup>th</sup> cervical ribs	37 (16)	25 (15)	19 (11)	12 (7)
Sternebrae #5 and/or #6 unossified	–	1 (1)	3 (2)	25 (10)
Fused sternebrae	3 (3)	–	–	–
Misaligned sternebrae	7 (5)	7 (7)	6 (6)	1 (1)
Extra sternebrae	3 (3)	1 (1)	–	1 (1)
Other sternebrae unossified	–	–	–	4 (3)
Total fetuses (litters) with variations	78 (24)	63 (20)	67 ( 22)	48 (13)
Fertility indices after HFAN exposure				
Observation	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
Pregnant females/number of females mated				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	93.3 (30)	96.7 (30)	93.3 (30)	92.6 (27)
F <sub>1</sub>	80 (30)	76.7 (30)	96.7 (30)	88.9 (27)
F <sub>2</sub>	96.7 (30)	93.3 (30)	96.7 (30)	83.3 (6)
Females delivering a live litter/number identified pregnant females (%)				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	103.6 (28)	100 (29)	89.3 (28)	92.0 (25)
F <sub>1</sub>	125 (30)	104.3 (30)	96.7 (30)	87.0 (24)
F <sub>2</sub>	96.6 (30)	100 (30)	96.6 (30)	120 (6)
Females delivering a live litter/number of females delivering a litter (%)				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	100 (29)	100 (29)	96.1 (26)	100 (23)
F <sub>1</sub>	100 (30)	100 (24)	96.7 (30)	90.5 (21)
F <sub>2</sub>	100 (28)	100 (28)	100 (28)	100 (6)
Fertile males/number of males mated (%)				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	86.7 (30)	96.7 (30)	83.3 (30)	84.6 (26)
F <sub>1</sub>	89.7 (30)	86.7 (30)	93.3 (30)	64.3 (28)*
F <sub>2</sub>	93.3 (30)	83.3 (30)	80.0 (30)	100 (4)

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Cohabitation time (days) required for mating <sup>a</sup>				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	2.9 ± 2.3	2.1 ± 1.6	3.8 ± 2.5	4.2 ± 2.7
F <sub>1</sub>	3.3 ± 2.4	2.5 ± 2.1	2.6 ± 2.2	4.5 ± 2.9
F <sub>2</sub>	2.3 ± 1.1	3.0 ± 2.4	3.4 ± 2.9	3.4 ± 1.3
Litter size at birth <sup>b</sup>				
Parental generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	12.1 ± 3.4	12.9 ± 1.5	12.2 ± 3.1	11.3 ± 3.0
F <sub>1</sub>	12.4 ± 2.0	11.1 ± 2.9	11.7 ± 3.0	8.7 ± 4.3**
F <sub>2</sub>	12.6 ± 2.7	11.8 ± 2.3	11.4 ± 2.1	12.2 ± 1.3
* <i>p</i> < 0.05. ** <i>p</i> < 0.01. <sup>a</sup> Average number of male/female cohabitation days required to produce a sperm-positive vaginal smear. <sup>b</sup> Mean (± SD) number of live offspring delivered.				
Gestation and postnatal survival among litters after HFAN exposure				
	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
Gestational survival index <sup>a</sup> (%)				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	95.9 (366)	97.9 (382)	94.9 (333)	92.8 (279)
F <sub>1</sub>	97.4 (383)	95.4 (280)	91.6 (371)	85.1 (215)**
F <sub>2</sub>	97.8 (361)	98.2 (335)	98.5 (325)	100 (73)
Postnatal survival index, 4-d <sup>b</sup> (%)				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	93.7 (351)	93.3 (374)	98.7 (316)	94.2 (260)
F <sub>1</sub>	95.4 (373)	96.3 (267)	97.6 (340)	87.4 (183)
F <sub>2</sub>	97.5 (353)	96.4 (329)	97.5 (320)	97.3 (73)
Postnatal survival index, 21-d <sup>c</sup> (%)				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	99.1 (214)	99.6 (225)	100 (200)	95.1 (164)
F <sub>1</sub>	96.2 (234)	98.9 (179)	98.6 (216)	99.2 (119)
F <sub>2</sub>	100 (215)	99.1 (216)	99.1 (220)	97.9 (48)
**Significantly different from control. <sup>a</sup> Pups alive at birth/number of pups born (%). <sup>b</sup> Pups surviving for 4 days/total number of liveborn pups. <sup>c</sup> Pups surviving for 21 days/total number of live pups after culling on day 4.				
Body weights of pups exposed to HFAN				
	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
Day 0 body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	6.1 ± 0.5	6.2 ± 0.5	6.5 ± 0.6	6.1 ± 1.0
F <sub>1</sub>	6.0 ± 0.5	6.1 ± 0.5	6.0 ± 0.5	5.7 ± 0.7
F <sub>2</sub>	6.0 ± 0.5	6.0 ± 0.4	6.1 ± 0.6	5.7 ± 0.2

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Day 4 body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	9.7 ± 0.9	9.8 ± 0.6	10.1 ± 1.0	9.2 ± 1.3
F <sub>1</sub>	9.5 ± 1.4	10.0 ± 1.2	9.9 ± 1.0	9.3 ± 1.0
F <sub>2</sub>	9.7 ± 1.1	10.0 ± 0.7	9.8 ± 1.0	9.2 ± 0.6
Day 7 body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	13.7 ± 1.3	13.2 ± 1.1	14.0 ± 1.7	12.0 ± 1.8
F <sub>1</sub>	13.3 ± 1.8	13.3 ± 1.6	13.5 ± 1.4	11.7 ± 1.3
F <sub>2</sub>	14.0 ± 2.0	14.1 ± 1.2	13.4 ± 1.5	12.0 ± 1.0
Day 14 body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	24.9 ± 2.7	23.2 ± 1.8	23.9 ± 2.4	19.6 ± 2.7
F <sub>1</sub>	24.3 ± 2.5	23.5 ± 2.8	23.7 ± 2.7	19.3 ± 1.8
F <sub>2</sub>	26.2 ± 4.0	25.6 ± 1.9	23.2 ± 2.7	20.8 ± 1.3
Day 21 male body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	39.5 ± 5.1	37.2 ± 5.9	40.0 ± 4.9	29.9 ± 3.6
F <sub>1</sub>	40.9 ± 5.5	39.3 ± 5.5	39.7 ± 5.6	30.4 ± 4.2
F <sub>2</sub>	42.9 ± 7.6	42.7 ± 3.8	38.7 ± 5.1	32.8 ± 3.0
Day 21 female body weights				
Generation:				
F <sub>0</sub>	38.0 ± 5.0	35.7 ± 5.7	38.0 ± 5.0	29.4 ± 4.3
F <sub>1</sub>	39.6 ± 5.1	37.9 ± 4.8	38.6 ± 5.5	29.1 ± 4.2
F <sub>2</sub>	41.4 ± 6.2	41.2 ± 3.6	37.2 ± 4.8	31.8 ± 3.6
Effect of prolonged exposure to HFAN on gestation and postnatal survival (f2 generation)				
	0 ppm	100 ppm	500 ppm	1,500 ppm
Litter size <sup>a</sup>				
Total	12.4 ± 2.0 (30)	11.1 ± 2.9 (24)	11.7 ± 3.0 (30)	8.7 ± 4.3** (21)
Prolonged exposure	11.3 ± 1.8 (6)	11.0 ± 2.4 (8)	4.0 (1) <sup>b</sup>	4.9 ± 5* (7)
Exposure stopped on GD 20	12.7 ± 1.9 (24)	11.2 ± 3.2 (16)	12.0 ± 2.7 (29)	10.6 ± 2.2 (14)
Birth weight <sup>a</sup>				
Total	6.0 ± 0.5 (30)	6.1 ± 0.5 (24)	6.0 ± 0.5 (30)	5.7 ± 0.7 (21)
Prolonged exposure	6.0 ± 0.6 (6)	5.9 ± 0.4 (8)	5.4 (1) <sup>b</sup>	5.1 ± 0.7
Exposure stopped on GD 20	6.0 ± 0.5 (24)	6.2 ± 0.5 (16)	6.0 ± 0.5 (29)	5.9 ± 0.6 (14)
Gestation survival index <sup>c</sup>				
Total	97.4 (383)	95.4 (280)	91.6 (371)	85.1** (215)
Prolonged exposure	91.9 (74)	91.7 (96)	30.8 (13)	63.0 (54)
Exposure stopped on GD 20	98.7 (309)	97.2 (184)	93.8 (358)	92.5** (161)

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Postnatal survival index, d 4 <sup>c</sup>				
Total	95.4 (373)	96.3 (267)	97.6 (340)	87.4 ( 183)
Prolonged exposure	82.3 ( 68)	90.9 (88)	100 (4)	44.1 (34)
Exposure stopped on GD 20	98.4 (305)	98.9 (179)	97.6 (336)	97.3 (149)
Postnatal survival index, d 21 <sup>c</sup>				
Total	99.6 (226)	99.4 (178)	99.1 (215)	99.2 (119)
Prolonged exposure	100 (34)	98.3 (61)	100 (4)	91.7 (12)
Exposure stopped on GD 20	99.5 (192)	100 (117)	99.0 (211)	100 (107)
<p>*<math>p &lt; 0.05</math>.  **<math>p &lt; 0.01</math>.  <sup>a</sup>Number of live born offspring/litter; number of litters given.  <sup>b</sup>Statistics not conducted because of small sample size.  <sup>c</sup>Initial number of offspring for evaluation interval given.</p>				
<b>NOAEL</b>		<b>LOAEL</b>		<b>LOAEL effects</b>
100 ppm, fetal weight gain (F <sub>3</sub> generation)		500 ppm		Fetal weight gain, and maternal weight gain reduced

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1 **Table C-37. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Mckee et al. \(2010\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	8 rats/ group	Inhalation	0, 125, 1,250, or 5,000 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB	8 hrs/d for 3 consecutive d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB for 8 hrs/d for 3 d in modified H1000 inhalation chambers.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Test on neurobehavioral effects were conducted prior to, during, and after exposure period.</li> <li>Motor activity was affected on the third day of exposure in the highest exposure group, although brain concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB were lower than on previous days.</li> </ul>					
Observation	Exposure concentration 1,2,4-TMB (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	125	1,250	5,000	
Results of functional and motor activity observations					
Forelimb grip strength (g)					
1 d pre-exposure	1,107 ± 41.2	1,065 ± 52.3	1,223 ± 25.9	1,090 ± 47.0	
First 8-hr exposure	1,064 ± 39.9	814 ± 91.7*	1,059 ± 59.8	1,023 ± 55.7	
Third 8-hr exposure	908 ± 56.1	847 ± 64.3	956 ± 67.7	1,156 ± 68.7*	
Total distance traveled (cm)					
1 d pre-exposure	3,773 ± 120	3,598 ± 301	3,543 ± 167	3,575 ± 119	
First 8-hr exposure	2,479 ± 110	3,048 ± 257	2,125 ± 171	1,897 ± 200	
Third 8-hr exposure	2,459 ± 118	2,740 ± 226	1,967 ± 316	1,172 ± 226*	
Number of movements					
1 d pre-exposure	1,054 ± 31	999 ± 80	990 ± 44	998 ± 32	
First 8-hr exposure	697 ± 29	848 ± 66	600 ± 48	529 ± 53	
Third 8-hr exposure	687 ± 31	744 ± 56	541 ± 82	329 ± 61*	
Observation	Exposure concentration 1,2,4-TMB (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )				
	0	125	1,250	5,000	
Visual discrimination performance testing (means ± SD)					
Trials <sup>a</sup>					
1 d pre-exposure	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	
First 8-hr exposure	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	99.13 ± 0.88	
Third 8-hr exposure	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	
1 d post-exposure	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	

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Percentage reinforcements obtained <sup>b</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	99.88 ± 0.13	99.88 ± 0.13	99.88 ± 0.13	100 ± 0.0
First 8-hr exposure	100 ± 0.0	100 ± 0.0	99.38 ± 0.63	99.74 ± 0.17
Third 8-hr exposure	99.63 ± 0.26	99.63 ± 0.26	99.63 ± 0.38	100 ± 0.0
1 d post-exposure	99.63 ± 0.26	99.88 ± 0.13	99.88 ± 0.13	100 ± 0.0
Discrimination ratio <sup>c</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	0.81 ± 0.84	0.84 ± 0.03	0.83 ± 0.02	0.83 ± 0.03
First 8-hr exposure	0.86 ± 0.02	0.91 ± 0.03	0.91 ± 0.01	0.95 ± 0.01*
Third 8-hr exposure	0.89 ± 0.02	0.88 ± 0.03	0.94 ± 0.01	0.95 ± 0.02
1 d post-exposure	0.87 ± 0.03	0.89 ± 0.03	0.92 ± 0.02	0.88 ± 0.03
Percentage inter-trial intervals responded to <sup>d</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	12.88 ± 2.00	10.13 ± 1.56	10.75 ± 1.94	10.38 ± 1.84
First 8-hr exposure	12.50 ± 2.12	8.88 ± 2.03	11.50 ± 2.60	10.19 ± 1.28
Third 8-hr exposure	12.00 ± 1.65	8.88 ± 2.24	8.25 ± 1.71	5.75 ± 1.39
1 d post-exposure	10.88 ± 1.39	10.63 ± 1.81	11.25 ± 0.92	8.50 ± 1.40
Repetitive errors <sup>e</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	8.25 ± 3.71	7.63 ± 1.70	10.75 ± 2.73	7.25 ± 1.75
First 8-hr exposure	2.00 ± 0.50	3.25 ± 1.47	4.63 ± 1.58	1.88 ± 0.67
Third 8-hr exposure	2.63 ± 1.70	4.75 ± 1.81	3.00 ± 0.78	1.25 ± 0.73
1 d post-exposure	4.75 ± 2.81	2.75 ± 1.35	4.63 ± 3.09	4.13 ± 1.38
Repetitive inter-trial responses <sup>f</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	3.63 ± 1.02	5.88 ± 1.33	7.25 ± 1.93	3.25 ± 1.35
First 8-hr exposure	6.13 ± 1.73	3.88 ± 1.22	5.63 ± 1.97	8.38 ± 2.50
Third 8-hr exposure	7.25 ± 1.24	3.25 ± 0.88	2.25 ± 1.52*	1.63 ± 0.98*
1 d post-exposure	6.63 ± 1.94	2.88 ± 0.83	5.13 ± 1.54	2.63 ± 0.68
Trial response latency <sup>g</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	1.83 ± 0.18	2.25 ± 0.55	2.06 ± 0.40	2.28 ± 0.43
First 8-hr exposure	1.70 ± 0.18	2.38 ± 0.43	2.52 ± 0.40	3.91 ± 0.73*
Third 8-hr exposure	1.91 ± 0.23	2.69 ± 0.69	2.75 ± 0.94	1.82 ± 0.13
1 d post-exposure	1.68 ± 0.16	2.70 ± 0.60	2.18 ± 0.73	1.45 ± 0.06
SD of response latency				
1 d pre-exposure	2.16 ± 0.38	3.82 ± 1.57	3.33 ± 1.42	4.65 ± 2.23
First 8-hr exposure	2.06 ± 0.38	3.64 ± 1.32	4.19 ± 1.65	7.33 ± 3.43
Third 8-hr exposure	2.74 ± 0.71	4.03 ± 1.50	5.25 ± 3.04	2.34 ± 0.40
1 d post-exposure	1.84 ± 0.38	5.95 ± 2.40	5.88 ± 4.21	1.81 ± 0.38

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Latency <2 sec <sup>h</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	61.75 ± 4.55	70.13 ± 2.23	67.75 ± 66.88	66.88 ± 3.22
First 8-hr exposure	68.50 ± 3.84	69.75 ± 3.75	65.76 ± 3.13	52.13 ± 3.96
Third 8-hr exposure	70.38 ± 4.34	64.13 ± 4.35	74.88 ± 1.75	79.00 ± 2.32
1 d post-exposure	69.38 ± 2.98	67.63 ± 3.20	78.13 ± 3.05	78.00 ± 2.34
Latency >6 sec <sup>i</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	3.38 ± 0.71	5.38 ± 1.48	4.63 ± 1.15	4.00 ± 1.05
First 8-hr exposure	3.88 ± 0.58	5.00 ± 1.69	6.00 ± 1.34	10.63 ± 1.80*
Third 8-hr exposure	4.25 ± 0.98	5.63 ± 2.44	5.63 ± 1.92	3.13 ± 0.61
1 d post-exposure	2.13 ± 0.67	6.00 ± 1.68	3.38 ± 1.40	1.88 ± 0.35
Drink response latency <sup>j</sup>				
1 d pre-exposure	0.29 ± 0.01	0.32 ± 0.02	0.38 ± 0.03*	0.33 ± 0.02
First 8-hr exposure	0.26 ± 0.01	0.30 ± 0.02	0.43 ± 0.03*	0.49 ± 0.03*
Third 8-hr exposure	0.30 ± 0.02	0.32 ± 0.03	0.37 ± 0.02	0.34 ± 0.03
1 d post-exposure	0.27 ± 0.01	0.34 ± 0.03	0.36 ± 0.03	0.30 ± 0.02
*Statistically significant from controls at $p < 0.05$ .				
<sup>a</sup> Total number of trials completed during each session, maximum = 100.				
<sup>b</sup> Number of reinforcements obtained divided by the number of reinforcements delivered (× 100).				
<sup>c</sup> Number of correct trial responses divided by the number of trial responses.				
<sup>d</sup> The number of inter-trial intervals in which at least 1 response was made divided by the total number of ITI (×100).				
<sup>e</sup> The total number of incorrect trial responses following an initial incorrect response.				
<sup>f</sup> The total number of ITI responses following an initial ITI response.				
<sup>g</sup> The latency (sec) to make a correct trial response.				
<sup>h</sup> The number of responses within 2 sec.				
<sup>i</sup> The number of responses taking more than 6 sec.				
<sup>j</sup> The mean latency (sec) to obtain reinforcement.				
Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL		LOAEL	
N/A	N/A		N/A	
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed alterations in a number of parameters, including forelimb grip strength, total distance traveled, number of movements, and several visual discrimination performance tests. LOAEL and NOAEL values cannot be determined because a dose-response relationship was not apparent. Statistically significant results occurred in a low exposure group and not others, while forelimb grip was found to be significantly increased in the highest exposure group on d 3. Acute duration of exposure (exposure on 3 consecutive d). Generally, acute exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.				

1 Table C-38. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Saillenfait et al. \(2005\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats	F + M	24 dams/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d GDs 6–20)	0, 100, 300, 600, 900 ppm (0, 492, 1,476, 2,952, or 4,428 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB; 0, 100, 300, 600, 1,200 ppm (0, 492, 1,476, 2,952, or 5,904 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	GDs 6–20
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,4- or 1,3,5-TMB in 200 L glass/steel inhalation chambers for 6 hrs/d starting on GD 6 and ending on GD 20.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>After GD 20, dams were sacrificed and weighed, as were their uteri and any fetuses.</li> <li>Decreases in maternal body weight and fetal toxicity were observed.</li> </ul>					
Observation	Exposure concentration to 1,3,5-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,200 ppm (5,904 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Maternal parameters					
Number of treated	24	24	24	24	24
Number of (%) pregnant at euthanization	21 (87.5)	22 (91.7)	21 (87.5)	17 (70.8)	18 (75.0)
Number of deaths	0	0	0	0	0
Body weight (g) on d 6	274 ± 17 <sup>g</sup>	273 ± 16	274 ± 21	270 ± 17	275 ± 14
Body weight change (g)					
Days 0–6	31 ± 11	31 ± 8	31 ± 7	29 ± 8	28 ± 8
Days 6–13	25 ± 12	29 ± 4	23 ± 6	16 ± 8**	10 ± 7
Days 13–21	110 ± 14	109 ± 10	95 ± 21*	80 ± 20**	63 ± 26**
Days 6–21	135 ± 15	138 ± 11	118 ± 24*	95 ± 24**	73 ± 28**
Corrected weight gain <sup>a</sup>	29 ± 14	30 ± 9	20 ± 12	7 ± 20**	–12 ± 19**
Food consumption (g/d)					
Days 0–6	22 ± 2	22 ± 3	22 ± 2	22 ± 2	23 ± 2
Days 6–13	22 ± 2	22 ± 2	20 ± 1*	18 ± 2**	17 ± 2**
Days 13–21	26 ± 2	25 ± 2	24 ± 2*	21 ± 3**	19 ± 3**
Days 6–21	24 ± 2	24 ± 2	22 ± 2*	20 ± 2**	18 ± 2**

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Observation	Exposure concentration to 1,3,5-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,200 ppm (5,904 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Gestational parameters					
All litters <sup>b</sup>	21	22	21	17	18
Number of corpora lutea per dam	15.3 ± 1.5 <sup>g</sup>	15.4 ± 1.7	15.5 ± 1.7	14.9 ± 2.1	15.2 ± 1.5
Mean number of implantation sites per litter	14.9 ± 1.5	14.9 ± 1.8	14.5 ± 3.4	13.0 ± 5.1	13.6 ± 3.7
Mean % post-implantation loss per litter <sup>c</sup>	4.8 ± 4.2	3.9 ± 4.3	6.8 ± 8.5	1.6 ± 3.7	4.4 ± 6.9
Mean % dead fetuses per litter	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0
Mean % resorption sites per litter	4.8 ± 4.2	3.9 ± 4.3	6.3 ± 6.5	1.6 ± 3.7	4.4 ± 6.9
Live litters <sup>d</sup>	21	22	21	17	18
Mean number of live fetuses per litter	14.1 ± 1.6	14.3 ± 1.7	13.4 ± 3.4	12.8 ± 5.0	13.1 ± 3.7
Mean % male fetuses per litter	49.3 ± 13.5	48.2 ± 16.3	52.1 ± 18.1	51.1 ± 20.9	48.5 ± 18.2
Fetal body weight (g)					
All fetuses	5.64 ± 0.35	5.61 ± 0.24	5.43 ± 0.45	5.36 ± 0.68	4.98 ± 0.56**
Male fetuses	5.80 ± 0.41	5.76 ± 0.27	5.50 ± 0.31	5.39 ± 0.55*	5.10 ± 0.57**
Female fetuses	5.50 ± 0.32	5.47 ± 0.21	5.27 ± 0.47	5.18 ± 0.68	4.81 ± 0.45**
Observation	Exposure concentration to 1,3,5-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	300 ppm (1,476mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	1,200 ppm (5,904 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Fetal variations and malformations					
Total no. fetuses examined (litters)					
External	297 (21)	314 (22)	282 (21)	217 (17)	236 (18)
Visceral	149 (21)	157 (22)	141 (20)	109 (15)	118 (18)
Skeletal	148 (21)	157 (22)	141 (21)	108 (17)	118 (18)
Malformations					
Diaphragmatic hernia	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)	0
Multiple skeletal malformations <sup>e</sup>	1 (1)	0	0	0	0
External variations	0	0	0	0	0
Club foot (bilateral)	0	1 (1)	0	0	0
Visceral variations					
Dilated renal pelvis	2 (2)	0	5 (4)	0	2 (2)
Distended ureter	12 (9)	14 (8)	18 (8)	5 (3)	11 (6)

*This document is a draft for review purposes only and does not constitute Agency policy.*

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Skeletal variations					
Fifth sternebrae incomplete ossification or unossified <sup>f</sup>	2 (2)	2 (2)	7 (4)	7 (5)	12 (7)
Fourth sternebrae, split	0	0	0	0	1 (1)
Cervical rib, rudimentary	2 (2)	0	5 (5)	5 (3)	2 (2)
Fourteenth rib, supernumerary	11 (8)	9 (6)	11 (6)	15 (8)	17 (8)
Thoracic vertebra centra, incomplete ossification	10 (5)	8 (6)	10 (7)	9 (7)	9 (7)
Observation	Exposure concentration to 1,2,4-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	900 ppm (4,428 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
Maternal parameters					
No. treated	25	24	24	24	24
No. (%) pregnant at euthanization	24 (96.0)	22 (91.7)	22 (91.7)	22 (91.7)	24 (100)
No. deaths	0	0	0	0	0
Body weight (g) on d 6	271 ± 18 <sup>g</sup>	272 ± 21	272 ± 22	275 ± 19	269 ± 18
Body weight change (g)					
Days 0–6	27 ± 8	28 ± 6	28 ± 7	28 ± 12	24 ± 8
Days 6–13	27 ± 8	27 ± 6	26 ± 6	19 ± 8**	14 ± 12**
Days 13–21	105 ± 28	98 ± 16	100 ± 20	97 ± 17	82 ± 14**
Days 6–21	131 ± 33	124 ± 18	126 ± 24	116 ± 23	95 ± 19**
Corrected weight gain <sup>a</sup>	29 ± 12	31 ± 14	27 ± 12	15 ± 17**	0 ± 14**
Food consumption (g/d)					
Days 0–6	23 ± 2	23 ± 2	23 ± 2	23 ± 3	23 ± 3
Days 6–13	21 ± 3	20 ± 2	20 ± 2	18 ± 2**	17 ± 2**
Days 13–21	26 ± 3	25 ± 2	24 ± 2	23 ± 3**	22 ± 3**
Days 6–21	24 ± 3	23 ± 2	22 ± 2	21 ± 3**	20 ± 2**

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Observation	Exposure concentration to 1,2,4-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492 mg/m³)	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m³)	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m³)	900 ppm (4,428 mg/m³)
	Gestational parameters				
All litters <sup>b</sup>	24	22	22	22	24
Number of corpora lutea per dam	15.4 ± 2.1 <sup>g</sup>	15.2 ± 1.3	15.2 ± 2.1	15.8 ± 1.7	15.7 ± 2.5
Mean number of implantation sites per litter	14.2 ± 3.3	13.7 ± 2.9	14.1 ± 3.2	14.9 ± 2.4	15.0 ± 2.4
Mean % post-implantation loss per litter <sup>c</sup>	10.0 ± 22.1	8.6 ± 8.9	5.8 ± 6.8	5.0 ± 5.7	5.4 ± 6.7
Mean % dead fetuses per litter	0.0 ± 0.0	0.3 ± 1.5	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0	0.0 ± 0.0
Mean % resorption sites per litter	10.0 ± 22.1	8.3 ± 9.1	5.8 ± 6.8	5.0 ± 5.7	6.4 ± 6.7
Live litters <sup>d</sup>	23	22	22	22	24
Mean number of live fetuses per litter	13.9 ± 2.5	12.5 ± 3.0	13.3 ± 3.2	14.1 ± 2.3	14.3 ± 2.6
Mean % male fetuses per litter	46.6 ± 17.1	46.0 ± 14.1	49.9 ± 13.4	46.2 ± 15.4	50.4 ± 16.2
Fetal body weight (g)					
All fetuses	5.71 ± 0.34	5.64 ± 0.31	5.56 ± 0.47	5.40 ± 0.39*	5.60 ± 0.40**
Male fetuses	5.86 ± 0.34	5.79 ± 0.30	5.72 ± 0.49	5.55 ± 0.48*	5.20 ± 0.42**
Female fetuses	5.57 ± 0.33	5.51 ± 0.31	5.40 ± 0.45	5.28 ± 0.40*	4.92 ± 0.40**
Observation	Exposure concentrations to 1,2,4-TMB				
	0 ppm	100 ppm (492 mg/m³)	300 ppm (1,476 mg/m³)	600 ppm (2,952 mg/m³)	900 ppm (4,428 mg/m³)
	Fetal variations and malformations				
Total no. fetuses examined (litters)					
External	319 (23)	275 (22)	293 (22)	310 (22)	342 (24)
Visceral	160 (23)	137 (22)	147 (22)	155 (22)	171 (24)
Skeletal	159 (23)	138 (22)	146 (22)	155 (22)	171 (24)
Malformations					
Diaphragmatic hernia	0	0	1 (1)	0	1 (1)
Multiple skeletal malformations <sup>e</sup>	0	0	0	1 (1)	0
External variations					
Club foot (bilateral)	3 (3)	0	0	0	0
Visceral variations					
Dilated renal pelvis	3 (3)	3 (3)	3 (3)	3 (3)	3 (2)
Distended ureter	7 (4)	5 (3)	8 (5)	8 (5)	2 (2)

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Skeletal variations					
Third sternebrae, incomplete ossification	0	1 (1)	0	0	0
Fifth sternebrae incomplete ossification or unossified <sup>f</sup>	1 (1)	0	4 (4)	5 (4)	6 (6)
Extra ossification site	0	1 (1)	0	0	0
Cervical rib, rudimentary	1 (1)	2 (2)	0	3 (2)	2 (2)
Fourteenth rib, supernumerary	25 (10)	13 (8)	18 (12)	21 (10)	34 (16)
Thirteenth rib, short (unilateral)	1 (1)	0	0	0	0
Thoracic vertebral centra, incomplete ossification	8 (6)	4 (4)	7 (4)	6 (6)	7 (5)
<sup>*</sup> Statistically significant from controls at $p < 0.05$ . <sup>**</sup> Statistically significant from controls at $p < 0.01$ . <sup>a</sup> Body weight gain during GDs 6–21 minus gravid uterine weight. <sup>b</sup> Includes all animals pregnant at euthanization. <sup>c</sup> Resorptions plus dead fetuses. <sup>d</sup> Includes all animals with live fetuses at euthanization. <sup>e</sup> Runt showing skeletal alterations including missing ribs, missing thoracic vertebrae, incomplete ossification of sternebrae and skull bones. <sup>f</sup> Unossified = alizarine red S negative. <sup>g</sup> Mean ± SD.					
Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL		LOAEL		
Maternal toxicity: decrease in maternal body weight and food consumption Developmental toxicity: significant reduction in fetal body weight	Maternal toxicity: 300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,3,5-TMB and 1,2,4-TMB  Fetal toxicity: 300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,2,4- and 1,3,5-TMB		Maternal toxicity: 600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,3,5-TMB and 1,2,4-TMB  Fetal toxicity: 600 ppm (2,952 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) for 1,2,4- and 1,3,5-TMB		
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed alterations in a number of maternal and fetal parameters, including decreased maternal and fetal weight. Values reported by authors can be used to determine NOAEL and LOAEL. There was no investigation of pre-implantation developmental toxicity due to 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB exposure. 1,2,3-TMB maternal or developmental toxicity was not investigated.					



1 Table C-39. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Schreiner et al. \(1989\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley Rats	M & F	15 male and 15 female/dose group	Inhalation	150, 500, 1,500 ppm HFAN (1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB)	6 hrs/d for 5 consecutive d
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats were exposed by inhalation to mixture HFAN (1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB) 6 hrs/d for 5 d</li> <li>The positive control contained 10 rats total (5 M &amp; 5 F), while the experimental and negative controls each contained 30 rats total (15 M &amp; 15 F)</li> <li>All animal groups were exposed in 16 m<sup>3</sup> glass and stainless steel chambers</li> <li>There were no increases in SCE or chromosomal aberration frequency in Chinese hamster ovary (CHO) cells</li> <li>Both male and females exhibited a 10% reduction in body weight gain at 1,500 ppm</li> <li>HFAN was not clastogenic at levels up to and including 1,500 ppm</li> <li>The NOAEL was 500 ppm</li> </ul>					
Physical and chemical properties of HFAN (CAS 64742-95-6)					
ASTM D-3734 specifications			Composition (weight percent) <sup>a</sup>		
Appearance	Clear and free of suspended matter and undissolved water		o-Xylene	3.20	
Color	Not darker than +25 Saybolt		Cumene [isopropylbenzene]	2.74	
Aromatics, volume %	90 minimum		n-Propylbenzene	3.97	
Copper corrosion, 1/2h at 100°C	No iridescence, discoloration, or gray or black deposits		4-Ethyltoluene	7.05	
Distillation, °F			3-Ethyltoluene	15.1	
Initial boiling point	300 minimum		2-Ethyltoluene	5.44	
10%	—		1,3,5-TMB	8.37	
50%	335 maximum		1,2,4-TMB	40.5	
90%	—		1,2,3-TMB	6.18	
Dry point	335 maximum		≥C10s	6.19	
Flash Point, °F	100 minimum		Total	98.74	
Kauri-butanol value	87 minimum				
Mixed aniline point, °F	60 maximum				
Odor	Characteristic, as agreed				
Specific gravity	0.864 minimum				
60/60°F	0.884 maximum				

### Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Exposure to HFAN ( $\mu\text{L}/\text{plate}$ ) (CAS 64742-95-6)										
Mutagenic response										
Observation	DMSO Control	Positive Control	$C_9$ Aromatics							
Dose ( $\mu\text{L}/\text{plate}$ )	50	A	0.0025	0.0050	0.0100	0.0250	0.0500	0.1000	0.2500	0.5000
TA1535 (-S9)	$12.3 \pm 2.5$	$1,075.0 \pm 31.4^b$	$11.0 \pm 3.6$	$10.7 \pm 3.1$	$13.3 \pm 3.5$	$14.0 \pm 2.6$	$12.3 \pm 0.6$	$12.0 \pm 1.7$	$10.7 \pm 0.6$	$5.3 \pm 1.2$
TA1535 (+S9)	$10.3 \pm 1.5$	$209.3 \pm 17.8^b$	$8.7 \pm 0.6$	$8.7 \pm 1.5$	$9.0 \pm 1.7$	$8.7 \pm 2.3$	$9.7 \pm 4.2$	$6.7 \pm 4.0$	$9.7 \pm 0.6$	$6.3 \pm 2.1$
TA1538 (-S9)	$11.7 \pm 2.9$	$1,269.7 \pm 51.6^b$	$13.7 \pm 2.5$	$16.3 \pm 0.6$	$12.7 \pm 1.5$	$13.7 \pm 7.4$	$13.0 \pm 2.0$	$11.7 \pm 2.1$	$12.7 \pm 1.2$	$10.3 \pm 1.5$
TA1538 (+S9)	$22.3 \pm 4.7$	$981.0 \pm 28.6^b$	$17.0 \pm 2.6$	$17.3 \pm 0.6$	$15.7 \pm 5.1$	$17.3 \pm 2.9$	$13.0 \pm 2.6$	$17.0 \pm 3.6$	$16.7 \pm 6.4$	$14.7 \pm 1.2$
TA98 (-S9)	$21.0 \pm 2.6$	$1,088.3 \pm 73.3^b$	$22.3 \pm 6.1$	$24.0 \pm 1.7$	$21.3 \pm 6.5$	$23.0 \pm 2.6$	$18.3 \pm 1.5$	$19.0 \pm 5.6$	$19.0 \pm 4.6$	$11.0 \pm 2.6$
TA98 (+S9)	$27.7 \pm 8.3$	$1,486.0 \pm 78.5^b$	$24.3 \pm 4.5$	$30.7 \pm 4.0$	$29.3 \pm 1.5$	$26.3 \pm 2.3$	$24.7 \pm 0.6$	$26.3 \pm 4.0$	$25.0 \pm 3.5$	$24.7 \pm 3.1$
TA100 (-S9)	$106.7 \pm 4.9$	$1,053.7 \pm 22.8^b$	$116.0 \pm 9.6$	$103.7 \pm 4.6$	$102.0 \pm 10.5$	$107.7 \pm 8.4$	$109.3 \pm 14.2$	$106.3 \pm 12.7$	$86.0 \pm 14.4$	$66.3 \pm 10.2$
TA100 (+S9)	$102.7 \pm 15.0$	$1,761.0 \pm 60.2^b$	$104.3 \pm 11.9$	$94.7 \pm 7.6$	$90.7 \pm 4.0$	$111.0 \pm 18.0$	$102.3 \pm 3.8$	$86.0 \pm 14.1$	$82.0 \pm 3.5$	$94.0 \pm 6.1$
TA1537 (-S9)	$10.0 \pm 2.6$	$1,008.7 \pm 21.1^b$	$7.3 \pm 0.6$	$7.0 \pm 2.0$	$9.0 \pm 2.0$	$10.7 \pm 3.2$	$9.3 \pm 1.2$	$10.3 \pm 3.2$	$5.3 \pm 5.0$	$5.0 \pm 2.0$
TA1537 (+S9)	$10.7 \pm 3.8$	$159.3 \pm 6.8^b$	$10.3 \pm 2.1$	$9.3 \pm 1.5$	$10.0 \pm 2.0$	$11.3 \pm 2.1$	$11.3 \pm 0.6$	$12.3 \pm 2.3$	$6.7 \pm 1.5$	$10.7 \pm 2.3$

<sup>a</sup>Positive control:  
(1) Activation (+S9): all strains: 2-anthramine (2.5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )  
(2) Nonactivation (-S9): TA1538: 2-nitrofluorene (10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )  
TA98: 2-nitrofluorene (10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )  
TA1534: sodium azide (10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )  
TA100: sodium azide (10  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )  
TA1537: quinacrine mustard (5  $\mu\text{g}/\text{plate}$ )

<sup>b</sup>Result equal to or greater than 3 times the spontaneous reversion frequency.  
DMSO = dimethylsulfoxide.

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Exposure to HFAN <u>without</u> metabolic activation (CAS 64742-95-6)													
CHO/HGPRT forward mutation suspension assay													
Observation	Vehicle controls:		Positive controls:			C <sub>9</sub> aromatics							
	DMSO	DMSO	BrdU	MMS	MMS								
Dose $\mu\text{L/mL}$	10	10	50	15	20	0.01	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.1	0.13
Mean colony number $\pm$ SD	202.7 $\pm$ 7.6	190.0 $\pm$ 17.8	161.3 $\pm$ 11.2	83.0 $\pm$ 7.0	41.0 $\pm$ 7.2	185.0 $\pm$ 10.6	204.7 $\pm$ 1.5	204.3 $\pm$ 2.5	202.7 $\pm$ 20.5	77.3 $\pm$ 7.0	0.08 $\mu\text{L/mL}$	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0
Percent vehicle control	103.2	96.8	82.1	42.3	20.9	94.2	104.3	104.0	103.2	39.4	2.9	0.0	0.0
Relative population growth (% of control)	111.0	89.0	114.1	63.5	38.3	176.6	148.6	147.5	107.5	35.2	10.7	ND <sup>b</sup>	ND
Total mutant colonies in 12 dishes	2	4	27 <sup>d</sup>	95	88	2 <sup>c</sup>	0 <sup>c</sup>	4	1 <sup>c</sup>	3	2	ND	ND
Absolute CE $\pm$ SD (%)	80.7 $\pm$ 6.2	77.5 $\pm$ 3.1	87.5 $\pm$ 4.5	66.9 $\pm$ 3.2	61.7 $\pm$ 3.6	94.2 $\pm$ 7.6	93.5 $\pm$ 4.1	86.5 $\pm$ 6.3	86.5 $\pm$ 4.8	91.0 $\pm$ 10.1	94.0 $\pm$ 3.1	ND	ND
Mutant frequency in 10 <sup>-6</sup> units <sup>a</sup>	1.0	2.2	14.0 <sup>e</sup>	59.2 <sup>e</sup>	59.4 <sup>e</sup>	1.1	0.0	1.9	0.6	1.4	0.9	ND	ND
<sup>a</sup> Mutant frequency = total mutant colonies/(number of dishes $\times$ 2 $\times$ 10 <sup>5</sup> $\times$ absolute CE). <sup>b</sup> ND = not determined due to excessive toxicity. <sup>c</sup> Total number of dishes = 10. <sup>d</sup> Total number of dishes = 11. <sup>e</sup> Significant increase, $p \leq 0.01$ . BrdU = 5-bromo-2'-deoxyuridine; CE = cloning efficiency; MMS = methyl methanesulfonate.													
Exposure to HFAN <u>with</u> metabolic activation (CAS 64742-95-6) ( $\mu\text{L/mL}$ )													
CHO/HGPRT forward mutation suspension assay													
	Vehicle controls		Positive control	C <sub>9</sub> aromatics									
	DMSO												
Dose $\mu\text{L/mL}$	10	10	5 $\mu\text{L/mL}$ 3-MC <sup>e</sup>	0.02	0.04	0.06	0.08	0.1	0.13	0.16	0.2		
Mean colony number $\pm$ SD	203.7 $\pm$ 16.9	201.0 $\pm$ 12.5	201.0 $\pm$ 7.8	185.3 $\pm$ 3.5	205.3 $\pm$ 21.1	196.7 $\pm$ 22.0	3.3 $\pm$ 1.5	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0	0.0 $\pm$ 0.0
Percent vehicle control	100.7	99.3	99.3	91.6	101.5	97.2	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Relative population growth (% of control)	90.5	109.5	77.1	119.7	111.7	110.0	4.0	ND <sup>b</sup>	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
Total mutant colonies in 12 dishes	2 <sup>c</sup>	8 <sup>d</sup>	245 <sup>f</sup>	6	7 <sup>c</sup>	8	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Absolute CE ± SD (%)	99.7 ± 6.4	90.9 ± 7.1	84.4 ± 7.4	97.9 ± 2.9	92.4 ± 9.9	99.2 ± 9.0	98.4 ± 12.6	ND	ND	ND	ND
Mutant frequency in 10 <sup>-6</sup> units <sup>a</sup>	0.9	4.4	161.3 <sup>g</sup>	2.6	3.4	3.4	1.3	ND	ND	ND	ND
<sup>a</sup> Mutant frequency = total mutant colonies/(number of dishes × 2 × 10 <sup>5</sup> × absolute CE).											
<sup>b</sup> ND = not determined due to excessive toxicity.											
<sup>c</sup> Total number of dishes = 11.											
<sup>d</sup> Total number of dishes = 10.											
<sup>e</sup> 3-methylcholanthrene.											
<sup>f</sup> Total number of dishes = 9.											
<sup>g</sup> Significant increase, <i>p</i> ≤ 0.01.											
SCE in CHO cells exposed to HFAN in the <u>absence</u> of metabolic activation											
Assay 1											
	Controls										
Observation	Negative: none	Solvent: DMSO	Positive: MMC <sup>a</sup>	C <sub>9</sub> aromatics							
Dose µg/mL (µL/mL)	–	11	0.005	2.00	6.67	20.00	66.70	200.00			
Total cells scored	50	50	20	50	50	50	50	–			
Number of chromosomes	1,044	1,038	420	1,037	1,038	1,044	1,038	Toxic			
Number of SCE	443	536	570	530	474	480	524	–			
SCE chromosomes	0.42	0.52	1.36	0.51	0.46	0.46	0.50	–			
SCE/cell (mean ± SE)	8.86 ± 0.36	10.72 ± 0.45	28.50 ± 1.13 <sup>b</sup>	10.60 ± 0.43	9.48 ± 0.51	9.60 ± 0.44	10.48 ± 0.39	–			
Cell cycle stages (%): M1	1.5	2.5	1.0	2.5	2.0	3.5	6.5	–			
M1+	12.5	39.0	22.5	36.5	48.0	30.0	57.0	–			
M2	86.0	58.5	76.5	61.0	50.0	66.5	36.5	–			
% SCE increase over solvent	–	–	163	–	–	–	–	–			
Confluence % solvent control	–	100	100	100	100	100	100	100			
Assay 2											
Dose µg/mL (µL/mL)	–	11	0.005	35.0	50.1	66.7	90.1				
Total cells scored	50	50	20	50	50	50	–				
Number of chromosomes	1,038	1,047	417	1,043	1,042	1,041	Toxic				
Number of SCE	399	432	547	428	461	443	–				
SCE chromosomes	0.38	0.41	1.31	0.41	0.44	0.43	–				

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

SCE/cell (mean $\pm$ SE)	7.98 $\pm$ 0.38	8.64 $\pm$ 0.50	27.35 $\pm$ 1.49 <sup>b</sup>	8.56 $\pm$ 0.49	9.22 $\pm$ 0.36	8.86 $\pm$ 0.44	—	
Cell cycle stages (%): M1	0.5	2.0	1.5	3.0	7.0	11.0	—	
M1+	6.0	16.0	9.5	27.0	47.5	45.0	—	
M2	93.5	82.0	89.0	70.0	45.5	44.0	—	
% SCE increase over solvent	—	—	218	—	7	3	—	
Confluence % solvent control	—	100	100	100	100	63	6	
<sup>a</sup> Mitomycin C.								
<sup>b</sup> Significant increase versus solvent controls.								
<b>SCE in CHO cells exposed to HFAN in the <u>presence</u> of metabolic activation</b>								
<b>Assay 1</b>								
	<b>Controls</b>							
<b>Observation</b>	<b>Negative: None</b>	<b>Solvent: DMSO</b>	<b>Positive: CP<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>C<sub>9</sub> Aromatics</b>				
Dose $\mu$ g/mL ( $\mu$ L/mL)	—	11	1.5	0.667	2.00	6.67	20.0	66.7
Total cells scored	50	50	20	50	50	50	50	—
Number of chromosomes	1,037	1,032	415	1,038	1,034	1,045	1,040	Toxic
Number of SCE	443	430	379	449	484	474	441	—
SCE chromosomes	0.43	0.42	0.91	0.43	0.47	0.45	0.42	—
SCE/cell (mean $\pm$ SE)	8.86 $\pm$ 0.43	8.60 $\pm$ 0.49	18.95 $\pm$ 1.20 <sup>b</sup>	8.98 $\pm$ 0.34	9.68 $\pm$ 0.43	9.48 $\pm$ 0.46	8.82 $\pm$ 0.45	—
Cell cycle stages (%): M1	—	1.5	0.5	—	—	1.5	—	—
M1+	18.5	15.5	24.0	20.0	16.5	19.5	18.5	—
M2	81.5	83.0	75.5	80.0	83.5	79.0	81.5	—
M2+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
% SCE increase over solvent	—	—	119	4	12	9	2	—
Confluence % solvent control	—	100	100	100	100	100	100	7
<b>Assay 2</b>								
Dose $\mu$ g/mL ( $\mu$ L/mL)	—	11	1.5	15.0	20.0	35.0	50.1	66.7
Total cells scored	50	50	20	50	50	50	50	—
Number of chromosomes	1,048	1,046	418	1,043	1,048	1,055	1,047	Toxic
Number of SCE	417	398	457	372	444	400	420	—

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

SCE chromosomes	0.40	0.38	1.09	0.36	0.42	0.38	0.40	—
SCE/cell (mean $\pm$ SE)	8.34 $\pm$ 0.43	7.96 $\pm$ 0.38	22.85 $\pm$ 0.91 <sup>b</sup>	7.44 $\pm$ 0.40	8.88 $\pm$ 0.44	8.00 $\pm$ 0.46	8.40 $\pm$ 0.48	—
Cell cycle stages (%): M1	—	—	0.5	0.5	0.5	1.5	0.5	—
M1+	10.5	20.0	15.0	8.0	14.0	14.5	23.0	—
M2	89.5	80.0	84.5	90.0	85.5	82.5	76.5	—
M2+	—	—	—	1.5	—	1.5	—	—
% SCE increase over solvent	—	—	187	—	11	—	5	—
Confluence % solvent control	—	100	100	100	100	100	63	6

<sup>a</sup>Cyclophosphamide.

<sup>b</sup>Significant increase versus solvent controls.

### Chromosome aberrations in CHO cells exposed to HFAN in the absence of metabolic activation

Assay 1						
	Controls		C <sub>9</sub> Aromatics			
	Negative and solvent	Positive: MMC				
Dose ( $\mu$ g/mL)		1.0	45.0	60.0	75.0	90.0
Cells scored	200	25	200	200	200	200
Number of aberrations per cell	0.03	0.32	0.02	0.01	0.00	0.01
% cells with aberrations	2.5	24.0 <sup>a</sup>	2.0	0.5	0.0	1.0
% cells with >1 aberration	0.0	8.0 <sup>a</sup>	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Assay 2						
Dose ( $\mu$ g/mL)		1.0	15.0	30.1	60.1	90.2
Cells scored	200	25	200	200	200	Toxic
Number of aberrations per cell	0.01	0.32	0.02	0.04	0.02	—
% cells with aberrations	0.5	24.0 <sup>a</sup>	1.0	2.0	1.5	—
% cells with >1 aberration	0.0	8.0 <sup>a</sup>	0.5	0.5	0.0	—

<sup>a</sup>Significantly greater than the pooled negative and solvent controls,  $p \leq 0.01$ .

**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

Chromosome aberrations in CHO cells exposed to HFAN in the <u>presence</u> of metabolic activation							
Assay 1							
	Controls		C <sub>9</sub> aromatics				
	Negative and solvent	Positive: CP <sup>a</sup>					
Dose (µg/mL)		50.0	25.0	37.5	50.0	70.0	
Cells scored	200	25	200	200	200	200	
Number of aberrations per cell	0.03	0.28	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01	
% cells with aberrations	2.5	24.0 <sup>a</sup>	3.0	2.0	1.0	0.5	
% cells with >1 aberration	0.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
Assay 2							
Dose (µg/mL)		50.0	20.0	40.1	60.1	80.2	100
Cells scored	200	25	200	200	14	100	Toxic
Number of aberrations per cell	0.03	0.28	0.01	0.02	0.00	0.01	—
% cells with aberrations	2.0	24.0 <sup>a</sup>	1.0	1.5	0.0	1.0	—
% cells with >1 aberration	0.5	4.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	—
<sup>a</sup> Cyclophosphamide.							
<sup>b</sup> Significantly greater than the pooled negative and solvent controls, $p \leq 0.01$ .							
Chromosome aberrations due to exposures of 6 hrs/d on 5 consecutive d							
6-Hr post-exposure interval							
Exposure group	Number and sex	Number of spreads	Number of aberrations	% Aberrations per metaphase	>1 Aberration	>2 Aberrations	
Air	3 M	150	0	0	0	0	
	3 F	250	0	0	0	0	
	8 Combined	400	0	0	0	0	
150 ppm	5 M	250	0	0	0	0	
	4 F	200	0	0	0	0	
	9 Combined	450	0	0	0	0	
500 ppm	5 M	250	0	0	0	0	
	5 F	237	0	0	0	0	
	10 Combined	487	0	0	0	0	
1,500 ppm	5 M	250	0	0	0	0	
	4 F	200	0	0	0	0	
	9 Combined	450	0	0	0	0	

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

24-Hr post-exposure interval						
Air	4 M	200	0	0	0	0
	5 F	250	1	0.4	0.4	0
	9 Combined	450	1	0.2	0.2	0
150 ppm	5 M	250	0	0	0	0
	5 F	432	0	0	0	0
	10 Combined	482	0	0	0	0
500 ppm	5 M	250	0	0	0	0
	5 F	250	0	0	0	0
	10 Combined	500	0	0	0	0
1,500 ppm	5 M	250	1	0.4	0.4	0
	5 F	250	0	0	0	0
	10 Combined	500	1	0.2	0.2	0
Cyclophosphamide	4 M	203	70 <sup>b</sup>	34.5 <sup>b</sup>	16.3 <sup>b</sup>	10.3 <sup>b</sup>
	5 F	250	60 <sup>b</sup>	24 <sup>b</sup>	13.2 <sup>b</sup>	6.4 <sup>b</sup>
	9 Combined	453	130 <sup>b</sup>	28.7 <sup>b</sup>	14.6 <sup>b</sup>	8.2 <sup>b</sup>
48-Hr exposure interval						
Air	2 M	100	0	0	0	0
	2 F	100	0	0	0	0
	4 Combined	200	0	0	0	0
150 ppm	2 M	100	0	0	0	0
	2 F	100	0	0	0	0
	4 Combined	200	0	0	0	0
500 ppm	3 M	150	0	0	0	0
	1 F	20	0	0	0	0
	4 Combined	200	0	0	0	0
1,500 ppm	2 M	100	0	0	0	0
	1 F	20	0	0	0	0
	3 Combined	150	0	0	0	0
<sup>a</sup> Data were evaluated only under the following conditions: (1) Animal had at least 30 readable metaphase spreads. (2) At least three animals (of either sex) with adequate data at any time point. <sup>b</sup> Statistical increase.						
NOAEL		LOAEL		LOAEL effects		
500 ppm		1,500 ppm		Reduced body weight gain in males and females		

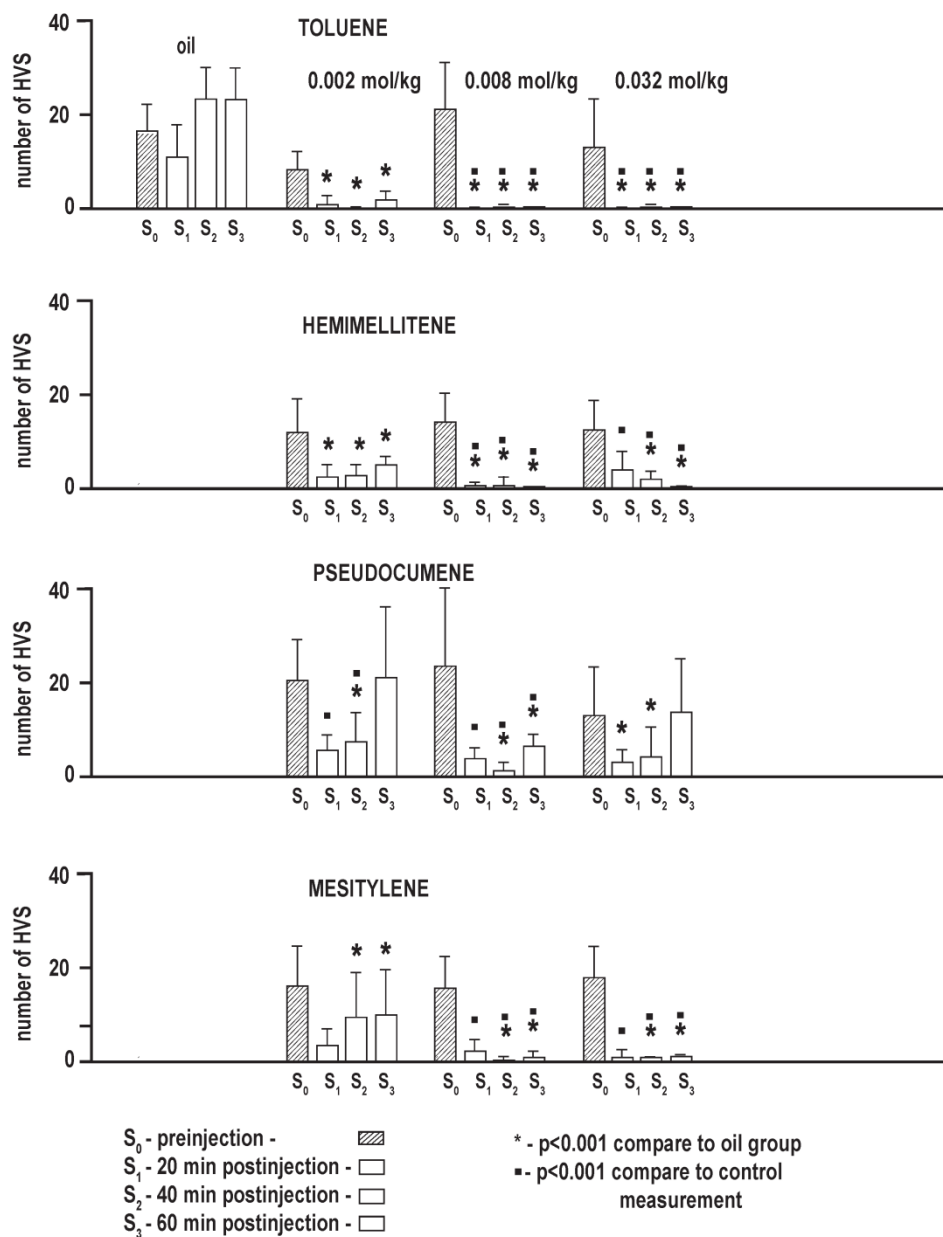


1 Table C-40. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tomas et al. \(1999a\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
WAG/Rij Rats	M	6 rats/dose	Oral (gavage, in olive oil)	0, 2, 8, or 32 mmol/kg body weight (240, 960, or 3,840 mg/kg body weight) 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB	Acute
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB were tested for their effects on electrocortical arousal by an electrocardiogram before and after oral administration (in olive oil) of 0, 0.002, 0.008, or 0.032 mol/kg body weight of each isomer.</li> <li>Solvent concentration in peripheral blood was determined via head space gas chromatography.</li> <li>All three TMB isomers were found to cause a slight increase in locomotor activity.</li> </ul>					
<b>Changes in total duration of high-voltage spindle episodes following acute exposure to toluene and 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB at doses of 0.002, 0.008, and 0.032 mol/kg.</b>					
<p><b>TOLUENE</b></p> <p><b>HEMIMELLITENE</b></p> <p><b>PSEUDOCUMENE</b></p> <p><b>MESITYLENE</b></p> <p>time (sec)</p> <p>oil</p> <p>0.002 mol/kg</p> <p>0.008 mol/kg</p> <p>0.032 mol/kg</p> <p>S<sub>0</sub> S<sub>1</sub> S<sub>2</sub> S<sub>3</sub></p> <p>S<sub>0</sub> - preinjection -  S<sub>1</sub> - 20 min postinjection -  S<sub>2</sub> - 40 min postinjection -  S<sub>3</sub> - 60 min postinjection - </p> <p>* - p&lt;0.001 compare to oil group * - p&lt;0.001 compare to control measurement</p>					

Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999a\)](#).

Changes in number of high-voltage spindle episodes following acute exposure to toluene and 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB at doses of 0.002, 0.008, and 0.032 mol/kg.



Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999a\)](#).

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Abnormal electrocortical stimulation	N/A	2 mmol/kg 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB

**Comments:** Exposures were of an acute duration, and were therefore not suitable for reference value derivation. However, qualitatively, this study provided evidence of CNS disturbances that, when considered together with short-term and subchronic neurotoxicity studies, demonstrate that TMB isomers perturb the CNS of exposed animals.

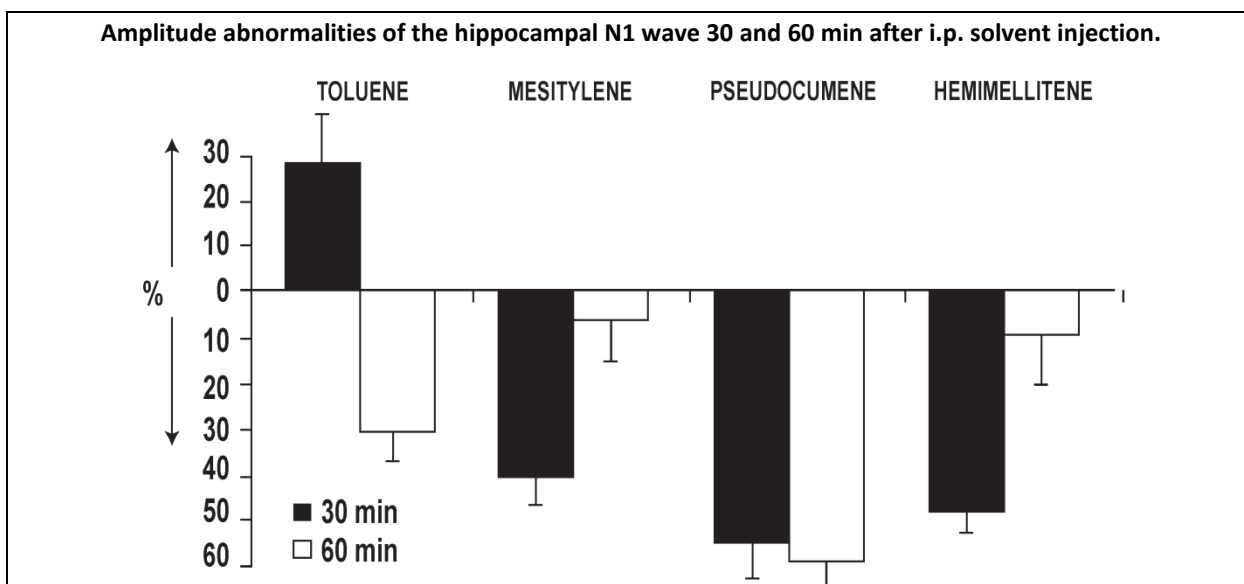
1 Table C-41. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tomas et al. \(1999b\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
WAG/Rij rats	M	10 rats/dose	Oral (in olive oil)	0, 8, 16, or 32 mmol/kg body weight (960, 1,920, or 3,850 mg/kg body weight) 1,2,4-TMB, 1,2,3-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB	Acute
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB were tested for their effects on locomotor activity by an open field test following oral administration (in olive oil) of 0, 8, 16, or 32 mmol/kg body weight of all isomers.</li><li>All three TMB isomers were found to cause a slight increase in locomotor activity.</li></ul>					
<b>Locomotor activity following acute exposure to toluene and TMB isomers at doses of 0.008 mol/kg, 0.016 mol/kg, and 0.032 mol/kg.</b>					
<p>Legend: control group (oil) ■ pseudocumene ■ hemimellitene ■ mesitylene □ toluene ■</p>					
Source: Reproduced from <a href="#">Tomas et al. (1999b)</a> .					
Health effect at LOAEL		NOAEL		LOAEL	
Increased locomotor activity		16 mmol/kg 1,2,3-TMB 16 mmol/kg 1,2,4-TMB 8 mmol/kg 1,3,5-TMB		32 mmol/kg 1,2,3-TMB 32 mmol/kg 1,2,4-TMB 16 mmol/kg 1,3,5-TMB	
<b>Comments:</b> Exposures were of an acute duration, and were therefore not suitable for reference value derivation. However, qualitatively, this study provided evidence of CNS disturbances that, when considered together with short-term and subchronic neurotoxicity studies, demonstrate that TMB isomers perturb the CNS of exposed animals.					

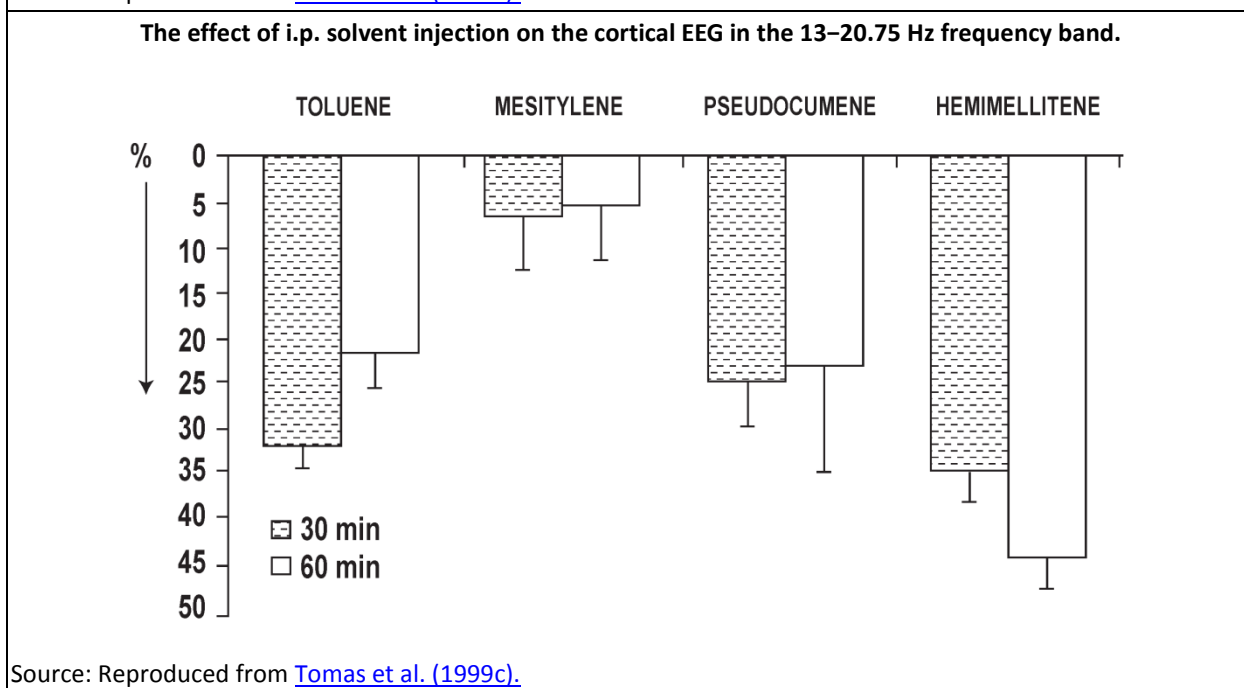
1 Table C-42. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tomas et al. \(1999c\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	4 rats/ dose	i.p. injection	6.6 mmol/kg body weight 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB	Acute
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB were tested for their effects on the CNS by monitoring evoked hippocampal and cortical activity following i.p. injection of 6.6 mmol/kg body weight of any isomer.</li> <li>Solvent concentration in peripheral blood was determined via head space gas chromatography.</li> <li>Significant differences in hippocampal and cortical activity occurred following injection.</li> </ul>					
<b>Amplitude abnormalities of the cortical N1 wave 30 and 60 min after i.p. solvent injection.</b> <p>Source:</p>					
<b>Amplitude abnormalities of the cortical P1–N1 wave 30 and 60 min after i.p. solvent injection.</b> <p>Source: Reproduced from <a href="#">Tomas et al. (1999c)</a>.</p>					

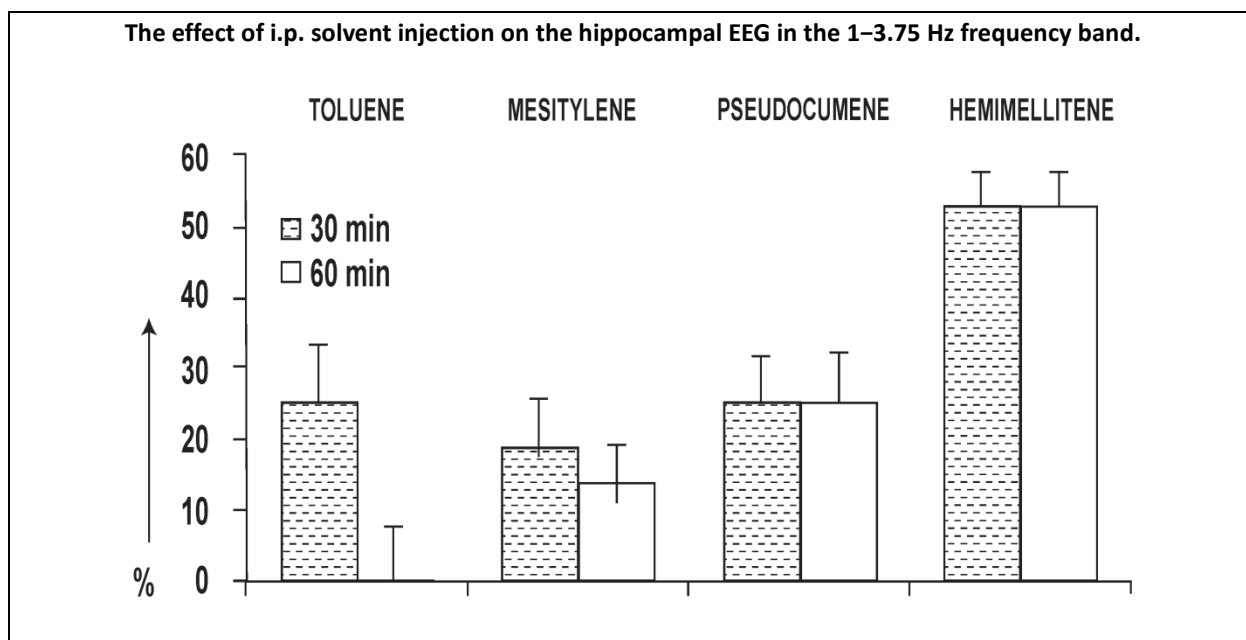
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes



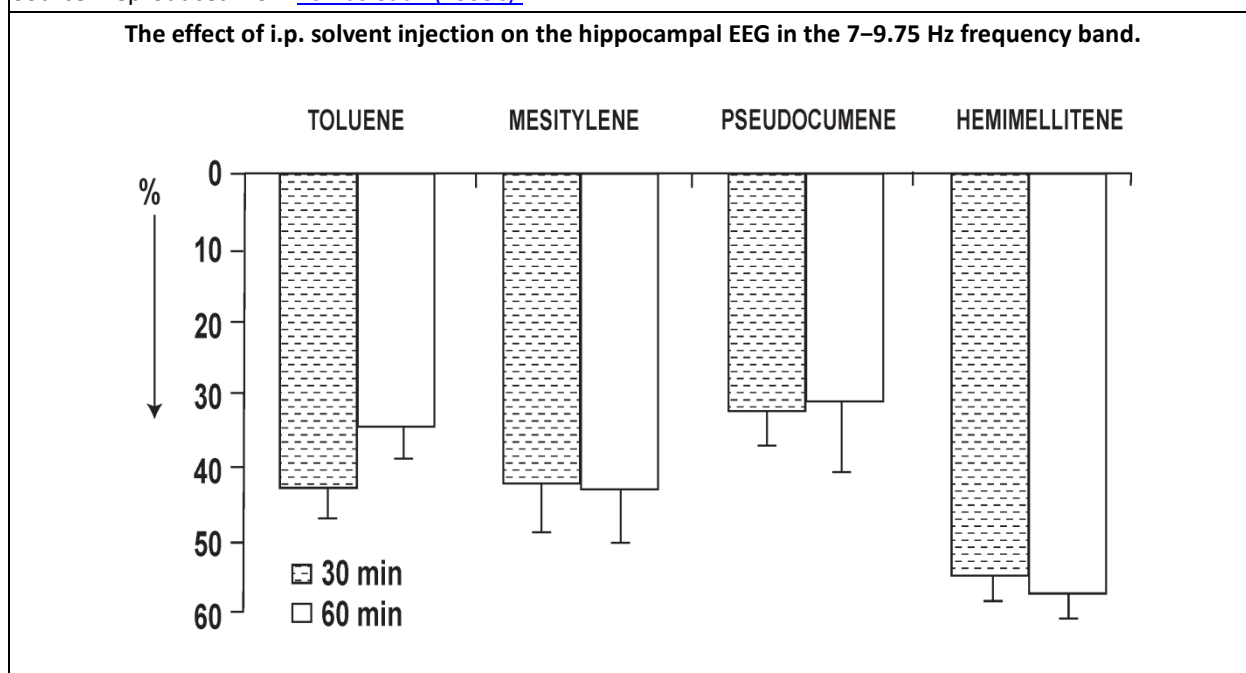
Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999c\)](#).



Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999c\)](#).



Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999c\)](#).



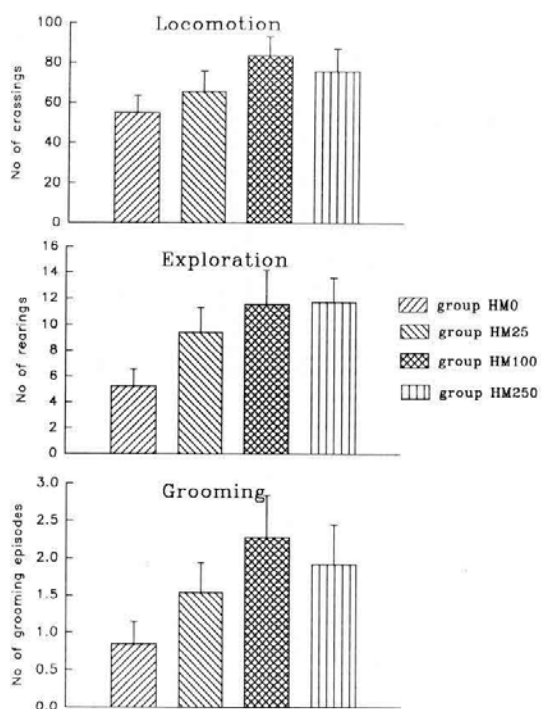
Source: Reproduced from [Tomas et al. \(1999c\)](#).

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
N/A (acute exposure study, one dose level)	N/A	6.6 mmol/kg 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB
<b>Comments:</b> Unable to quantify dose-response relationship from data because only one dose group was used. Exposures were of an acute duration, and were therefore not suitable for reference value derivation. However, qualitatively, this study provided evidence of CNS disturbances that, when considered together with short-term and subchronic neurotoxicity studies, demonstrate that TMB isomers perturb the CNS of exposed animals.		

1 Table C-43. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Wiaderma et al. \(1998\)](#)

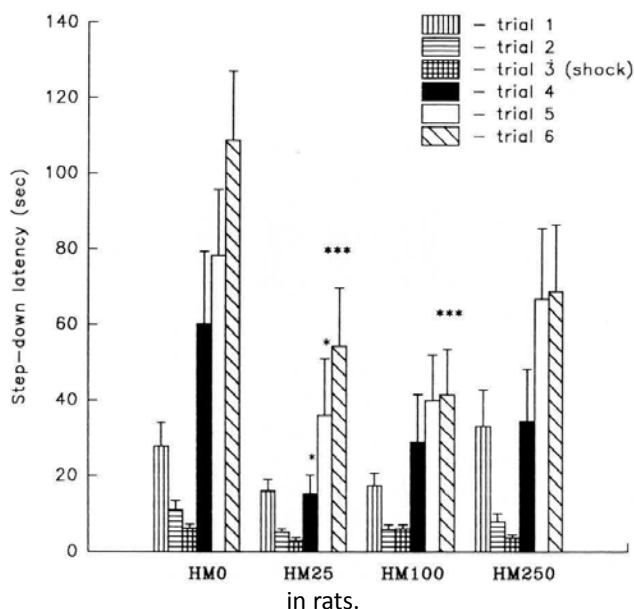
Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	13 or 14 rats/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0 or 25, 100, or 250 ppm (0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB	4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animals were exposed to 1,2,3-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li> <li>Rats were tested with a variety of behavioral tests, including radial maze performance, open field activity, passive avoidance, and active two-way avoidance.</li> <li>Tests were performed on d 14–18 following exposure.</li> <li>Neurobehavioral effects were observed at 25 and 100 ppm (123 and 492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) concentrations, but not at 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).</li> </ul>					
<p align="center"><b>Radial maze performance of rats exposed for 4 wks to 1,2,3-TMB.</b></p> <p>The test (one trial/day) was performed on d 14–18 after exposure. Upper diagram: changes in trial duration, i.e., the time of successive eight arm entries, during successive days of training. Lower diagram: number of perseveration errors in successive daily trials.</p> <p>Denotation of groups: HM0-sham exposed group (N = 13), HM25, HM100, and HM250-groups exposed to 1,2,3-TMB at concentrations of 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, N = 13), 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, N = 14), and 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>, N = 13), respectively. Bars represent group means and SE.</p> <p>*p &lt; 0.05 compared to trial 1 in the same group.</p>					

A comparison of spontaneous locomotor (upper diagram), exploratory (middle diagram), and grooming (lower diagram) activity of rats in an open field during a 5-min observation period.



The test was performed 25 d after a 4-wk exposure to 1,2,3-TMB. Denotation of groups as in previous figure above. The bars represent group means and SE.

Diagrams illustrating the effect of a 4-wk exposure to 1,2,3-TMB on the step-down passive avoidance learning.

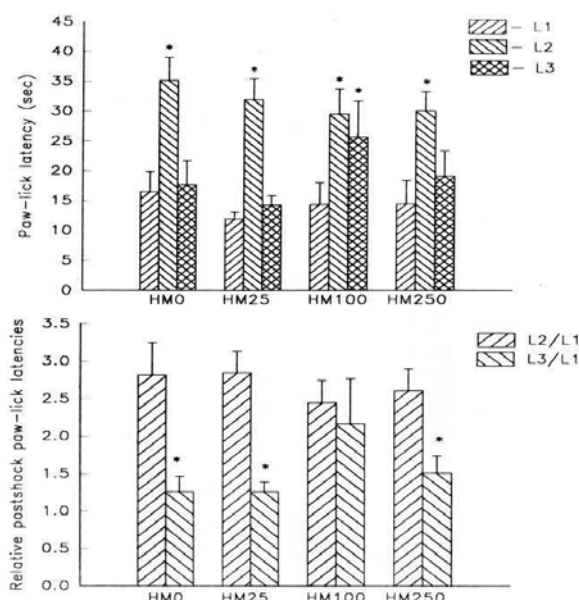


The test was performed on d 39–48 after exposure. Trials 1, 2, and 3 were performed at 24-hr intervals. The step-down response was punished by a 10-sec footshock in trial 3 only. Trials 4, 5, and 6 were performed 24 hr, 3 d, and 7 d after trial 3, respectively. The maximum step-down latency was 180 sec. Denotations of groups as in previous figures above. The bars represent group means and SE.

\*, \*\*\* $p < 0.05$  and  $p < 0.001$ , compared with respective data from control group.



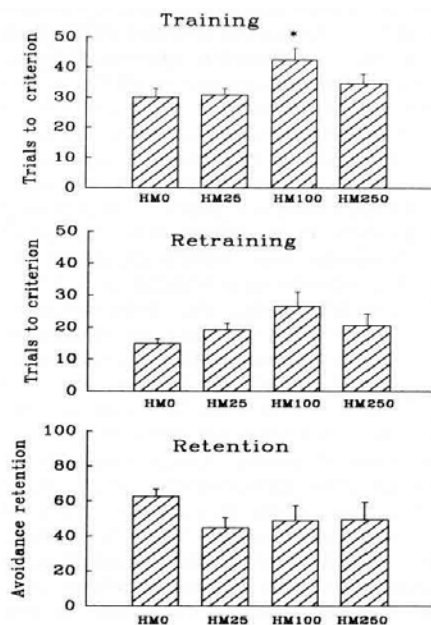
Hot plate behavior tested in rats on d 50 (trials 1 and 2) and d 51 (trial 3) after a 4-wk exposure to 1,2,3-TMB.



Denotation of groups as in previous figures above. The bars represent group means and SE. Upper diagram: A comparison of the latency of the paw-lick response to a thermal stimulus (54.5°C) on d 50. L1-paw-lick latency in trial 1 performed before a 2 min intermittent footshock. L2-paw-lick latency in trial 2 performed several sec after the footshock. L3-paw-lick latency in trial 3 performed 24 hr after the footshock.

\* $p < 0.05$  compared to L2/L1 of the same group.

Active avoidance learning and retention in rats after a 4-wk exposure to 1,2,3-TMB.



Upper and middle diagrams: comparisons of the number of trials to attain an avoidance criterion (four avoidance responses during five successive trials) during the training (upper diagram and retraining (middle diagram) session). Lower diagram: a retention score calculated according to the formula:  $\%Ret = (1 - Resc/Tesc) \times 100$ , where Resc and Tesc are numbers of escape responses during retraining and training, respectively. Denotation of groups as in previous figures above. The bars represent group means and SE.

\* $p < 0.05$  compared to control group.

### Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Impaired learning of passive avoidance	N/A	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )
<b>Comments:</b> CNS disturbances were observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects after metabolic clearance of 1,2,3-TMB from the test animals. No effects were observed in the 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) exposure group. Duration of exposure was only 4 wks. Generally, short-term exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.		

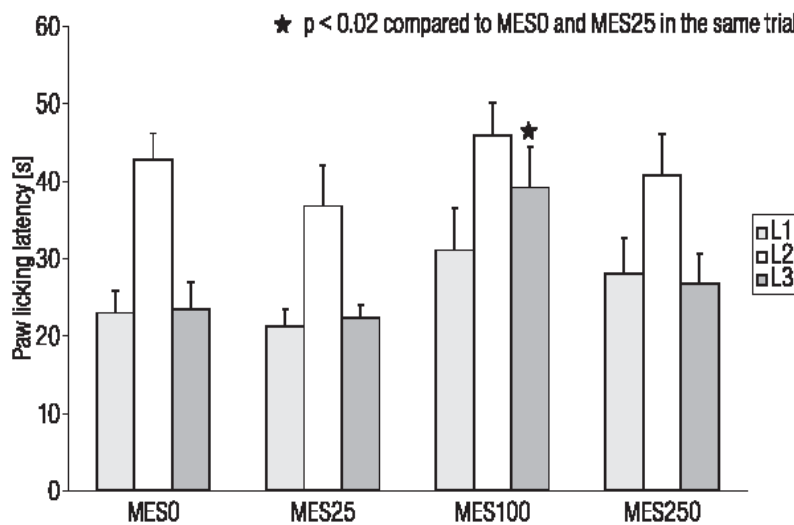
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1 Table C-44. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Wiaderna et al. \(2002\)](#)

Study design																																								
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration																																			
LOD: Wistar rats	MM	12 rats/dose	Inhalation (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)	0 or 25, 100, or 250 ppm (0, 123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB	4 wks																																			
Additional study details																																								
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Animals were exposed to 1,3,5-TMB in 1.3 m<sup>3</sup> dynamic inhalation exposure chambers for 6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk for 4 wks. Food and water were provided ad libitum.</li><li>Animals were randomized and assigned to the experimental groups.</li><li>Rats were tested with a variety of behavioral tests, including radial maze performance, open field activity, passive avoidance, active two-way avoidance, and shock-induced changes in pain sensitivity.</li><li>1,3,5-TMB-exposed rats showed alterations in performance in spontaneous locomotor activity, active and passive avoidance learning, and paw-lick latencies.</li></ul>																																								
Passive avoidance; the comparison of the time of staying on the platform in the consecutive test trials.																																								
<p>Step down latency [s]</p> <p>★ p &lt; 0.001 compared to MES0</p> <p>Legend: trial 1 (white), trial 2 (light gray), trial 3 (dark gray), trial 4 (white), trial 5 (light gray), trial 6 (dark gray)</p> <table><caption>Approximate Step down latency [s] values from the chart</caption><thead><tr><th>Group</th><th>Trial 1</th><th>Trial 2</th><th>Trial 3</th><th>Trial 4</th><th>Trial 5</th><th>Trial 6</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>MES0</td><td>10</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>35</td><td>105</td><td>140</td></tr><tr><td>MES25</td><td>10</td><td>15</td><td>10</td><td>70</td><td>70</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>MES100</td><td>25</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>75</td><td>60</td><td>60</td></tr><tr><td>MES250</td><td>10</td><td>5</td><td>5</td><td>75</td><td>60</td><td>75</td></tr></tbody></table>						Group	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4	Trial 5	Trial 6	MES0	10	5	5	35	105	140	MES25	10	15	10	70	70	70	MES100	25	5	5	75	60	60	MES250	10	5	5	75	60	75
Group	Trial 1	Trial 2	Trial 3	Trial 4	Trial 5	Trial 6																																		
MES0	10	5	5	35	105	140																																		
MES25	10	15	10	70	70	70																																		
MES100	25	5	5	75	60	60																																		
MES250	10	5	5	75	60	75																																		
<p>The test was performed between d 35 and 45 after the exposure to 1,3,5-TMB. Leaving the platform in trial 3 was punished by an electric shock. Trials 1, 2, 3, and 4 were performed at 24-hr intervals, while trials 5 and 6 were effected 3 and 7 d after trial 3, respectively. The bars represent group means and SE.</p>																																								

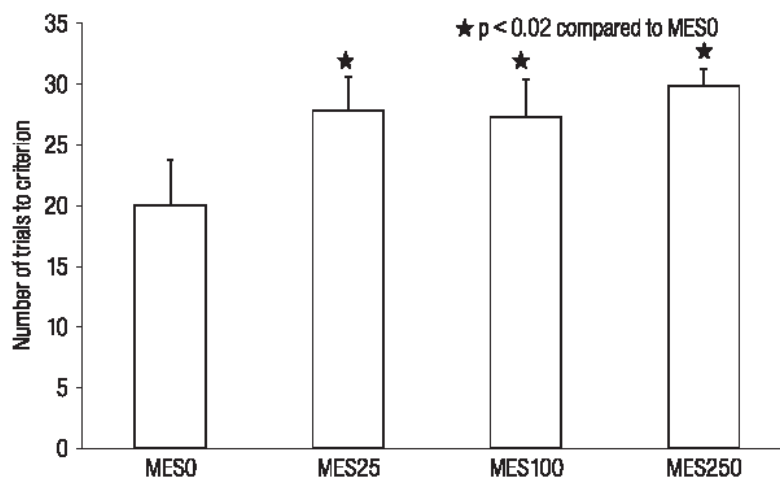
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Hot plate; the comparison of latency of the reaction (paw-lick) to the thermal stimulus before (L1), immediately after (L2) and 24 hr after (L3) intermittent 2 min electric shock in rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB.**



The test was performed on d 50 and 51 after the exposure. The bars represent group means and SE.

**Active avoidance; the comparison of the rat groups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB for the number of trials (attempts) required to reach the avoidance criterion (four shock avoidances) in five consecutive trials (attempts) during the training session.**



The test was performed on d 54 (training) and d 60 (retraining) after the exposure. The bars represent group means and SE.

Health effect at LOAEL	NOAEL	LOAEL
Shorter retention of passive avoidance reaction	N/A	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )

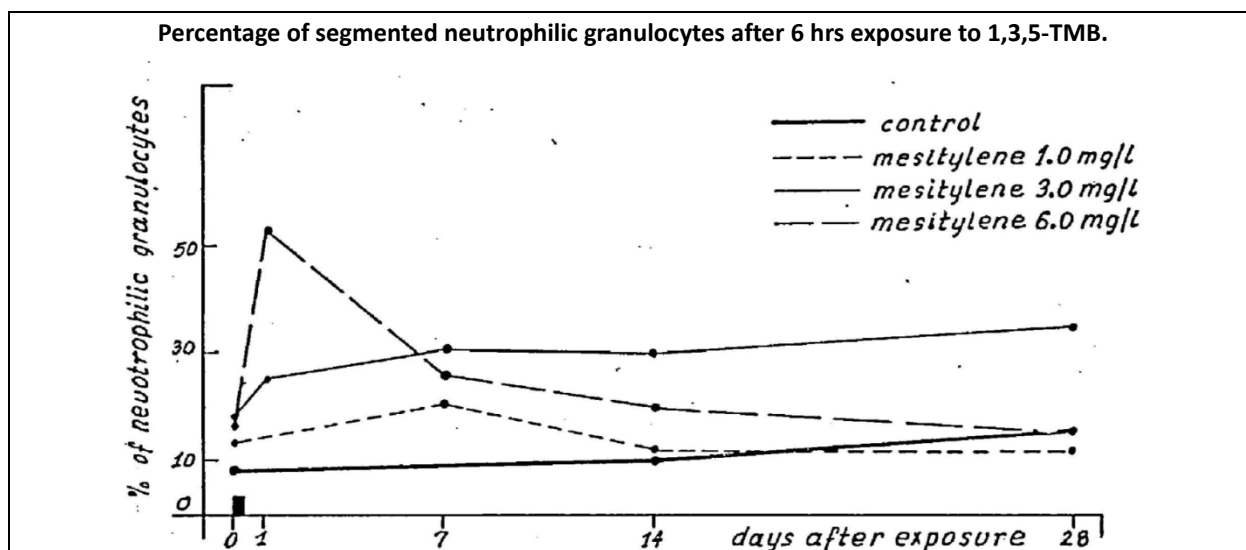
**Comments:** This study observed alterations in a number of behavioral tests. Values reported by authors can be used to determine LOAEL and NOAEL. CNS disturbances observed up to 2 mo after termination of exposure, indicating the persistence of effects following metabolic clearance of 1,3,5-TMB from the test animals. Unable to quantify dose-response relationship from data because responses either equal at all exposure concentrations or elevated only at one exposure concentration. Duration of exposure only 4 wks. Generally, short-term exposure studies have limited utility in quantitation of human health reference values.

1 Table C-45. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Wiglusz et al. \(1975b\)](#)

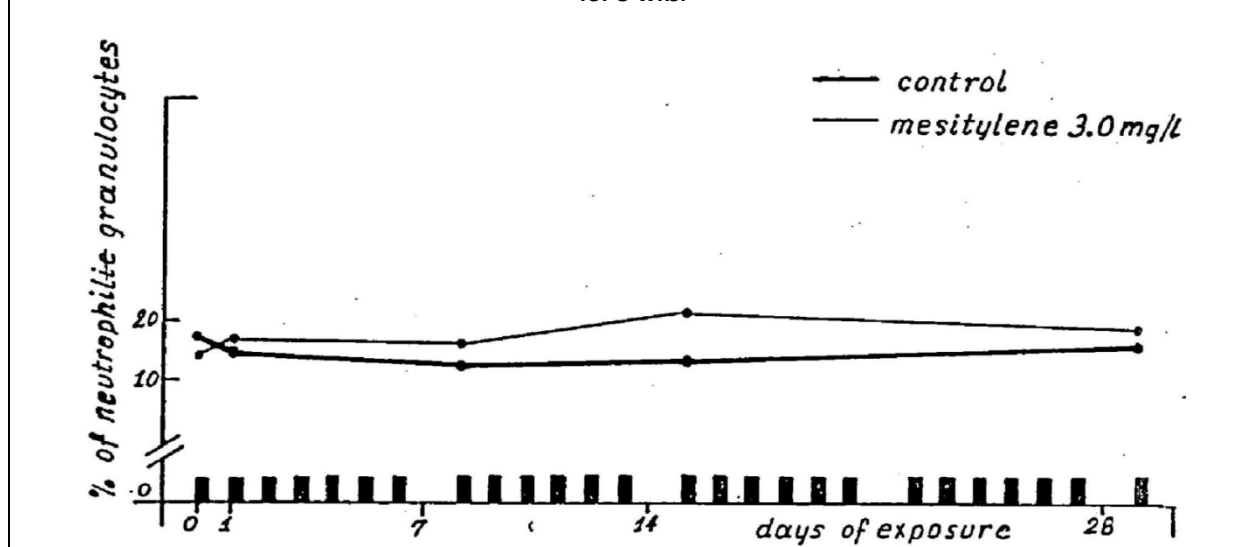
Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	5–8/dose	Inhalation	0, 1.5, 3.0, or 6.0 mg/L (0, 1,500, 3,000, or 6,000 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	Acute study: 6 hrs Short-term study: 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk for 5 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male Wistar rats were exposed in a short-term study to 0, 1.5, 3.0, or 6.0 mg/L 1,3,5-TMB.</li> <li>In a separate chronic study, male Wistar rats were exposed to 3.0 mg/L 1,3,5-TMB for 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk, for 5 wks.</li> <li>Rats weighed 240–280 g and were housed in stainless steel wire mesh cages, with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Blood samples were collected for 3 d before exposure then on d 1, 7, 14, and 28.</li> </ul>					
Observation	1,3,5-TMB exposure concentration (mg/L)—hematological parameters following single 6-hr exposure				
	0	1.5	3.0	6.0	
	Hemoglobin in g% (mean ± SD)				
Day 0	14.1 ± 1.3	15.2 ± 0.3	15.0 ± 0.8	14.2 ± 1.1	
Day 1	–	–	14.8 ± 1.0	13.9 ± 2.1	
Day 7	–	14.0 ± 0.5	13.5 ± 0.5	13.5 ± 0.8	
Day 14	15.1 ± 0.8	14.6 ± 0.5	13.6 ± 0.6	13.1 ± 0.4	
Day 28	14.8 ± 0.5	14.9 ± 0.7	13.6 ± 0.8	14.8 ± 0.4	
	Million erythrocytes per mm <sup>3</sup> serum (mean ± SD)				
Day 0	4.91 ± 0.19	5.35 ± 0.09	4.96 ± 0.15	5.51 ± 0.17	
Day 1	–	–	5.32 ± 0.02	5.31 ± 0.11	
Day 7	–	5.18 ± 0.18	4.93 ± 0.16	4.89 ± 0.17	
Day 14	5.37 ± 0.90	4.99 ± 0.11	5.09 ± 0.10	4.77 ± 0.10	
Day 28	5.17 ± 0.18	5.26 ± 0.07	5.12 ± 0.10	5.20 ± 0.27	
	Thousand leukocytes per mm <sup>3</sup> serum (mean ± SD)				
Day 0	11.08 ± 3.14	12.26 ± 3.50	13.01 ± 3.10	8.90 ± 3.88	
Day 1	–	–	11.38 ± 1.37	8.24 ± 3.88	
Day 7	–	11.70 ± 2.97	11.66 ± 1.50	12.32 ± 5.01	
Day 14	8.0 ± 2.16	12.06 ± 3.33	11.70 ± 1.05	10.68 ± 1.21	
Day 28	6.83 ± 1.27	11.50 ± 10.48	11.96 ± 1.16	9.92 ± 2.42	

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	Percent segmented neutrophilic granulocytes (mean ± SD)			
Day 0	8.5 ± 4.1	13.5 ± 3.6	18.5 ± 2.3	16.6 ± 2.8
Day 1	–	–	22.5 ± 5.4	53.6 ± 22.5
Day 7	–	20.2 ± 6.04	31.3 ± 10.3	26.7 ± 12.5
Day 14	10.6 ± 2.5	12.2 ± 5.9	30.1 ± 6.2	20.6 ± 23.7
Day 28	15.6 ± 6.3	12.5 ± 6.4	35.0 ± 6.7	15.8 ± 3.8
	Percent bacilliform neutrophilic granulocytes (range)			
Day 0	0.6 (0–1)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 1	–	–	0.0	0.0
Day 7	–	0.0	0.0	0.0
Day 14	0.0	0.16 (0–1)	0.0	0.0
Day 28	0.0	1 (0–2)	0.0	0.0
	Percent acidophilic granulocytes (mean ± SD)			
Day 0	1.1 ± 0.7	2.6 ± 1.9	0.5 ± 0.5	1.8 ± 1.7
Day 1	–	–	0.0	0.14 ± 0.3
Day 7	–	1.1 ± 1.1	3.1 ± 0.5	0.0
Day 14	2.8 ± 1.3	5.1 ± 3.2	4.8 ± 1.0	2.6 ± 2.6
Day 28	4.1 ± 2.9	3.1 ± 1.7	6.0 ± 4.1	2.2 ± 2.8
	Percent lymphocyte (mean ± SD)			
Day 0	88.6 ± 4.4	82.8 ± 4.13	67.8 ± 2.3	79.4 ± 4.3
Day 1	–	–	73.3 ± 5.4	44.0 ± 21.3
Day 7	–	77.6 ± 4.8	65.0 ± 7.9	71.2 ± 12.5
Day 14	85.4 ± 1.5	82.0 ± 3.8	64.3 ± 5.8	75.0 ± 23.0
Day 28	78.6 ± 8.3	81.8 ± 7.6	57.1 ± 4.1	81.2 ± 5.8
	Percent monocyte (mean ± SD)			
Day 0	1.6 ± 0.8	1.0 ± 0.6	1.1 ± 0.9	2.2 ± 1.0
Day 1	–	–	1.1 ± 0.4	2.3 ± 1.8
Day 7	–	0.8 ± 1.1	0.3 ± 0.5	1.7 ± 1.9
Day 14	0.5 ± 0.4	0.6 ± 0.5	0.3 ± 0.8	1.2 ± 0.4
Day 28	1.6 ± 1.0	1.6 ± 1.0	1.6 ± 1.2	1.0 ± 0.8



Percentage of segmented neutrophilic granulocytes during exposure to 1,3,5-TMB 3.0 mg/L for 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk, for 5 wks.



Observation	Hematological parameters during 5-wk exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (means $\pm$ SD)				
	Day 0	Day 1	Day 7	Day 14	Day 28
Hemoglobin in g%					
Control group	13.0 $\pm$ 4.7	14.6 $\pm$ 2.5	14.6 $\pm$ 2.5	15.6 $\pm$ 3.2	14.2 $\pm$ 5.0
1,3,5-TMB group	14.6 $\pm$ 0.7	15.5 $\pm$ 0.6	14.8 $\pm$ 1.1	14.5 $\pm$ 0.9	13.8 $\pm$ 0.5
Million erythrocytes per mm <sup>3</sup> serum					
Control group	5.42 $\pm$ 0.78	6.12 $\pm$ 0.4	6.40 $\pm$ 0.25	6.46 $\pm$ 0.39	6.18 $\pm$ 0.61
1,3,5-TMB group	6.08 $\pm$ 1.18	6.35 $\pm$ 0.38	6.11 $\pm$ 0.63	5.74 $\pm$ 1.1	5.05 $\pm$ 2.2
Thousand leukocytes per mm <sup>3</sup> serum					
Control group	10.63 $\pm$ 4.27	13.66 $\pm$ 2.91	11.13 $\pm$ 2.52	14.53 $\pm$ 2.64	11.46 $\pm$ 2.74
1,3,5-TMB group	13.76 $\pm$ 3.70	11.43 $\pm$ 4.0	9.53 $\pm$ 2.55	12.23 $\pm$ 4.04	13.40 $\pm$ 5.18

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

	% Segmented neutrophilic granulocytes				
Control group	17.1 ± 11.9	14.5 ± 8.1	12.1 ± 2.5	13.6 ± 6.3	15.6 ± 3.2
1,3,5-TMB group	14.0 ± 5.0	17.0 ± 9.4	16.6 ± 5.0	21.5 ± 7.4	18.4 ± 8.6
	% Bacilliform neutrophilic granulocytes				
Control group	0.83 (1–2)	0.66 (1–2)	1.33 (1–3)	1.33 (1–2)	1.0 (0–1)
1,3,5-TMB group	0.6 (1–2)	0.4 (0–1)	1 (1–2)	1.8 (2–5)	1.4 (1–2)
	% Acidophilic granulocytes				
Control group	1 (1–4)	2.1 (1–4)	3.3 (1–7)	1.8 (1–4)	1.6 (1–4)
1,3,5-TMB group	1.5 (1–3)	1.0 (1–3)	0.8 (1–2)	1.0 (1–2)	0.8 (0–1)
	% Lymphocyte				
Control group	79.6 ± 11.7	81.6 ± 8.6	81.8 ± 4.7	81.1 ± 5.2	80.0 ± 2.4
1,3,5-TMB group	79.8 ± 5.5	81.0 ± 7.7	80.5 ± 6.5	74.0 ± 9.4	77.2 ± 8.4
	% Monocyte				
Control group	1.1 (1–3)	1.0 (0–2)	1.5 (1–4)	1.0 (1–2)	1.5 (1–3)
1,3,5-TMB group	0.6 (1–3)	0.8 (1–2)	0.8 (1–2)	1.3 (1–3)	2.7 (2–4)
Health effect at LOAEL		NOAEL		LOAEL	
Increase in percent segmented neutrophilic granulocytes		1.5 mg/L		3.0 mg/L	
Comments: Slight increases in percent segmented neutrophilic granulocytes on d 14 of the short-term exposure study. Authors do not report statistical significance of results. Only one dose group was used in chronic study.					

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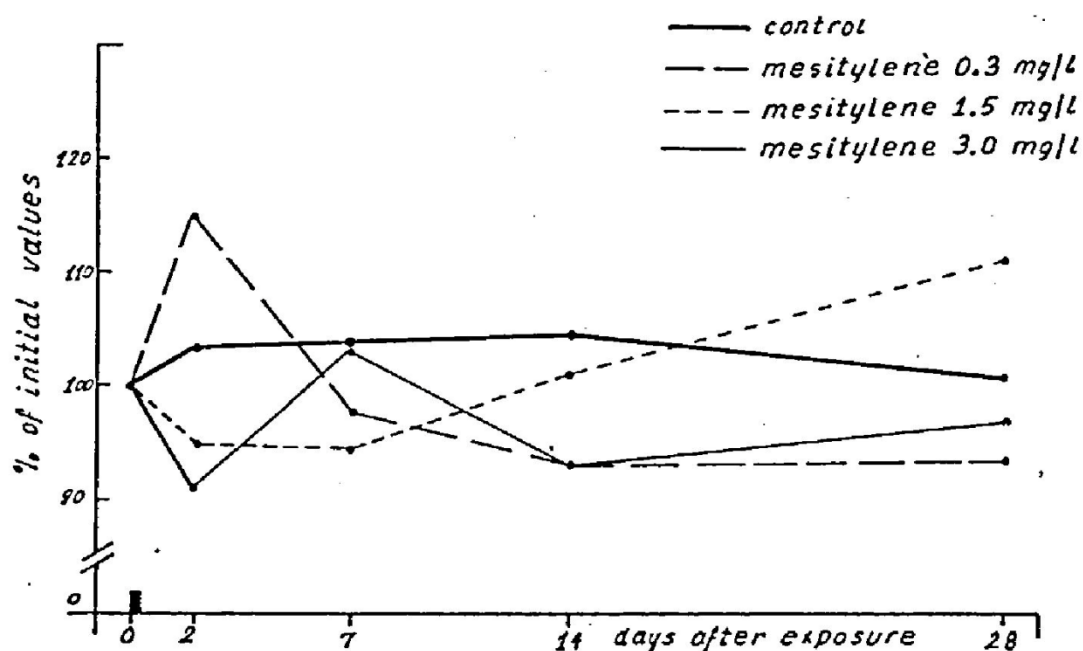


1 Table C-46. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Wiglusz et al. \(1975a\)](#)

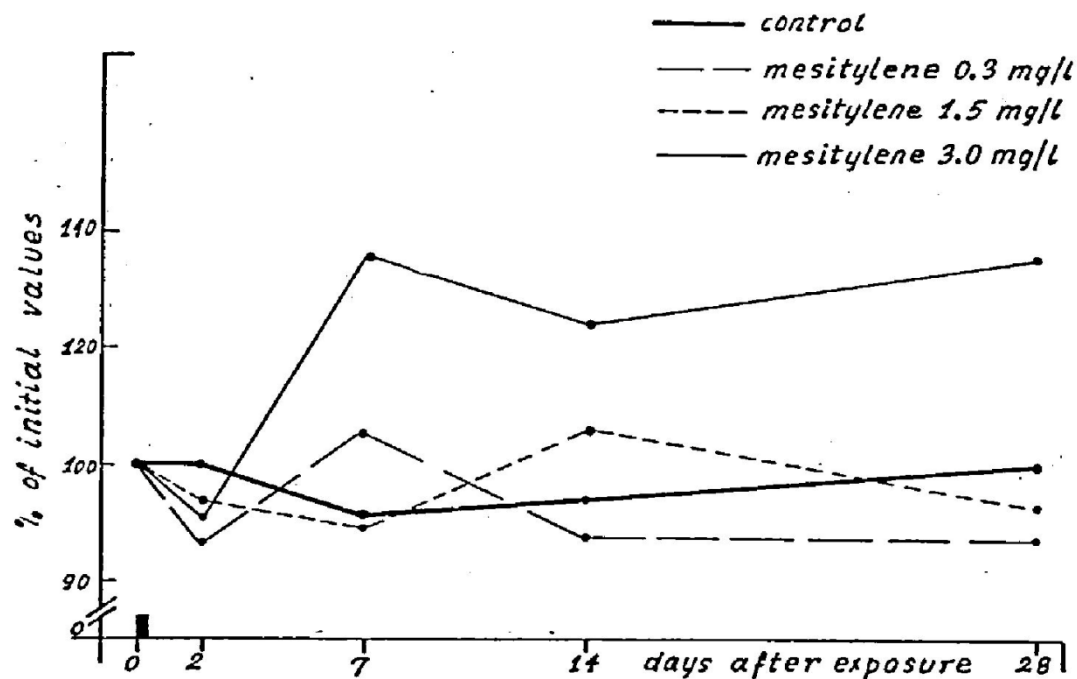
Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	6/dose	Inhalation	0, 0.3, 1.5, or 3.0 mg/L (0, 300, 1,500, or 3,000 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	Acute study: 6 hrs Short-term study: 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk for 5 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male Wistar rats were exposed in a short-term study to 0, 0.3, 1.5, or 3.0 mg/L 1,3,5-TMB.</li> <li>In a separate chronic study, male Wistar rats were exposed to 3.0 mg/L 1,3,5-TMB for 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk, for 5 wks.</li> <li>Rats weighed 240–280 g and were housed in stainless steel wire mesh cages, with food and water provided ad libitum.</li> <li>Blood samples were collected for 3 d before exposure then on d 1, 7, 14, and 28.</li> </ul>					
Observation	1,3,5-TMB exposure concentration (mg/L)—hematological parameters following single 6-hr exposure (means ± SE)				
	0	0.3	1.5	3.0	
	<b>AST activity</b>				
Day 0	79.0 ± 7.9	78.0 ± 7.7	75.3 ± 7.3	81.6 ± 4.2	
Day 2	81.8 ± 6.2	90.0 ± 5.7	71.8 ± 3.3	74.6 ± 4.5	
Day 7	82.2 ± 4.3	76.8 ± 4.2	71.2 ± 2.2	84.1 ± 5.6	
Day 14	82.6 ± 8.5	73.0 ± 4.2	76.3 ± 6.7	76.1 ± 3.9	
Day 28	79.6 ± 7.6	72.6 ± 7.2	84.2 ± 7.9	79.5 ± 10.6	
	<b>ALT activity</b>				
Day 0	34.0 ± 4.5	35.6 ± 4.1	32.6 ± 4.5	29.1 ± 3.6	
Day 2	34.0 ± 4.6	30.8 ± 2.7	30.6 ± 8.3	26.5 ± 1.2	
Day 7	31.0 ± 3.1	37.5 ± 5.6	29.3 ± 4.5	39.5 ± 3.0	
Day 14	32.0 ± 3.2	31.4 ± 2.5	34.6 ± 5.3	36.3 ± 1.7	
Day 28	34.0 ± 3.8	31.3 ± 5.2	30.4 ± 9.4	39.3 ± 2.7	
	<b>AP activity</b>				
Day 0	28.6 ± 9.6	30.9 ± 3.3	27.4 ± 6.4	37.3 ± 5.6	
Day 2	27.8 ± 5.1	26.0 ± 7.2	29.7 ± 2.6	30.5 ± 6.5	
Day 7	31.8 ± 5.8	28.1 ± 5.9	32.8 ± 1.8	58.7 ± 8.9*	
Day 14	27.0 ± 4.7	33.6 ± 2.4	28.9 ± 5.2	42.1 ± 2.9	
Day 28	30.5 ± 3.2	28.0 ± 6.9	23.0 ± 4.7	—	
*Statistically significant in relation to initial values ( $p < 0.05$ ).					

# Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

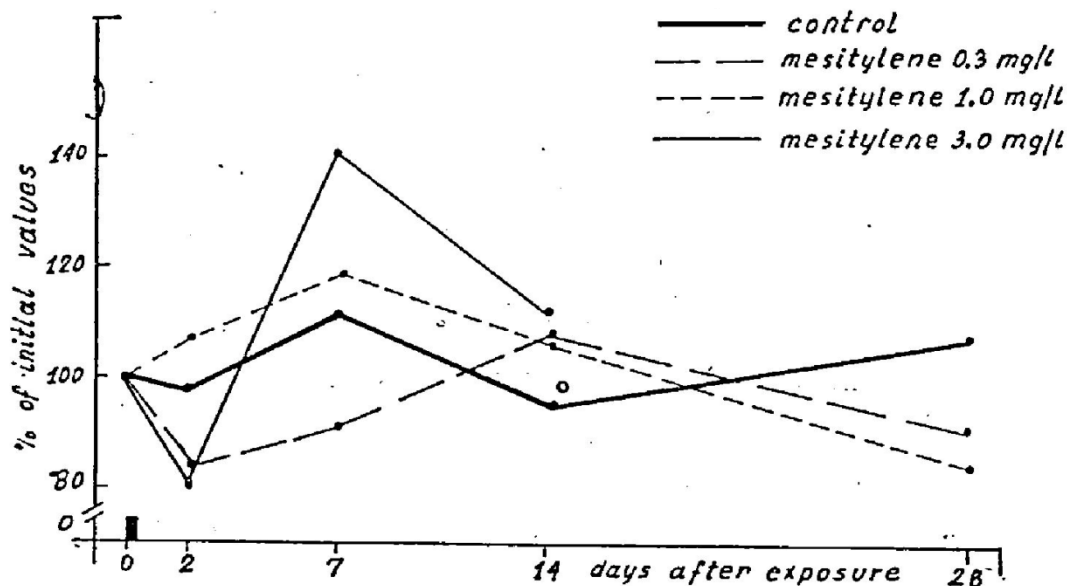
Serum activity of AST after 6 hrs of exposure to 1,3,5-TMB; values are expressed in % of initial values.



Serum activity of ALT after 6 hrs of exposure to 1,3,5-TMB; values are expressed in % of initial values.



Serum activity of AP after 6 hrs of exposure to 1,3,5-TMB; values are expressed in % of initial values.

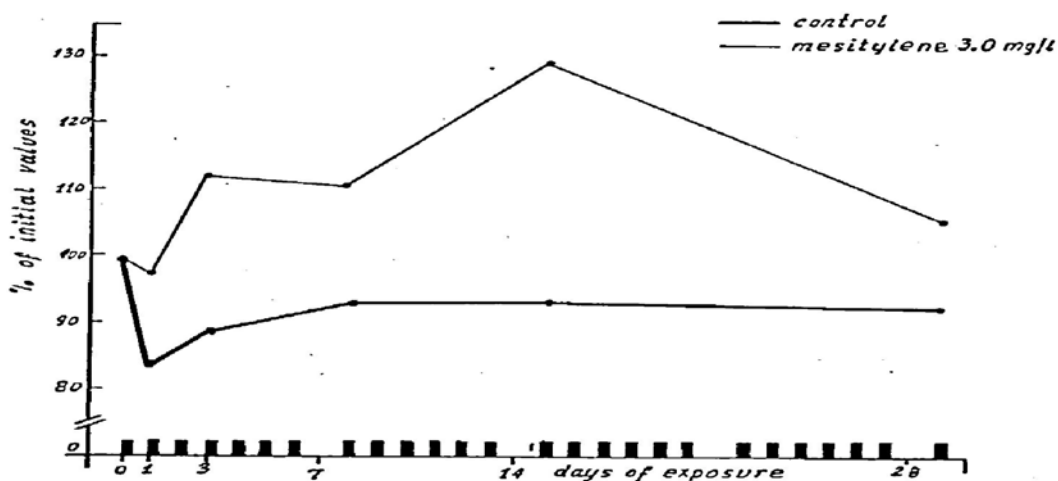


Observation	Hematological parameters during 5-wk exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (means $\pm$ SD)					
	Day 0	Day 1	Day 3	Day 7	Day 14	Day 28
AST activity						
Control group	89.5 $\pm$ 2.3	74.5 $\pm$ 6.9	79.6 $\pm$ 10.5	83.2 $\pm$ 10.6	83.5 $\pm$ 7.3	82.2 $\pm$ 6.3
1,3,5-TMB group	72.0 $\pm$ 5.1	70.8 $\pm$ 5.2	81.3 $\pm$ 9.1	80.0 $\pm$ 6.3	93.4 $\pm$ 1.4*	79.6 $\pm$ 9.4
ALT activity						
Control group	34.0 $\pm$ 4.1	33.8 $\pm$ 5.0	35.6 $\pm$ 2.6	30.5 $\pm$ 4.9	30.0 $\pm$ 4.5	35.6 $\pm$ 4.6
1,3,5-TMB group	34.8 $\pm$ 3.6	28.0 $\pm$ 6.32	33.3 $\pm$ 3.8	35.1 $\pm$ 3.9	36.4 $\pm$ 4.0	36.5 $\pm$ 5.0
Ornithine carbamyl transferase activity						
Control group	2.7 $\pm$ 0.2	2.6 $\pm$ 0.2	3.1 $\pm$ 0.2	2.8 $\pm$ 0.1	2.6 $\pm$ 0.3	3.6 $\pm$ 0.3
1,3,5-TMB group	2.6 $\pm$ 0.4	2.5 $\pm$ 0.6	3.8 $\pm$ 0.4	3.5 $\pm$ 0.2	2.6 $\pm$ 0.2	3.7 $\pm$ 0.4
AP activity						
Control group	27.8 $\pm$ 4.0	28.8 $\pm$ 3.8	28.5 $\pm$ 6.8	26.5 $\pm$ 3.9	27.2 $\pm$ 8.8	25.8 $\pm$ 3.0
1,3,5-TMB group	32.4 $\pm$ 1.8	23.6 $\pm$ 3.6	22.2 $\pm$ 3.6	30.2 $\pm$ 6.9	25.6 $\pm$ 5.9	32.6 $\pm$ 4.8

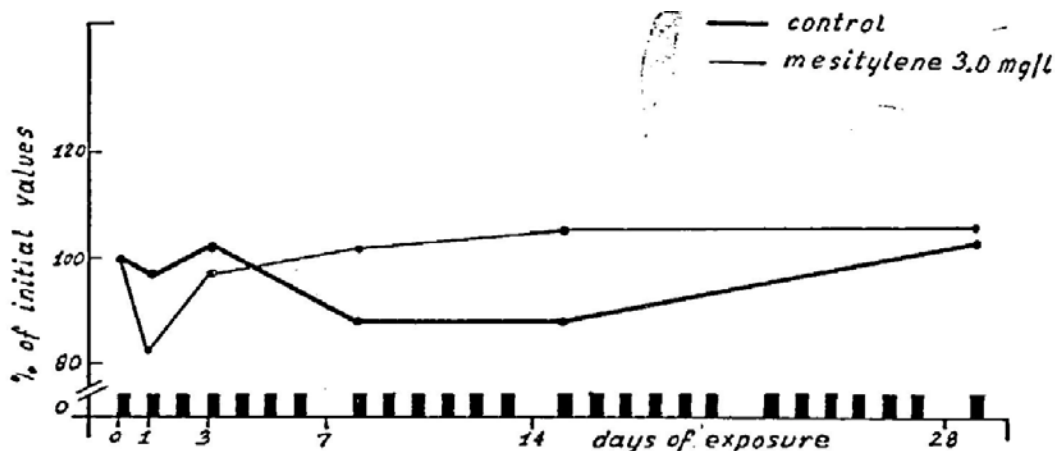
\*Statistically significant in relation to initial values ( $p < 0.05$ ).

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

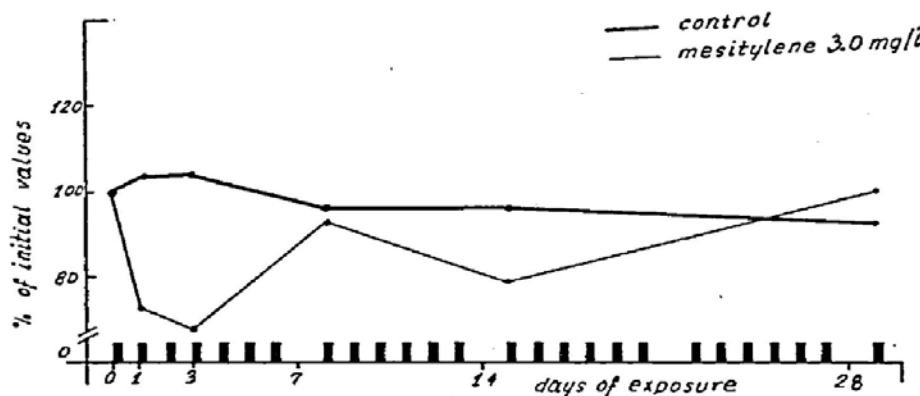
Serum activity of AST during exposure to 1,3,5-TMB at 3.0 mg/L for 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk, for 5 wks; values are expressed in % of initial values.



Serum activity of ALT during exposure to 1,3,5-TMB at 3.0 mg/L for 6 hrs/d, 6 d per wk, for 5 wks; values are expressed in % of initial values.



Serum activity of AP during exposure to 1,3,5-TMB at 3.0 mg/L for 6 hrs/d, 6 d/wk, for 5 wks; values are expressed in % of initial values.



### ***Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes***

<b>Health effect at LOAEL</b>	<b>NOAEL</b>	<b>LOAEL</b>
Increase in AP activity	1.5 mg/L	3.0 mg/L
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed increases in AP activity on d 7 of the short-term exposure study. Only one dose group was used in chronic study. Data were not recorded daily; significant gaps exist between sampling days.		

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## C.5. HUMAN TOXICOKINETIC STUDIES

Tables C-47 through C-52 provide study details for human toxicokinetic studies.

**Table C-47. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Järnberg et al. \(1996\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Caucasian humans	M	9/dose	Inhalation	2 ppm and 25 ppm (~10 and 123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB	2 hrs of exposure, followed by 4 hrs of observation
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Caucasian males were exposed to 2 ppm (~10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB and 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB in an inhalation chamber for 2 hrs.</li> <li>Study subjects were asked to perform light cycling to simulate a work environment, with participants generating 50 W power during 2-hr exposures.</li> <li>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB concentrations in exhaled air, blood, and urine were determined via gas chromatography.</li> <li>No significant irritation or CNS effects were observed.</li> <li>Results imply extensive deposition in adipose tissue.</li> <li>Exhalation accounted for 20–37% of absorbed amount while urinary excretion of unchanged TMBs accounted for ≤0.002%.</li> <li>The study was approved by the Regional Ethical Committee at the Karolinska Institute.</li> </ul>					
Respiratory uptake and urinary excretion of TMB isomers following 2-hr inhalation exposure (mean ± 95% CI)					
Exposure	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	
Respiratory uptake (%) <sup>a</sup>	56 ± 4	62 ± 3	64 ± 3	63 ± 2	
Net respiratory uptake (%) <sup>b</sup>	48 ± 3	55 ± 2	60 ± 3	61 ± 2	
Respiratory uptake (mmol) <sup>a</sup>	1.4 ± 0.1	1.6 ± 0.1	1.6 ± 0.1	0.16 ± 0.01	
Net respiratory uptake (mmol) <sup>b</sup>	1.2 ± 0.1	1.4 ± 0.1	1.5 ± 0.1	0.15 ± 0.01	
Respiratory excretion (%) <sup>c</sup>	37 ± 9	25 ± 6	20 ± 3	15 ± 5	
Net respiratory excretion (%) <sup>d</sup>	28 ± 8	16 ± 4	14 ± 2	9 ± 4	
Urinary excretion (%) <sup>e</sup>	0.0023 ± 0.0008	0.0016 ± 0.0015	0.0010 ± 0.0004	0.0005 ± 0.0002	
Kinetic values of TMB isomers following 2-hr inhalation exposure (mean ± 95% CI)					
Kinetic parameter	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	
Total calculated blood clearance (L/hr/kg) <sup>f</sup>	0.63 ± 0.13	0.97 ± 0.16	0.68 ± 0.13	0.87 ± 0.37	
Total apparent calculated blood clearance (L/hr/kg) <sup>g</sup>	0.54 ± 0.11	0.86 ± 0.12	0.63 ± 0.11	0.82 ± 0.32	
Exhalatory blood clearance (L/hr/kg) <sup>f</sup>	0.23 ± 0.07	0.24 ± 0.10	0.14 ± 0.04	0.14 ± 0.10	
Metabolic blood clearance (L/hr/kg) <sup>f</sup>	0.39 ± 0.11	0.72 ± 0.11	0.54 ± 0.10	0.74 ± 0.29	
1 <sup>st</sup> Phase half-life (min)	1.5 ± 0.9	1.7 ± 0.8	1.3 ± 0.8	1.4 ± 1.8	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Phase half-life (min)	24 ± 9	27 ± 5	21 ± 5	28 ± 14	

*This document is a draft for review purposes only and does not constitute Agency policy.*

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

3 <sup>rd</sup> Phase half-life (min)	4.7 ± 1.6	4.9 ± 1.4	3.6 ± 1.1	5.9 ± 2.5
4 <sup>th</sup> Phase half-life (min)	78 ± 22	120 ± 41	87 ± 27	65 ± 20
AUC (μM × hrs)	32 ± 6	22 ± 4	35 ± 10	3.6 ± 2.0
Volume of distribution (L/kg)	30 ± 6	39 ± 8	38 ± 11	28 ± 3
Mean residence time (hrs)	57 ± 22	42 ± 11	69 ± 32	47 ± 22

<sup>a</sup>Percent of dose calculated as net uptake + amount cleared by exhalation during exposure.

<sup>b</sup>Percentage of dose calculated as net uptake.

<sup>c</sup>During and post-exposure, percentage of the respiratory uptake.

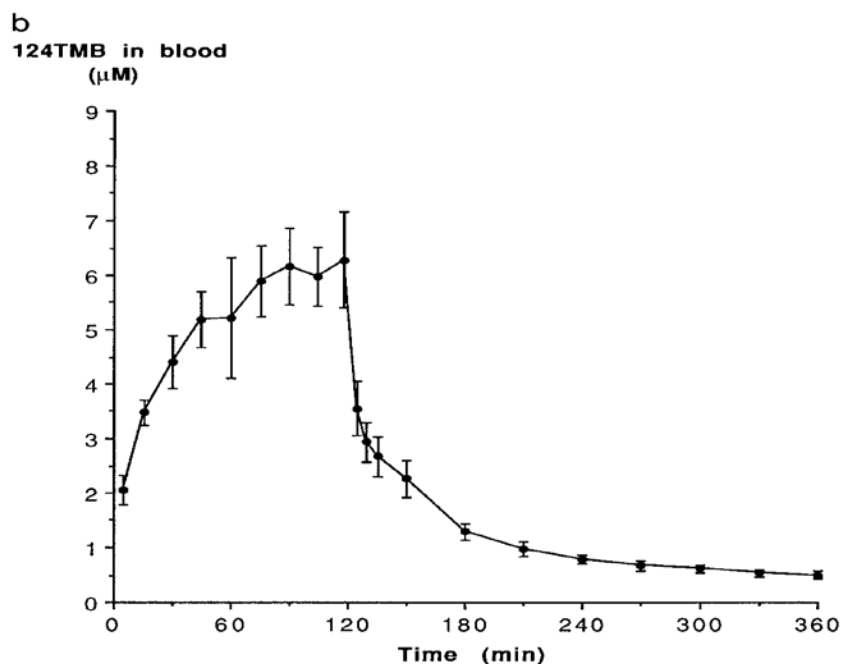
<sup>d</sup>Post-exposure, percentage of net respiratory uptake.

<sup>e</sup>Post-exposure, percentage of respiratory uptake.

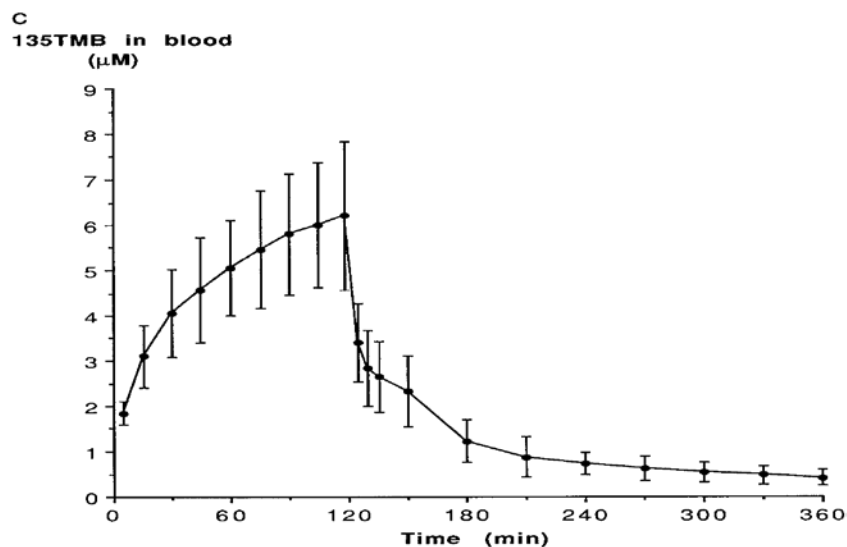
<sup>f</sup>Calculated from respiratory uptake.

<sup>g</sup>Calculated from net respiratory uptake.

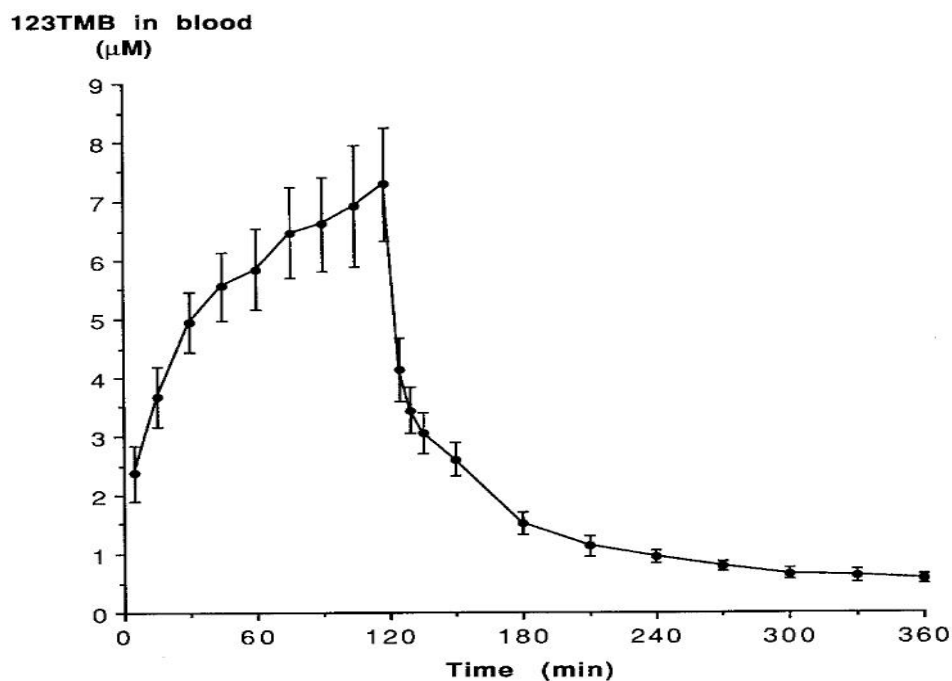
**Concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in capillary blood during and after 2-hr exposure to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB (mean values ± 95% CI).**



Concentration of 1,3,5-TMB in capillary blood during and after 2-hr exposure to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,3,5-TMB (mean values  $\pm$  95% CI).



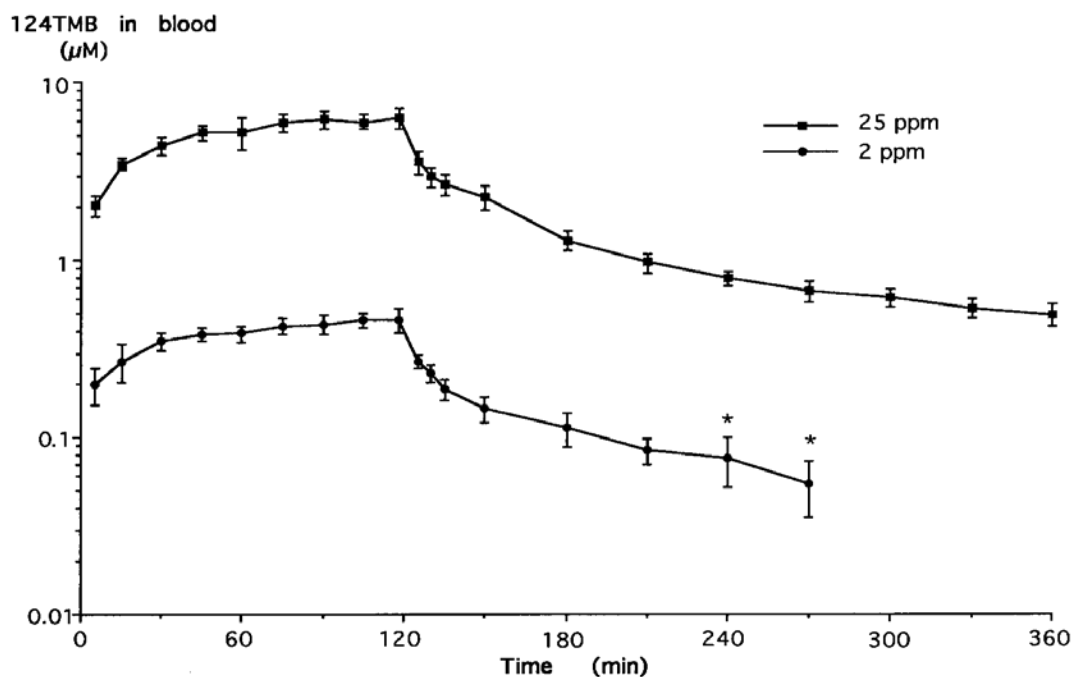
Concentration of 1,2,3-TMB in capillary blood during and after 2-hr exposure to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,3-TMB (mean values  $\pm$  95% CI).





## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Concentration of 1,2,4-TMB in capillary blood from 10 subjects exposed to 2 and 25 ppm (~10 and 123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) of 1,2,4-TMB (mean values  $\pm$  95% CI).



**Comments:** Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect metabolic changes. Metabolites were not measured.

1 Table C-48. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Järnberg et al. \(1997a\)](#)

Study design																																															
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration																																										
Caucasian humans	M	9	Inhalation	11 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB	2 hrs																																										
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Nine Caucasian males were exposed to 11 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB alone or 11 mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB as a component of 300 mg/m<sup>3</sup> white spirit.</li><li>Exposure lasted 2 hrs, during which time, study subjects were required to cycle producing 50 W continuously to simulate a work environment.</li><li>Gas chromatography was used to measure 1,2,4-TMB levels in air.</li><li>High performance liquid chromatography was used to measure urinary metabolites.</li><li>Irritation was not reported amongst subjects at these exposure levels.</li><li>The study was approved by the Regional Ethical Committee at the Karolinska Institute and was only performed after informed consent.</li></ul>																																															
<b>Mean (± SD) capillary blood concentration of 1,2,4-TMB during and after exposure to 1,2,4-TMB alone and 1,2,4-TMB as a component of white spirit.</b>																																															
<b>1,2,4-TMB in blood (µM)</b> <table><caption>Estimated data from the graph</caption><thead><tr><th>Time (min)</th><th>Exposure to white spirit (µM)</th><th>Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (µM)</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td>0</td><td>0.28</td><td>0.20</td></tr><tr><td>15</td><td>0.42</td><td>0.28</td></tr><tr><td>30</td><td>0.50</td><td>0.35</td></tr><tr><td>45</td><td>0.58</td><td>0.38</td></tr><tr><td>60</td><td>0.62</td><td>0.40</td></tr><tr><td>75</td><td>0.68</td><td>0.43</td></tr><tr><td>90</td><td>0.70</td><td>0.45</td></tr><tr><td>105</td><td>0.75</td><td>0.47</td></tr><tr><td>120</td><td>0.75</td><td>0.48</td></tr><tr><td>135</td><td>0.45</td><td>0.28</td></tr><tr><td>150</td><td>0.35</td><td>0.20</td></tr><tr><td>165</td><td>0.32</td><td>0.15</td></tr><tr><td>180</td><td>0.20</td><td>0.12</td></tr></tbody></table>						Time (min)	Exposure to white spirit (µM)	Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (µM)	0	0.28	0.20	15	0.42	0.28	30	0.50	0.35	45	0.58	0.38	60	0.62	0.40	75	0.68	0.43	90	0.70	0.45	105	0.75	0.47	120	0.75	0.48	135	0.45	0.28	150	0.35	0.20	165	0.32	0.15	180	0.20	0.12
Time (min)	Exposure to white spirit (µM)	Exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (µM)																																													
0	0.28	0.20																																													
15	0.42	0.28																																													
30	0.50	0.35																																													
45	0.58	0.38																																													
60	0.62	0.40																																													
75	0.68	0.43																																													
90	0.70	0.45																																													
105	0.75	0.47																																													
120	0.75	0.48																																													
135	0.45	0.28																																													
150	0.35	0.20																																													
165	0.32	0.15																																													
180	0.20	0.12																																													

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Results from 2-hr exposure to 1,2,4-TMB alone or 1,2,4-TMB as a component of white spirit (mean $\pm$ SD)			
Exposure	1,2,4-TMB alone	1,2,4-TMB in white spirit	p-value
Net respiratory uptake (mmol)	0.15 $\pm$ 0.01	0.14 $\pm$ 0.02	0.5 <sup>a</sup>
AUC ( $\mu$ M $\times$ min), 0–3 hrs	53 $\pm$ 4	86 $\pm$ 9	<0.0001 <sup>a</sup>
Half-life of 3,4-DMHA (hr)	3.7 $\pm$ 0.4 <sup>b</sup>	3.0 $\pm$ 0.7	0.2 <sup>c</sup>
Excretion of 3,4-DMHA (% <sup>d</sup> ), 0–6 hr	11 $\pm$ 2	18 $\pm$ 3	0.007 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Student's t-test.

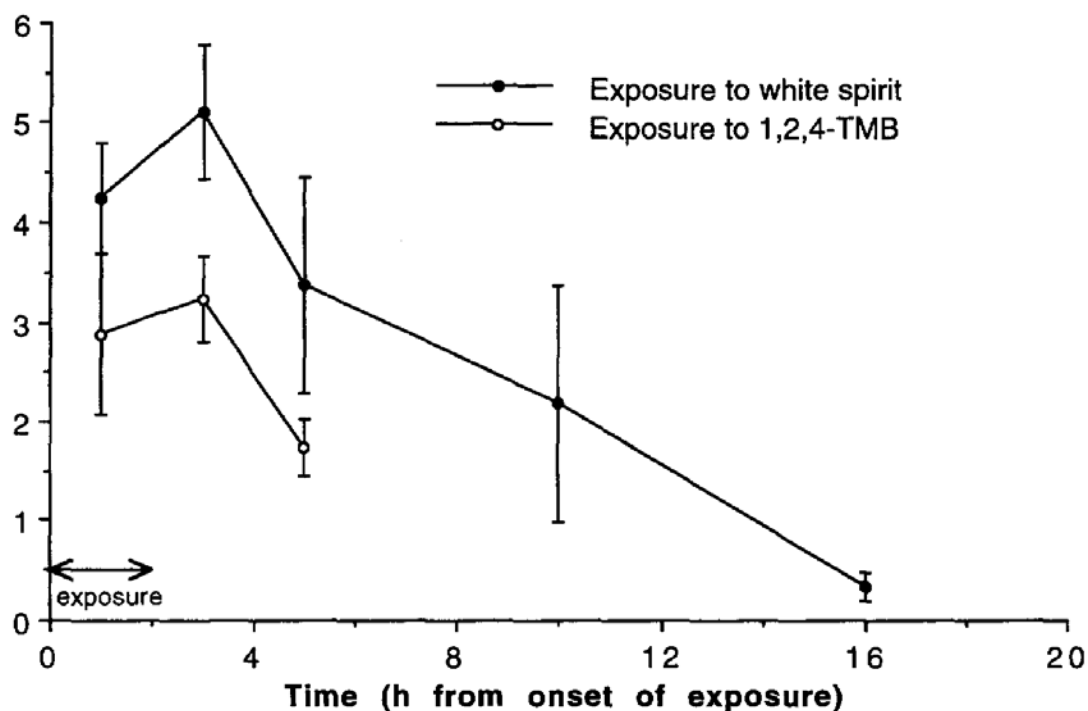
<sup>b</sup>Recalculated for nine subjects from a 120 mg/m<sup>3</sup> exposure to 1,2,4-TMB.

<sup>c</sup>ANOVA.

<sup>d</sup>5 of net respiratory uptake.

Urinary excretion rate of 3,4-DMHA against the midpoint time of urine collection in nine male volunteers exposed to 11 mg/m<sup>3</sup> of 1,2,4-TMB, either alone or as a component of white spirit (mean  $\pm$  95% CI).

### Urinary excretion rate of 3,4-DMHA ( $\mu$ mol/h)



**Comments:** Metabolites (DMBAs) measured in urine. Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect other metabolic changes. Only one exposure group; multiple concentrations not tested.

1 Table C-49. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Järnberg et al. \(1997b\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Caucasian humans	M	10	Inhalation	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB	2 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Ten males were exposed to 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB or 1,3,5-TMB for 2 hrs or 2 ppm (~10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB for 2 hrs.</li><li>Study subjects were asked to perform light cycling to simulate a work environment, with participants generating 50 W power during 2-hr exposures.</li><li>Isomers of all DMHA metabolites in urine were detected via high performance liquid chromatography.</li><li>Approximately 22% of inhaled 1,2,4-TMB, 11% of inhaled 1,2,3-TMB, and 3% of inhaled 1,3,5-TMB was found to be excreted as DMHAs in urine within 24 hrs following exposure.</li><li>The study was approved by the Regional Ethical Committee at the Karolinska Institute and only with the informed consent of the subjects and according to the 1964 Declaration of Helsinki</li></ul>					
<b>Half-times of urinary excretion rate, recoveries, and rates of urinary DMHA isomer excretion (mean ± 95% CI)</b>					
Exposure	Isomer	Half-time (hrs)	Urinary recovery % (24 hrs)	Excretion rate, µg/min, 0–24 hrs	
1,2,3-TMB	2,3-DMHA	4.8 ± 0.8	9 ± 3	19 ± 3	
1,2,3-TMB	2,6-DMHA	8.1 ± 1.5	2 ± 2	4.2 ± 1.7	
1,2,4-TMB	3,4-DMHA	3.80 ± 0.4	18 ± 3	44 ± 6	
1,2,4-TMB	2,4-DMHA	5.8 ± 0.9	3 ± 0.8	8.2 ± 1.4	
1,2,4-TMB	2,5-DMHA	5.3 ± 1.5	<1 ± 0.2	1.6 ± 0.5	
1,3,5-TMB	3,5-DMHA	16 ± 6	3 ± 2	8.9 ± 2.1	
<b>Comments:</b> Metabolites (DMBAs) measured in urine. Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect metabolic changes associated with longer time points. Toxicokinetics studied at only one concentration.					

1 Table C-50. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Järnberg et al. \(1998\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Caucasian humans	M	9 subjects	Inhalation	2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB, 2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) in white spirit, 25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	2 hrs of exposure, followed by 6 hrs of observation
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Caucasian males were exposed to 2 ppm (~10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB, 2 ppm (~10 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) in white spirit, 25 ppm (123 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB in an inhalation chamber for 2 hrs.</li><li>Study subjects were asked to perform light cycling to simulate a work environment.</li><li>1,2,4-TMB concentration was determined via gas chromatography.</li><li>DMHA metabolites were measured with HPLC.</li><li>Blood levels of 1,2,4-TMB and its urinary metabolites were found to be higher in the white spirit exposure group suggesting that components of white spirit could interfere with TMB metabolism.</li><li>No significant irritation or CNS effects were observed.</li><li>The study was approved by the Regional Ethics Committee of the Karolinska Institute and was only performed after informed consent.</li></ul>					
<b>Kinetic results following 2-hr inhalation exposure to 1,2,4-TMB and 1,2,4-TMB in white spirit—mean values (95% CI)</b>					
Kinetic parameter	2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) group		2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) in white spirit		25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) alone
Actual [TMB] (ppm)	2.22 (2.13–2.31)		2.26 (2.20–2.32)		23.9 (22.7–25.1)
Respiratory uptake (mmol) <sup>a</sup>	0.16 (0.14–0.18)		0.16 (0.14–0.18)		1.73 (1.61–1.85)
Net respiratory uptake	0.15 (0.14–0.16)		0.14 (0.12–0.16)		1.52 (1.37–1.67)
AUC <sub>blood</sub> (μM × min)	95 (54–137)		157 (136–178)*		1,286 (1,131–1,441)
Total blood clearance (L/min)	2.09 (1.52–2.66)		1.06 (0.89–1.23)**		1.38 (1.23–1.53)*
Metabolic blood clearance (L/min)	1.71 (1.15–2.26)		0.79 (0.62–0.96)*		1.06 (0.87–1.25)*
Exhalatory blood clearance (L/min)	0.39 (0.28–0.50)		0.28 (0.20–0.36)		0.32 (0.24–0.40)
Mean residence time (hr)	4.6 (–1.3–10.5)		4.8 (2.1–7.5)		3.8 (1.8–5.8)
Volume of distribution, steady state (L)	293 (69–517)		271 (139–403)		294 (165–423)
Half-life in blood, TMB, 1 <sup>st</sup> phase (min)	3.9 (1.4–6.4)		5.9 (3.1–8.7)		6.1 (5.3–6.9)
Idem, TMB, 2 <sup>nd</sup> phase (hr)	4.3 (–0.5–9.0)		4.8 (2.1–7.5)		4.0 (2.2–5.8)
Half-life in urine, 3,4-DMHA (hr)	ND <sup>c</sup>		3.0 (2.3–3.7)		3.8 (3.4–4.2)
Urinary recovery, 3,4-DMHA (%) <sup>b</sup> , 0–6 hr	11 (9–13)		18( 15–21)*		14 (12–16)
Idem (%) <sup>b</sup> , 0–22 hR	ND		27 (23–31)		18 (15–21)
<sup>a</sup> <i>p</i> < 0.05, <sup>**</sup> <i>p</i> < 0.01, compared to 2 ppm (~10 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) alone by repeated measures ANOVA. <sup>a</sup> Net respiratory uptake + amount cleared by exhalation during exposure. <sup>b</sup> % of net respiratory uptake. <sup>c</sup> Not determined.					
<b>Comments:</b> Multiple exposure concentrations were tested and multiple tissues were analyzed. Study of 1,2,4-TMB as a component of white spirit. Toxicokinetics of 1,2,3- and 1,3,5-TMB not studied.					

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Table C-51. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Jones et al. \(2006\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Humans	M & F	2/sex	Inhalation	25 ppm (1,2,3-TMB mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	4 hrs

**Additional study details**

- Two males and two females were exposed to 25 ppm (1,2,3-TMB mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,3,5-TMB in an inhalation chamber for 4 hrs.
- 1,3,5-TMB concentration in exhaled air, venous blood, and urine was determined via gas chromatography.
- No significant irritation or CNS effects were observed during the inhalation study, although one volunteer was treated with a 2 cm<sup>2</sup> gauze patch soaked with liquid 1,3,5-TMB and reported mild itching, erythema, and edema where gauze contacted skin.
- Authors conclude that urinary DMBA and breath TMB are suitable markers of TMB exposure, and that repeated exposures during the work week can result in significant accumulation in tissues.
- The study was approved by the Health and Safety Executive’s Research Ethics Committee.

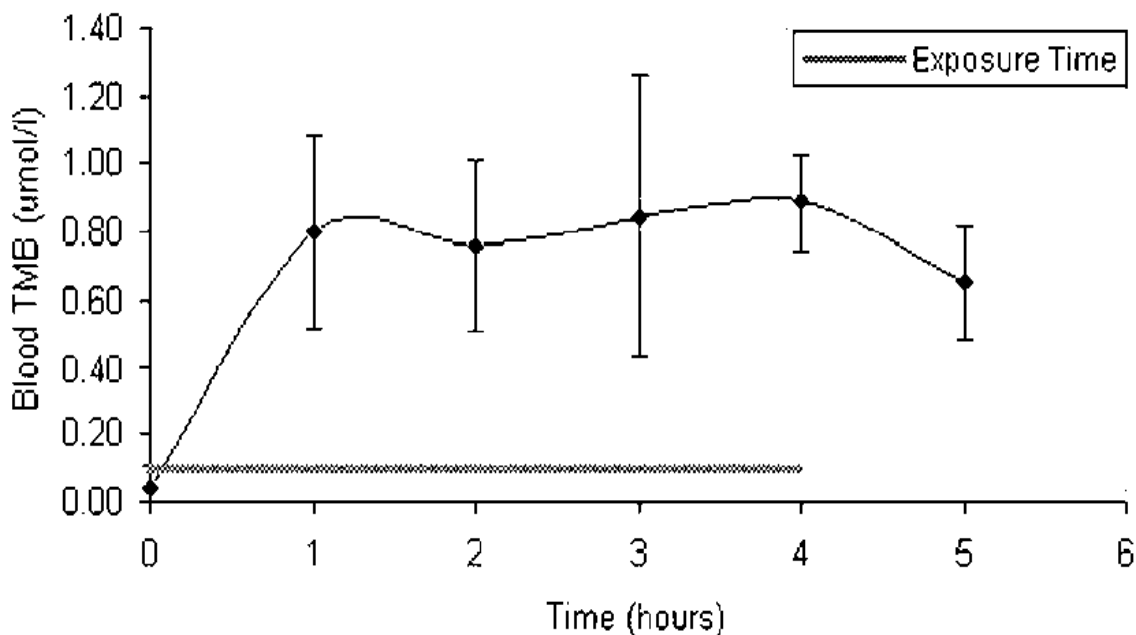
**Mean ± SD urinary total DMBA. Black and grey arrows represent 24 and 48 hrs respectively, following a single 4-hr exposure to 25 ppm (1,2,3-TMB mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,3,5-TMB.**

The graph plots Urine DMBA (mmol/mol creatinine) on the y-axis (0.0 to 60.0) against Time (hours) on the x-axis (0 to 150). A solid line with error bars represents the mean and standard deviation of urinary DMBA levels. The levels rise sharply after exposure, peaking at approximately 42 mmol/mol creatinine around 12 hours, and then gradually decline to near zero by 150 hours. A dashed line labeled 'Exposure Time' is positioned at 0 on the y-axis. Black and grey arrows point to the data points at 24 and 48 hours, respectively, indicating the time points for the reported urinary DMBA measurements.

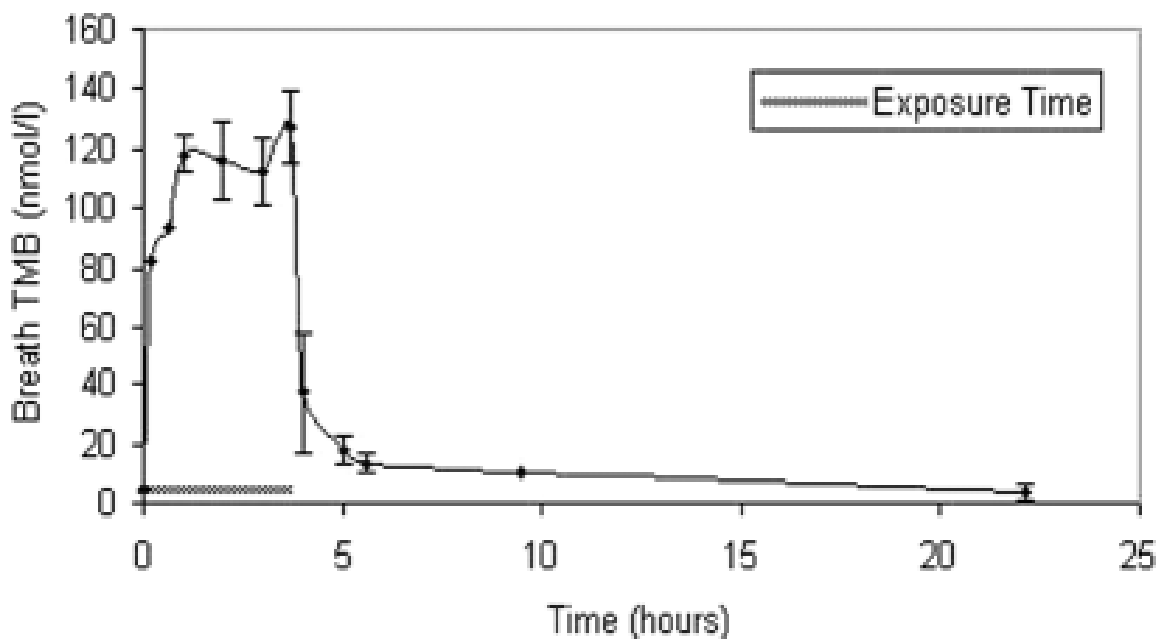
Time (hours)	Urine DMBA (mmol/mol creatinine)
0	0.0
12	42.0
24	30.0
36	20.0
48	10.0
60	5.0
72	2.0
84	1.0
96	0.5
108	0.2
120	0.1
132	0.1
144	0.1
156	0.1

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Mean  $\pm$  SD blood levels of 1,3,5-TMB during and after 4-hr exposure to 25 ppm (1,2,3-TMB mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,3,5-TMB.



Mean  $\pm$  SD breath levels of 1,3,5-TMB during and after 4-hr exposure to 1,3,5-TMB.



**Comments:** Metabolite (DMBA) concentration measured in urine. Subjects tested included males and females. Small number of study subjects (N = 4). Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect metabolic changes. Other metabolites were not measured.

Table C-52. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Kostrzewski et al. \(1997\)](#)

Study design						
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range		Exposure duration
Humans	M & F	5	Inhalation	Between 5 and 150 mg/m <sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB		4 or 8 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Five humans were exposed to 1,2,4-TMB, 1,3,5-TMB, and 1,2,3-TMB at concentrations between 5 and 150 mg/m<sup>3</sup>.</li><li>Exposure durations were either 4 or 8 hrs.</li><li>TMBs were measured in blood and urine via gas chromatography.</li><li>DMBA excretion was found to follow an open, two-compartment model.</li></ul>						
<b>1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB concentration in blood before, during, and after exposure</b>						
Sampling time (hrs)	1,2,3-TMB		1,2,4-TMB		1,3,5-TMB	
	Blood concentration (µg/dm <sup>3</sup> )	SD	Blood concentration (µg/dm <sup>3</sup> )	SD	Blood concentration (µg/dm <sup>3</sup> )	SD
0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0.00
0.25	259	94.5	194	19.80	181	25.01
0.50	290	91.54	460	57.36	308	5.29
1	295	57.11	533	46.61	355	44.80
2	380	93.17	730	128.89	482	201.57
4	341	186.94	810	112.40	603	184.13
8	520	129.42	979	171.12	751	122.87
0.05	261	50.36	580	36.2	434	36.40
0.10	277	57.89	496	85.03	388	64.16
0.15	287	38.18	447	106.69	309	38.78
0.25	277	35.47	387	65.83	298	65.48
0.50	–	–	246	128.54	247	34.00
1	204	17.78	131	19.87	190	41.13
2	133	38.55	101	14.17	121	24.60
4	85	8.96	85	13.65	94	16.52
6	65	23.69	63	11.03	76	25.81
8	64	11.59	69	7.09	74	20.16
25	54	14.57	54	3.74	45	13.93
32	29	3.51	48	10.24	44	20.19
49	19	13.01	46	9.98	42	7.93
56	21	11.31	31	9.32	42	9.81
73	14	3.50	26	9.49	–	–



**Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes**

Excretion rate (V, mg/hr) of DMBA in urine during and after exposure to 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, or 1,3,5-TMB				
Sampling time (hr)	1,2,3-TMB exposure			
	2,3-DMBA		2,6-DMBA	
	V (mg/hr)	SD	V (mg/hr)	SD
0	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0–2	3.518	0.852	0.099	0.097
2–4	10.745	1.856	0.097	0.084
4–6	16.594	5.028	0.146	0.039
6–8	23.468	5.291	0.202	0.070
8–10	16.874	2.353	0.160	0.004
10–12	14.769	1.964	0.150	0.035
12–14	11.929	2.070	0.161	0.048
14–16	7.715	2.236	0.129	0.038
16–23	3.976	0.782	0.110	0.042
23–27	1.876	0.213	0.067	0.021
27–31	1.822	0.893	0.079	0.052
31–35	1.471	0.551	0.081	0.055
35–39	2.292	0.998	0.143	0.032
39–47	1.388	0.660	0.102	0.037
47–51	1.125	0.414	0.109	0.041
51–55	1.543	0.468	0.172	0.058
55–59	1.505	0.683	0.139	0.050
59–63	1.154	0.481	0.055	0.063
63–71	0.535	0.119	0.031	0.030
71–75	0.802	0.383	0.053	0.001
75–79	0.999	0.712	0.059	0.030
79–83	0.886	0.343	0.086	0.078
83–87	0.349	0.165	0.046	0.050
87–95	0.365	0.163	0.000	0.000
Sampling time (hr)	1,2,4-TMB exposure			
	2,4- and 2,5-DMBA		3,4-DMBA	
	V (mg/hr)	SD	V (mg/hr)	SD
0	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
0–2	6.632	3.069	19.949	5.489
2–4	12.931	4.315	22.731	4.536
4–6	21.148	7.067	26.906	6.525
6–8	29.263	9.240	35.346	11.017
8–10	16.616	11.451	12.082	10.205
10–12	15.619	2.935	6.198	2.325
12–14	17.328	2.218	6.029	2.135
14–16	13.832	2.176	4.415	1.372

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

16–23	7.023	2.565	2.520	1.043
23–27	4.052	0.674	1.870	0.525
27–31	2.570	0.760	2.005	0.460
31–35	2.209	0.666	1.523	0.610
35–39	1.211	1.075	1.247	0.895
39–47	1.262	0.256	0.957	0.099
47–51	1.174	0.459	0.953	0.623
51–55	0.370	0.228	0.659	0.231
55–59	0.928	0.327	0.936	0.515
59–63	1.591	1.162	1.286	0.391
63–71	0.948	0.276	0.869	0.141
71–75	1.122	0.049	0.851	0.246
75–79	0.748	0.441	0.422	0.231
79–83	1.082	0.733	0.744	0.328
83–87	–	–	–	–
87–95	–	–	–	–
Sampling time (hr)	1,3,5-TMB exposure			
	3,5-DMBA			
	V (mg/hr)		SD	
0	0.000		0.000	
0–2	3.538		0.833	
2–4	8.854		2.955	
4–6	12.334		3.905	
6–8	19.204		6.092	
8–10	19.413		6.329	
10–12	23.535		7.606	
12–14	22.460		3.254	
14–16	16.941		4.350	
16–23	10.790		3.116	
23–27	6.908		2.691	
27–31	6.558		3.657	
31–35	3.983		2.367	
35–39	3.946		2.073	
39–47	3.110		0.838	
47–51	3.244		1.140	
51–55	2.343		1.355	
55–59	3.669		1.882	
59–63	2.436		1.303	
63–71	1.600		1.305	
71–75	1.025		0.639	
75–79	1.044		0.825	

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### ***Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes***

79–83	0.750	0.645
83–87	–	–
87–95	–	–
<b>Comments:</b> Metabolites (DMBAs) measured in urine. Toxicokinetics studied over a range of exposures. Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect other metabolic changes. Only one study subject per exposure group.		

## C.6. ANIMAL TOXICOKINETIC STUDIES

1 Tables C-53 through C-65 provide study details for animal toxicokinetic studies.

2 **Table C-53. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Dahl et al. \(1988\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
F344 rats	M	2 rats	Inhalation	1–5,000 ppm 1,2,4-TMB	80 min/d for 5 consecutive d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male F344 rats weighing between 264 and 339 g were housed in polycarbonate cages for the duration of the experiment.</li> <li>Vapors were pumped into exposure chamber at flow rate of 400 mL/min past the nose of each rat in the nose-only exposure tube.</li> <li>The amount of absorbed hydrocarbon vapor was calculated from the flow rate and the output from the nose-only tube as measured by gas chromatography every min during each 80 min exposure.</li> <li>Concentrations were increased each day. Day 1–5 concentrations were 1, 10, 100, 1,000, and 5,000 ppm respectively.</li> <li>1,2,4-TMB uptake in one rat was observed to be <math>11.5 \pm 2</math> nmol/kg/min/ppm. For the second rat, uptake was observed to be <math>15.7 \pm 2.4</math> nmol/kg/min/ppm.</li> </ul>					
<b>Comments:</b> Study duration was short term (5 d). Reported values for uptake represent averages of uptake throughout experiment, despite the widely differing doses administered. This makes it difficult to quantify dose-specific uptake. Statistical power is limited because only two rats were used.					

**Table C-54. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Eide and Zahlse](#) (1996)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats	M	4/dose	Inhalation	0, 75, 150, 300, or 450 ppm (0, 369, 738, 1,476, or 2,214 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	12-hr exposures in inhalation chamber
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male Sprague-Dawley rats were exposed to 75, 150, 300, or 450 ppm (0, 369, 738, 1,476, or 2,214 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB in an inhalation chamber for 12 hrs.</li> <li>Food and water were given ad libitum except during exposure, and animal weight ranged between 200 and 250 g prior to exposure.</li> <li>Hydrocarbon concentration tissue concentrations were determined via head space gas chromatography. Daily mean concentrations did not vary by more than <math>\pm 5.3\%</math> from nominal concentrations.</li> <li>1,2,4-TMB was found in higher concentrations in blood than <i>n</i>-nonane and trimethylcyclohexane.</li> </ul>					
Tissue 1,2,4-TMB concentrations following 12-hr 1,2,4-TMB inhalation exposure					
Exposure	Blood ( $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ )	Brain ( $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ )	Liver ( $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ )	Kidneys ( $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ )	Fat ( $\mu\text{mol/kg}$ )
75 ppm (369 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	14.1	23.6	53.4	53.4	516
150 ppm (738 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	57.5	97.5	123.1	168.5	3,806
300 ppm (1,476 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	115.5	220.9	256.3	282.4	12,930
450 ppm (2,214 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	221.3	400.2	468.6	492.5	19,270
<b>Comments:</b> Fat was analyzed and shown to retain higher concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB than all other tissues. Multiple exposure concentrations were tested and multiple tissues were analyzed. No data on urinary elimination. No data on metabolites of 1,2,4-TMB.					

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Table C-55. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Huo et al. \(1989\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	3 rats/dose	Oral, in olive oil	0.08 mmol/kg, 0.8 mmol/kg, 0.49 $\mu$ Ci/kg 1,2,4-TMB	3, 6, 12, and 24 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Single doses of <math>^{14}</math>C labeled 1,2,4-TMB administered orally to rats.</li> <li>Tissues were analyzed at 3-, 6-, 12-, and 24-hr time points for the tissue distribution study and continuously for 24 hrs in the metabolism study.</li> <li>Percent 1,2,4-TMB distributed to individual tissues determined via liquid scintillation counter; concentration of metabolites analyzed via gas chromatography.</li> <li>1,2,4-TMB was distributed widely throughout the body, though particularly high levels were found in adipose tissue.</li> <li>Over 99% of radio-labeled material was recovered from urine within 24 hrs.</li> <li>Three most common metabolites were 3,4-DMHA (30.2%), 2,4-DMBA (12.7%), and 2,5-DMBA (11.7%).</li> </ul>					
Tissue distribution and urinary excretion following single oral dose of $^{14}$ C-1,2,4-TMB					
% Dose of radioactivity in tissue and urine (mean $\pm$ SD for three rats)					
Tissue/Urine	3 hrs	6 hrs	12 hrs	24 hrs	
Liver	2.76 $\pm$ 0.39	2.69 $\pm$ 0.60	1.54 $\pm$ 0.38	0.13 $\pm$ 0.04	
Kidney	0.56 $\pm$ 0.11	0.52 $\pm$ 0.12	0.14 $\pm$ 0.10	0.06 $\pm$ 0.05	
Lung	0.10 $\pm$ 0.03	0.06 $\pm$ 0.03	0.03 $\pm$ 0.03	0.01 $\pm$ 0.01	
Heart	0.03 $\pm$ 0.01	0.01	—	—	
Testis	0.09 $\pm$ 0.04	0.12 $\pm$ 0.03	0.04 $\pm$ 0.04	—	
Spleen	0.03 $\pm$ 0.02	0.03 $\pm$ 0.01	0.01 $\pm$ 0.01	—	
Brain	0.08 $\pm$ 0.04	0.03 $\pm$ 0.02	0.03 $\pm$ 0.03	—	
Stomach	2.39 $\pm$ 1.47	1.33 $\pm$ 0.98	0.09 $\pm$ 0.06	0.04 $\pm$ 0.03	
Intestine	2.96 $\pm$ 1.82	3.33 $\pm$ 1.31	1.39 $\pm$ 1.03	0.25 $\pm$ 0.35	
Serum	0.67 $\pm$ 0.14	0.57 $\pm$ 0.09	0.26 $\pm$ 0.15	0.12 $\pm$ 0.21	
Muscle	2.38 $\pm$ 0.23	1.88 $\pm$ 1.63	0.64 $\pm$ 0.10	—	
Skin	3.99 $\pm$ 1.51	2.29 $\pm$ 0.98	0.16 $\pm$ 0.25	—	
Adipose tissue	28.05 $\pm$ 9.28	26.31 $\pm$ 18.18	4.97 $\pm$ 0.97	0.67 $\pm$ 0.15	
Urine	15.0 $\pm$ 1.1	32.6 $\pm$ 7.9	50.7 $\pm$ 7.9	99.8 $\pm$ 4.1	
Concentration ( $\mu$ g/g) radioactive material in tissue (mean $\pm$ SD)					
Tissue	3 hrs	6 hrs	12 hrs	24 hrs	
Liver	72 $\pm$ 9	81 $\pm$ 20	45 $\pm$ 12	5 $\pm$ 2	
Kidney	68 $\pm$ 16	60 $\pm$ 13	17 $\pm$ 12	7 $\pm$ 6	
Lung	17 $\pm$ 9	12 $\pm$ 6	4 $\pm$ 4	2 $\pm$ 4	
Heart	8 $\pm$ 2	2 $\pm$ 1	—	—	
Testis	8 $\pm$ 4	11 $\pm$ 2	3 $\pm$ 4	—	
Spleen	11 $\pm$ 5	13 $\pm$ 5	5 $\pm$ 5	—	
Brain	11 $\pm$ 5	6 $\pm$ 2	4 $\pm$ 4	—	
Stomach	509 $\pm$ 313	263 $\pm$ 218	18 $\pm$ 11	10 $\pm$ 7	

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Intestine	35 ± 22	47 ± 17	21 ± 15	4 ± 6					
Serum	17 ± 3	15 ± 1	6 ± 3	3 ± 6					
Muscle	6 ± 1	5 ± 4	1 ± 0	–					
Skin	20 ± 7	12 ± 4	1 ± 1	–					
Adipose tissue	200 ± 64	193 ± 125	33 ± 8	5 ± 1					
Urinary metabolites of 1,2,4-TMB 24 hrs after single oral dose in rats (values ± SD)									
Metabolite	%Dose (0.08 mmol/kg) in urine			%Dose (0.8 mmol/kg) in urine					
	Free	Conjugated	Total	Free		Conjugated		Total	
	all rats	all rats	all rats	Rat 1	Rat 2	Rat 1	Rat 2	Rat 1	Rat 2
2,3,5- and 2,4,5-TMP	2.6 ± 1.2	5.1 ± 1.4	7.7 ± 2.2	2.5	1.5	4.3	2.0	6.7	3.5
2,3,6-TMP	–	3.9 ± 0.7	4.0 ± 0.6	0.1	0.4	2.1	1.5	2.1	1.8
Total phenols	2.7 ± 1.1	9.0 ± 2.0	11.8 ± 2.9	2.6	1.9	6.3	3.5	8.8	5.3
2,4-Dimethylbenzoic alcohol	0.1 ± 0.1	12.5 ± 2.6	12.7 ± 2.6	0.1	0.4	11.5	7.2	11.6	7.6
2,5-Dimethylbenzoic alcohol	0.1 ± 0.0	11.6 ± 2.7	11.7 ± 2.7	0.1	0.2	8.7	8.7	8.8	8.9
3,4-Dimethylbenzoic alcohol	–	1.9 ± 0.9	1.9 ± 0.8	–	0.1	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.9
Total alcohols	0.2 ± 0.1	26.0 ± 5.5	26.3 ± 5.4	0.1	0.7	21.1	16.8	21.2	17.5
2,4-DMBA	0.8 ± 0.1	5.2 ± 2.0	6.0 ± 2.0	0.8	2.5	6.8	1.5	7.6	4.0
2,5-DMBA	0.5 ± 0.0	3.1 ± 1.3	3.6 ± 1.3	0.3	1.2	3.5	2.1	3.9	2.3
3,4-DMBA	0.2 ± 0.1	0.7 ± 0.2	0.8 ± 0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.4
Total benzoic acids	1.5 ± 0.1	8.9 ± 3.4	10.4 ± 3.3	1.2	3.9	10.8	3.8	11.9	6.7
2,4-DMHA	5.0 ± 1.9	2.0 ± 1.0	7.0 ± 2.6	3.3	2.7	4.8	1.2	8.1	3.7
2,5-DMAH	0.5 ± 0.2	0.3 ± 0.3	0.8 ± 0.3	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.7	0.2
3,4-DMHA	27.3 ± 8.4	3.3 ± 1.2	30.2 ± 9.4	23.1	17.9	15.6	7.1	38.7	25.0
Total hippuric acids	32.7 ± 10.5	5.6 ± 2.3	37.9 ± 12.1	26.6	20.8	20.9	8.4	47.5	28.9
Total metabolites	37.1 ± 11.4	49.5 ± 13.0	86.4 ± 23.0	30.4	27.2	59.1	32.4	89.5	58.4
TMP = trimethylphenol									
Comments: Many tissues examined for radioactive and metabolite content. Multiple metabolites measured. Small numbers of rats per dose group, particularly for the 0.8 mmol/kg group (N = 2). Time points only extend to 24 hrs.									

Table C-56. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Mikulski and Wiglusz \(1975\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	9 rats/dose	Unspecified	1.2 g/kg body weight 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB	48 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rats weighing between 210 and 350 g were with treated with 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, or 1,3,5-TMB at 1.2 g/kg body weight.</li> <li>In one experiment, urine was collected every 4 hrs over a period of 3 d.</li> <li>In a second experiment, metabolites were collected from rats were treated with mesitylene (1,3,5-TMB), pseudocumene (1,2,4-TMB), or hemimellitene (1,2,3-TMB).</li> <li>Phenobarbital was found to inhibits the metabolism of TMBs to DMHAs.</li> </ul>					
Urinary excretion of glycine, glucuronic, and sulphuric acid conjugates of TMBs					
Not treated	% of dose (mean $\pm$ SD)				Total
	Glycine conjugates	Glucuronides	Organic sulphates		
1,3,5-TMB	59.1 $\pm$ 5.2	4.9 $\pm$ 1.0	9.2 $\pm$ 0.8		73.2
1,2,4-TMB	23.9 $\pm$ 2.3	4.0 $\pm$ 0.5	9.0 $\pm$ 2.1		36.9
1,2,3-TMB	10.1 $\pm$ 1.2	7.9 $\pm$ 1.3	15.0 $\pm$ 3.5		33.0
Treated with phenobarbital					
1,3,5-TMB	35.1 $\pm$ 3.4	9.8 $\pm$ 1.3	8.1 $\pm$ 1.4		53.0
1,2,4-TMB	30.6 $\pm$ 2.5	12.2 $\pm$ 2.8	17.4 $\pm$ 3.6		60.2
1,2,3-TMB	5.7 $\pm$ 1.1	11.3 $\pm$ 2.0	22.3 $\pm$ 3.0		39.3
<b>Comments:</b> Kinetic data for all three TMB isomers and their metabolites were included in study. However, the authors did not report method for dosing.					



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Table C-57 Characteristics and quantitative results for [Swiercz et al. \(2002\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Imp:DAK Wistar rats	M	4/dose	Inhalation	25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	6 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Two males and two females were exposed to 25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB in an inhalation chamber for 6 hrs.</li><li>1,2,4-TMB concentration was determined via gas chromatography.</li><li>Blood samples were taken from the tail vein at various time points up to 6 hrs after start of exposure.</li><li>The half-life of 1,2,4-TMB elimination was found to increase with increasing exposure.</li></ul>					
<b>Air concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB and body mass of rats (means ± SD)</b>					
Biological material		1,2,4-TMB nominal concentration		1,2,4-TMB actual concentration (ppm)	Rat body weight (g)
Blood during 6-hr exposure		25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		25 ± 2	200 ± 10
		100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		109 ± 10	228 ± 10
		250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		262 ± 21	190 ± 12
Blood after 6-hr exposure		25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		26 ± 3	349 ± 6
		100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		101 ± 3	333 ± 18
		250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		238 ± 9	336 ± 5
Urine after 6-hr exposure		25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		27 ± 3	355 ± 10
		100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		98 ± 3	338 ± 10
		250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		240 ± 7	330 ± 12
<b>Blood 1,2,4-TMB concentration during 6-hr inhalation exposure (mean ± SD)</b>					
		1,2,4-TMB concentration			
Time		25 ppm (123 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	250 ppm (1,230 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	
15 (min)		0.22 ± 0.07	1.12 ± 0.80	4.02 ± 0.85	
30		0.33 ± 0.08	1.99 ± 1.09	4.87 ± 1.61	
45		0.49 ± 0.16	3.56 ± 0.49	6.97 ± 1.22	
1 (hrs)		0.53 ± 0.14	4.29 ± 0.60	8.67 ± 0.54	
2		0.73 ± 0.16	5.10 ± 0.34	14.5 ± 2.6	
3		0.80 ± 0.17	6.22 ± 0.70	17.8 ± 1.6	
4		0.72 ± 0.15	7.40 ± 1.05	20.0 ± 0.5	
5		0.79 ± 0.22	7.72 ± 1.48	23.3 ± 2.6	
6		0.94 ± 0.16	8.32 ± 1.34	23.6 ± 1.8	

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Blood concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB following 6-hr exposure (mean ± SD)			
	1,2,4-TMB concentration		
Time	25 ppm (123 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	250 ppm (1,230 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )
3 (min)	0.68 ± 0.09	4.44 ± 1.54	20.9 ± 4.03
15	0.47 ± 0.04	3.72 ± 0.96	20.7 ± 5.13
30	0.40 ± 0.05	2.98 ± 0.88	17.1 ± 4.71
45	0.36 ± 0.04	2.89 ± 0.86	15.9 ± 5.74
1 (hrs)	0.34 ± 0.03	1.79 ± 0.49	14.9 ± 3.77
2	0.23 ± 0.04	1.25 ± 0.33	10.2 ± 3.04
3	0.17 ± 0.04	0.88 ± 0.29	8.05 ± 2.25
4	0.12 ± 0.02	0.61 ± 0.20	6.13 ± 1.64
5	0.10 ± 0.02	0.41 ± 0.14	3.98 ± 0.43
6	0.08 ± 0.02	0.33 ± 0.06	3.20 ± 0.52
DMBA urine concentrations after 6-hr exposure to 1,2,4-TMB (mean ± SD)			
1,2,4-TMB	2,5-DMBA (mg/L)	2,4-DMBA (mg/L)	3,4-DMBA (mg/L)
25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	23.6 ± 8.6	37.6 ± 12.9	79.9 ± 33.3
100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	54.0 ± 5.4	130.9 ± 22.1	200.8 ± 25.8
250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	109.4 ± 71.1	308.8 ± 220.1	571.8 ± 381.6
<b>Comments:</b> Metabolites (DMBAs) measured in urine. Appropriate number of animals per dose group (N = 4). Exposure duration possibly not sufficient to detect other metabolic changes.			

1 Table C-58. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Swiercz et al. \(2003\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	4/dose	Inhalation	25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	6 hrs or 4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Male Wistar rats were exposed to either 25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) pseudocumene (1,2,4-TMB) in an inhalation chamber for either 6 hrs or 4 wks.</li><li>Rats were sacrificed following exposure period and tissues were analyzed 1,2,4-TMB content via gas chromatography.</li><li>Venous elimination was found to follow an open two-compartment model.</li><li>Within brain structures, the brainstem was found to contain the highest levels of 1,2,4-TMB.</li></ul>					
<b>Air concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB in inhalation chamber and body weight (mean ± SD)</b>					
<b>Biological material</b>	<b>1,2,4-TMB nominal concentration in inhaled air</b>		<b>1,2,4-TMB actual concentration in inhaled air (ppm)</b>		<b>Rat body weight (g)</b>
Arterial blood and brain structure from rats after 6 hrs	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		21 ± 2		219 ± 13
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		116 ± 5		180 ± 28
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		215 ± 15		220 ± 24
Arterial blood and brain structure from rats after 4 wks	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		24 ± 3		327 ± 21
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		99 ± 7		295 ± 31
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		249 ± 19		268 ± 21
Liver, lung, and brain homogenate after 6 hrs	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		28 ± 1		227 ± 15
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		123 ± 9		246 ± 11
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		256 ± 7		228 ± 12
Liver, lung, and brain homogenate after 4 wks	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		25 ± 2		310 ± 10
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		103 ± 8		328 ± 23
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		249 ± 13		320 ± 20
Venous blood collected following 4-wk exposure	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		24 ± 3		321 ± 6
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		99 ± 7		300 ± 22
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		249 ± 19		373 ± 48
<b>Venous blood 1,2,4-TMB concentrations after 4-wk inhalation exposure</b>					
	<b>1,2,4-TMB concentration mean ± SD</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>25 ppm (123 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>		<b>100 ppm (492 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>		<b>250 ppm 1,230 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>
3 (min)	0.56 ± 0.18		4.06 ± 0.46		13.77 ± 3.34
15	0.43 ± 0.10		3.73 ± 1.21		11.82 ± 3.05
30	0.33 ± 0.03		3.02 ± 1.43		8.28 ± 2.07
45	0.28 ± 0.05		2.86 ± 0.89		7.21 ± 1.84
1 (hr)	0.22 ± 0.02		2.62 ± 0.82		6.27 ± 1.72
2	0.17 ± 0.06		1.83 ± 0.17		4.50 ± 1.04
3	0.11 ± 0.04		0.88 ± 0.24		3.17 ± 0.76

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## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

4	0.07 ± 0.04	0.64 ± 0.21	1.73 ± 0.37
5	0.07 ± 0.01	0.39 ± 0.11	1.30 ± 0.22
6	0.06 ± 0.02	0.37 ± 0.14	1.25 ± 0.22
<b>Liver, lung, and brain homogenates and arterial blood 1,2,4-TMB concentrations following inhalation exposure (mean ± SD)</b>			
<b>Exposure</b>	<b>25 ppm (123 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>100 ppm (492 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>250 ppm (1,230 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>
Blood 6 hrs (mg/L)	0.31 ± 0.12	1.24 ± 0.41	7.76 ± 1.64
Blood 4 wks (mg/L)	0.33 ± 0.11	1.54 ± 0.32	7.52 ± 2.11
Brain 6 hrs (mg/kg)	0.49 ± 0.06	2.92 ± 0.73	18.34 ± 1.92
Brain 4 wks (mg/kg)	0.45 ± 0.05	2.82 ± 0.40	18.63 ± 4.27
Liver 6 hrs (mg/kg)	0.44 ± 0.01	7.13 ± 1.31	28.18 ± 5.34
Liver 4 wks (mg/kg)	0.45 ± 0.15	3.00 ± 0.49*	22.47 ± 4.10
Lung 6 hrs (mg/kg)	0.43 ± 0.11	4.14 ± 0.54	18.90 ± 3.72
Lung 4 wks (mg/kg)	0.47 ± 0.20	3.74 ± 0.82	22.47 ± 4.10
<b>1,2,4-TMB in various brain structures following 1,2,4-TMB inhalation exposure</b>			
	<b>1,2,4-TMB concentration (mg/kg), mean ± SD</b>		
<b>Brain structure (time)</b>	<b>25 ppm (123 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>100 ppm (492 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>	<b>250 ppm (1,230 mg/mg<sup>3</sup>)</b>
Brain stem (6 hrs)	0.54 ± 0.11	3.38 ± 0.84	26.91 ± 5.33
Temporal cortex (6 hrs)	0.31 ± 0.06*	2.30 ± 0.71	13.54 ± 2.33*
Hippocampus (6 hrs)	0.28 ± 0.09*	1.89 ± 0.29*	12.99 ± 2.18*
Cerebellum (6 hrs)	0.32 ± 0.09*	1.99 ± 0.40*	12.91 ± 2.05*
Brain stem (4 wks)	0.38 ± 0.23	2.33 ± 1.24	21.95 ± 3.81
Temporal cortex (4 wks)	0.25 ± 0.07	2.03 ± 0.66	15.71 ± 3.54
Hippocampus (4 wks)	0.41 ± 0.27	3.03 ± 0.48	12.44 ± 2.63*
Cerebellum (4 wks)	0.33 ± 0.05	3.20 ± 0.40	10.85 ± 2.47*
* <i>p</i> < 0.05 in comparison to brainstem.			
<b>Comments:</b> Adipose tissue was not examined for 1,2,4-TMB content. Metabolite concentration was not measured. No control group.			

1 Table C-59. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Swiercz et al. \(2006\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
IMP:WIST Wistar rats	M	5/dose	Inhalation	25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,3,5-TMB	6 hrs or 4 wks
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Male Wistar rats were exposed to either 0, 25, 100, or 250 ppm (123, 492, or 1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) mesitylene (1,3,5-TMB) in an inhalation chamber for either 6 hrs or 4 wks.</li> <li>Rats were sacrificed following exposure period and tissues were analyzed for 1,3,5-TMB content via gas chromatography.</li> <li>1,3,5-TMB was found in the lungs in greater quantities following repeated exposures at 100 ppm (492 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) and 250 ppm (1,230 mg/m<sup>3</sup>).</li> </ul>					
Air concentrations of 1,3,5-TMB in inhalation chamber and body weight (mean ± SD)					
Biological material	1,3,5-TMB nominal concentration in inhaled air		1,3,5-TMB actual concentration in inhaled air (ppm)	Rat body weight (g)	
Liver, lung, and kidney homogenates after 6-hr exposure	Control		0	246 ± 9	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		25 ± 2	254 ± 11	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		97 ± 14	242 ± 14	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		254 ± 20	249 ± 7	
Liver, lung, and kidney homogenates after 4-wk exposure	Control		0	331 ± 17	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		23 ± 2	311 ± 26	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		101 ± 8	320 ± 38	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		233 ± 16	328 ± 21	
Blood collected after 6-hr exposure	Control		0	251 ± 7	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		24 ± 2	250 ± 5	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		101 ± 7	239 ± 7	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		240 ± 22	249 ± 10	
Blood collected after 4-wk exposure	Control		0	310 ± 9	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		23 ± 2	307 ± 15	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		101 ± 8	310 ± 33	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		233 ± 16	309 ± 19	
Urine collected after 6-hr exposure	Control		0	280 ± 9	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		25 ± 2	278 ± 10	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		102 ± 10	335 ± 15	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		238 ± 27	273 ± 18	
Urine collected after 4-wk exposure	Control		0	310 ± 10	
	25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		25 ± 2	295 ± 15	
	100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		102 ± 10	331 ± 19	
	250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )		238 ± 27	320 ± 28	

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Concentrations of 1,3,5-TMB in various tissues after exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (mean ± SD)				
1,3,5-TMB exposure duration and target concentration	Liver (µg/g tissue)	Lung (µg/g tissue)	Kidney (µg/g tissue)	Blood (µg/g tissue)
6 Hrs—25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.30 ± 0.07	0.31 ± 0.12	4.49 ± 1.93	0.31 ± 0.12
6 Hrs—100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	3.09 ± 0.50	2.87 ± 0.57	13.32 ± 2.58	3.06 ± 0.65
6 Hrs—250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	17.00 ± 6.08	17.36 ± 5.56	31.80 ± 9.44	13.36 ± 1.54
4 Wks—25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0.22 ± 0.01	0.42 ± 0.12	1.73 ± 0.30*	0.31 ± 0.08
4 Wks—100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	3.01 ± 0.58	1.99 ± 0.75	15.61 ± 2.14	2.30 ± 0.52
4 Wks—250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.98 ± 4.16	11.20 ± 3.61	35.97 ± 8.53	7.55 ± 1.43**
Concentrations of 3,5-DMBA in various tissues after exposure to 1,3,5-TMB (mean ± SD)				
1,3,5-TMB exposure duration and target concentration (ppm)	Liver (µg/g tissue)	Lung (µg/g tissue)	Kidney (µg/g tissue)	Urine (mg/18 hrs)
6 Hrs—25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	12.62 ± 1.62	2.87 ± 0.55	8.77 ± 0.99	0.52 ± 0.03
6 Hrs—100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	26.05 ± 2.77	5.50 ± 0.55	27.01 ± 9.86	3.66 ± 0.57
6 Hrs—250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	36.92 ± 1.61	13.39 ± 1.90	60.91 ± 19.78	10.99 ± 3.90
4 Wks—25 ppm (123 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	6.52 ± 0.67**	3.69 ± 1.21	11.06 ± 4.33	0.83 ± 0.15*
4 Wks—100 ppm (492 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	21.67 ± 3.14**	8.90 ± 0.98**	31.03 ± 18.56	4.36 ± 0.86
4 Wks—250 ppm (1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	53.07 ± 5.41**	19.79 ± 2.70**	82.10 ± 14.48	11.92 ± 3.05
Venous blood 1,3,5-TMB concentration following 6-hr 1,3,5-TMB inhalation exposure				
Time	1,3,5-TMB (µg/mL)			
	25 ppm (123 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	250 ppm 1,230 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	
3 (min)	0.31 ± 0.12	3.06 ± 0.65	13.36 ± 1.54	
15	0.26 ± 0.13	2.51 ± 0.17	13.05 ± 1.61	
30	0.15 ± 0.04	2.35 ± 0.57	12.06 ± 1.23	
45	0.10 ± 0.03	1.41 ± 0.27	10.53 ± 1.71	
1 (hrs)	0.06 ± 0.02	1.35 ± 0.30	8.85 ± 0.90	
2	0.04 ± 0.02	1.34 ± 0.39	6.14 ± 0.53	
3	ND***	0.79 ± 0.30	4.54 ± 0.67	
4	ND	0.57 ± 0.14	3.49 ± 1.16	

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5	ND	0.38 ± 0.14	2.31 ± 0.67
6	ND	0.20 ± 0.04	0.76 ± 0.06
<b>Venous blood 1,3,5-TMB concentration following 4-wk 1,3,5-TMB inhalation exposure</b>			
Time	1,3,5-TMB (µg/mL)		
	25 ppm (123 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	100 ppm (492 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )	250 ppm (1,230 mg/mg <sup>3</sup> )
3 (min)	0.31 ± 0.08	2.30 ± 0.52	7.55 ± 1.43
15	0.26 ± 0.03	1.83 ± 0.47	6.51 ± 1.50
30	0.19 ± 0.02	1.57 ± 0.39	4.56 ± 0.98
45	0.17 ± 0.03	1.41 ± 0.13	3.65 ± 0.62
1 (hrs)	0.12 ± 0.03	1.33 ± 0.15	3.69 ± 1.25
2	0.05 ± 0.01	0.95 ± 0.22	3.14 ± 0.64
3	ND	0.72 ± 0.17	2.28 ± 0.19
4	ND	0.41 ± 0.11	1.74 ± 0.17
5	ND	0.39 ± 0.05	1.23 ± 0.34
6	ND	0.29 ± 0.13	1.14 ± 0.20
* <i>p</i> < 0.05 in comparison to brainstem.			
<b>Comments:</b> Kinetics of 1,3,5-TMB elimination are reported and discussed in detail. Extensive analysis of 3,5-DMBA. Adipose tissue was not examined for 1,3,5-TMB content.			

1

1 Table C-60. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Świercz et al. \(2016\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure Route	Dose Range	Exposure Duration
Wistar rats	Male	5 rats /dose group	Inhalation	0, 25, 100, 250 ppm (0–1,230 mg/m <sup>3</sup> hemimellitene) (1,2,3-TMB)	6 hrs (single exposure) or 4 wks (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk)
<b>Additional study details:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rats were exposed to hemimellitene (1,2,3-TMB) in an inhalation exposure duration for 6 hrs or 4 wks (6 hrs/d, 5 d/wk).</li><li>• Rats were randomized into groups of five animals with body weights between 200 and 360 g.</li><li>• All rats survived inhalation exposure of hemimellitene.</li><li>• There weren't any statistically significant changes found in tissue masses or body mass during 4-wk exposure compared with controls.</li><li>• Highest levels of hemimellitene were found in kidneys after single and repeated exposures.</li><li>• Significantly lower concentrations of hemimellitene were detected in the blood and tissues of animals after repeated inhalation exposure which may point to reduced hemimellitene retention in the lungs of rats.</li></ul>					
Body mass of rats and air concentrations					
Observation	Hemimellitene target concentration in inhaled air [ppm]	Hemimellitene concentration in inhaled air [ppm] (mean ± SD)	Animals treated [N]	Body weight [g] (mean ± SD)	
Liver, lung, and kidney homogenates					
6-Hr exposure	Control	0	5	226 ± 4	
	25	25 ± 5	5	207 ± 5	
	100	105 ± 10	5	215 ± 20	
	250	242 ± 10	5	205 ± 5	
4-Wk exposure	Control	0	5	309 ± 26	
	25	25 ± 2	5	280 ± 17	
	100	97 ± 7	5	323 ± 28	
	250	246 ± 16	5	310 ± 13	
Blood					
6-Hr exposure	Control	0	5	210 ± 7	
	25	28 ± 2	5	223 ± 10	
	100	110 ± 9	5	214 ± 11	
	250	234 ± 26	5	208 ± 5	
4-Wk exposure	Control	0	5	311 ± 10	
	25	24 ± 3	5	333 ± 23	
	100	104 ± 6	5	321 ± 22	
	250	243 ± 13	5	292 ± 20	



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Urine				
6-Hr exposure	Control	0	5	250 ± 9
	25	21 ± 1	5	243 ± 10
	100	99 ± 3	5	251 ± 15
	250	225 ± 13	5	238 ± 14
4-Wk exposure	Control	0	5	310 ± 10
	25	25± 2	5	305 ± 15
	100	97 ± 7	5	317 ± 22
	250	246 ± 16	5	284 ± 23
Absolute and relative weight of liver, lung, and kidney				
		Hemimellitene target concentration in inhaled air (ppm)		
		6-Hr exposure		
Observation	Control 0	25	100	250
Absolute organ weight (mean ± SD)				
Liver	9.48 ± 0.63	9.25 ± 0.46	13.37 ± 2.37	13.15 ± 1.12
Lung	1.31 ± 0.13	1.17 ± 0.30	1.34 ± 0.29	1.21 ± 0.20
Kidney	1.83 ± 0.19	1.93 ± 0.15	1.82 ± 0.11	1.87 ± 0.16
Relative organ weight (g/100 g body weight; mean ± SD)				
Liver	4.50 ± 0.41	4.47 ± 0.26	4.27 ± 0.72	4.57 ± 0.35
Lung	0.62 ± 0.08	0.57 ± 0.14	0.63 ± 0.17	0.59 ± 0.09
Kidney	0.87 ± 0.10	0.93 ± 0.07	0.85 ± 0.04	0.91 ± 0.08
		4-Hr exposure		
Absolute organ weight (mean ± SD)				
Liver	12.63 ± 1.02	11.61 ± 1.62	13.37 ± 2.37	13.15 ± 1.12
Lung	1.47 ± 0.24	1.63 ± 0.32	1.54 ± 0.33	1.43 ± 0.33
Kidney	2.28 ± 0.19	2.07 ± 0.08	2.51 ± 0.32	2.49 ± 0.17
Relative organ weight (g/100 g body weight; mean ± SD)				
Liver	4.09 ± 0.27	4.14 ± 0.50	4.11 ± 0.42	4.24 ± 0.31
Lung	0.47 ± 0.06	0.58 ± 0.10	0.48 ± 0.09	0.46 ± 0.09
Kidney	0.74 ± 0.08	0.74 ± 0.01	0.77 ± 0.04	0.80 ± 0.05
Concentration of hemimellitene in liver, lung, and kidney homogenates and venous blood				
	6-Hr exposure			
	Hemimellitene target concentration in inhaled air (ppm)			
	25		100	250
Hemimellitene concentration (mean ± SD):				
Liver (µg/g tissue)	1.66 ±0.48		4.20 ± 0.85	20.75 ± 3.30
Lung (µg/g tissue)	0.62 ± 0.08		2.57 ± 0.40	18.73 ± 2.81
Kidney (µg/g tissue)	2.81 ± 0.40		7.78 ± 3.17	31.16 ± 3.84
Blood (µg/mL)	0.76 ± 0.09		3.82 ± 0.94	10.73 ± 1.30

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	4-Hr exposure			
Hemimellitene concentration (mean ± SD):				
Liver (µg/g tissue)	1.18 ± 0.28	2.68 ± 0.76*	11.30 ± 3.42**	
Lung (µg/g tissue)	0.83 ± 0.11**	2.17 ± 0.24	17.28 ± 6.02	
Kidney (µg/g tissue)	4.55 ± 0.32***	10.07 ± 0.67	29.99 ± 8.00	
Blood (µg/mL)	0.58 ± 0.08**	3.14 ± 0.61	6.87 ± 1.05***	
* <i>p</i> < 0.05; significantly different from the single exposure.				
** <i>p</i> < 0.01; significantly different from the single exposure.				
*** <i>p</i> < 0.001; significantly different from the single exposure.				
Statistics of hemimellitene concentration in liver, lung, kidney homogenates and venous blood				
Statistics	<i>p</i> -value			
	Liver	Lung	Kidney	Blood
Main effects				
Exposure	<0.001	n.s	n.s.	<0.001
Concentration	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Interaction effects				
Exposure × conc.	<0.001	n.s.	n.s.	<0.001
Simple effects				
Concentration within 6-hr exposure	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
Concentration within 6-hr exposure	n.s	<0.001	<0.010	<0.050
Venous blood hemimellitene concentrations				
Hemimellitene concentration (µg/mL) (mean ± SD)				
Time	25 ppm		100 ppm	250 ppm
	6-Hr exposure			
0(3)	0.76 ± 0.09		3.82 ± 0.94	10.73 ± 1.30
0 (15)	0.75 ± 0.08		3.21 ± 0.91	9.56 ± 1.40
0 (30)	0.67 ± 0.14		2.83 ± 0.35	7.09 ± 1.70
0 (45)	0.52 ± 0.14		2.76 ± 0.47	6.73 ± 1.16
1 (0)	0.50 ± 0.03		2.29 ± 0.34	7.71 ± 0.58
2 (0)	0.45 ± 0.15		1.63 ± 0.16	5.10 ± 0.62
3 (0)	0.26 ± 0.06		1.32 ± 0.23	3.50 ± 0.71
4 (0)	0.18 ± 0.08		0.87 ± 0.03	3.13 ± 0.45
5 (0)	0.12 ± 0.10		0.55 ± 0.10	1.51 ± 0.39
6 (0)	0.07 ± 0.05		0.48 ± 0.14	1.25 ± 0.30
	4-Wk exposure			
0 (3)	0.58 ± 0.09		3.14 ± 0.70	6.87 ± 1.05
0 (15)	0.40 ± 0.07		2.77 ± 0.50	6.04 ± 0.80
0 (30)	0.42 ± 0.10		2.03 ± 0.15	4.56 ± 0.73
0 (45)	0.43 ± 0.10		1.78 ± 0.18	4.02 ± 0.91
1 (0)	0.43 ± 0.13		1.80 ± 0.24	3.45 ± 0.74

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2 (0)	0.30 ± 0.06	1.38 ± 0.30	3.04 ± 0.32
3 (0)	0.30 ± 0.03	1.03 ± 0.15	2.43 ± 0.37
4 (0)	0.25 ± 0.03	0.85 ± 0.10	2.04 ± 0.67
5 (0)	0.19 ± 0.06	0.82 ± 0.16	1.66 ± 0.36
6 (0)	0.18 ± 0.07	0.75 ± 0.21	1.56 ± 0.37
<b>Toxicokinetics of hemimellitene elimination from blood</b>			
	<b>6-Hr inhalation exposure (ppm)</b>		
	<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>250</b>
Elimination (E) equation	$E = 0.60e^{-3.04t} + 0.52e^{(-0.23t)}$	$E = 3.05e^{-2.23t} + 2.00e^{-0.19t}$	$E = 9.00e^{-1.28t} + 4.00e^{-0.13t}$
AUC (mgh/L)	1.89	8.53	23.70
Half-life:			
Phase I (min)	14	19	32
Phase II [h(min)]	3 (4)	3 (42)	5 (20)
	<b>4 Wk exposure</b>		
Elimination (E) equation	$E = 0.58e^{-23.35t} + 0.40e^{-0.12t}$	$E = 2.70e^{-5.09t} + 1.80e^{-0.15t+}$	$E = 7.00e^{-3.24t} + 3.00e^{-0.09t}$
AUC (mgh/L)	1.75	7.66	16.09
Half-life:			
Phase I (min)	2	8	13
Phase II [h(min)]	5 (52)	4 (34)	7 (58)
<b>Concentration of 2, 3-DMBA after exposure to hemimellitene</b>			
	<b>6-Hr exposure</b>		
	<b>Hemimellitene target concentration in inhaled air (ppm)</b>		
	<b>25</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>250</b>
2,3-DMBA concentration (µg/g tissue) (mean ± SD)			
Liver	7.68 ± 1.64	21.19 ± 0.59	27.66 ± 3.62
Lung	n.d.	n.d.	3.23 ± 0.56
Kidney	5.52 ± 0.77	23.59 ± 3.33	28.69 ± 6.55
	<b>4-Wk exposure</b>		
Liver	8.54 ± 1.17	13.78 ± 2.84	17.93 ± 4.33
Lung	n.d.	n.d.	2.82 ± 0.44
Kidney	6.84 ± 0.76	11.19 ± 1.58	18.53 ± 2.31
n.d. = not detected			
<b>Statistics of 2,3-DMBA concentration in liver, lung, and kidney of rats after exposure of hemimellitene</b>			
<b>Statistics</b>	<b>p-value</b>		
	<b>Liver</b>	<b>Lung</b>	<b>Kidney</b>
Main effects			
Exposure	<0.001	—	<0.001
Concentration	<0.001	—	<0.001
Interaction effects			
Exposure by concentration	<0.001	—	<0.001
Simple effects			

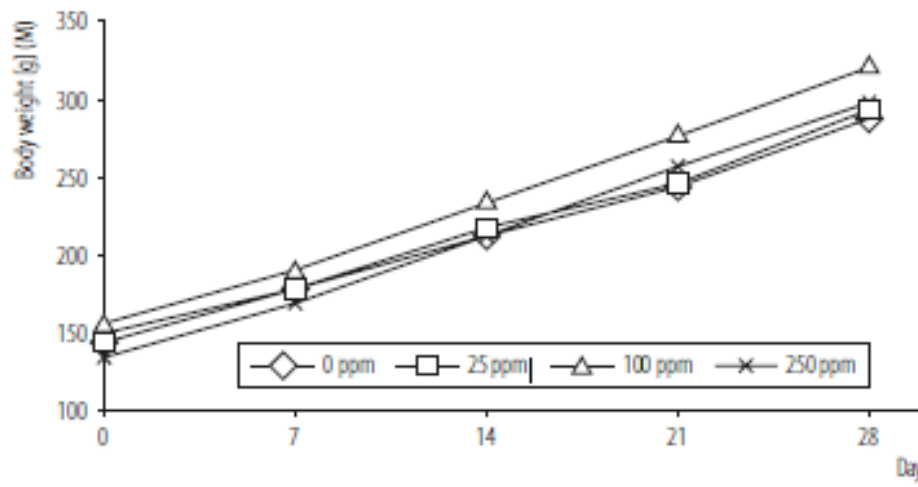
## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Conc. w/L 6-hr exposure	<0.001	—	<0.001
Conc. w/L 4-hr exposure	n.s.	—	n.s.
Exposure w/L concentration			
25 ppm	n.s.	—	n.s.
100 ppm	n.s.	—	<0.050
250 ppm	<0.050	—	n.s.
Urinary excretion after exposure to hemimellitene			
	6-Hr exposure		
	Hemimellitene target concentration in inhaled air (ppm)		
	25	100	250
Urine (mg/18 hrs) (mean ± SD):			
2,6-DMBA	n.d.	0.17 ± 0.03	0.59 ± 0.26
2,3-DMBA	0.07 ± 0.01	0.58 ± 0.06	2.19 ± 0.66
	4-Wk exposure		
Urine (mg/18 hrs) (mean ± SD):			
2,6-DMBA	n.d.	0.39 ± 0.13	0.58 ± 0.14
2,3-DMBA	0.11 ± 0.005	1.60 ± 0.40	2.79 ± 0.76
Statistics of urinary excretion of DMBA isomers after exposure			
Statistics	p-value		
	2,6-DMBA	2,3-DMBA	
Main effects			
Exposure	n.s.	<0.005	
Concentration	<0.001	<0.001	
Interaction effects			
Exposure by concentration	n.s.	n.s.	
Simple effects			
Conc. w/L 6-hr exposure	<0.050	<0.050	
Conc. w/L 4-hr exposure	n.s.	<0.001	
Exposure w/L concentration			
25 ppm	—	n.s.	
100 ppm	n.s.	n.s.	
250 ppm	n.s.	n.s.	
n.s. = not significantly significant			

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

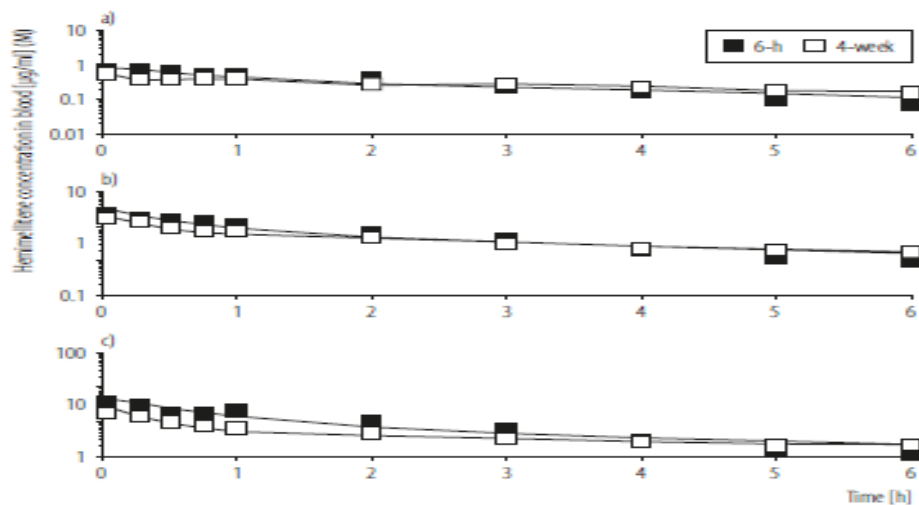
Changes of TMB isomers in tissues and blood of rats after 6-hr versus 4-wk exposure to isomers of TMB									
	Changes of TMB isomers concentration (%)								
	25 ppm			100 ppm			250 ppm		
	Lung	Blood	Liver	Lung	Blood	Liver	Lung	Blood	Liver
TMB isomer:									
Pseudocumene	9↑	6↑	2↑	10↓	24↑	58↓	19↑	3↓	20↓
Mesitylene	35↑	0	27↓	31↓	25↓	3↓	35↓	43↓	24↓
Hemimellitene	34↑↑	24↓	29↓	29↑	18↓	36↓	4↓	36↓	46↓
Toxicokinetics of TMB isomers elimination from venous blood after 6-hr or 4-wk exposure to isomers of TMB									
	Toxicokinetics of TMB Isomers								
	25 ppm			100 ppm			250 ppm		
	6-Hr	4-Wk		6-Hr	4-Wk		6-Hr	4-Wk	
Pseudocumene									
AUC <sub>0-&gt; 6h</sub> [mgH/L]	1.25	0.92		7.02		8.14	53.74		23.33
Half-life [h(min)]									
Phase I	0 (10)	0 (9)		0 (28)		0 (32)	0 (57)		1 (8)
Phase II	3 (51)	2 (53)		5 (20)		5 (47)	17 (20)		9 (54)
Mesitylene									
AUC <sub>0-&gt;6h</sub> [mgXh/L]	0.33	0.40		5.72		4.84	32.46		15.67
Half-life [h(min)]									
Phase I	0 (12)	0 (23)		0 (11)		0 (8)	0 (16)		0 (10)
Phase II	2 (40)	2 (23)		3 (9)		4 (37)	4 (5)		4 (37)
Hemimellitene									
AUC <sub>0-&gt;6h</sub> [mgXh/L]	1.89	1.75		8.53		7.66	23.70		16.09
Half-life [h(min)]									
Phase I	0 (14)	0 (2)		0 (19)		0 (8)	0 (32)		0 (13)
Phase II	3 (4)	5 (52)		3 (42)		4 (34)	5 (20)		7 (58)

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Changes of DMBA isomers in tissues and urine of rats after 6-hr versus 4-wk exposure to isomers of TMB												
	Changes of TMB isomers concentration (%)											
	25 ppm				100 ppm				250 ppm			
	Lung	Liver	Kidney	Urine	Lung	Liver	Kidney	Urine	Lung	Liver	Kidney	Urine
DMBA isomer:												
Pseudocumene (%)												
2,5-DMBA	n.d	n.d.	49↓↓	62↓↓	37↓	34↓	34↑	46↓↓	20↓	17↓	50↑	10↑
2,4-DMBA	21↓	15↓	61↓↓	6↓	26↓	10↓	19↑	33↓↓	22↓	13↓	39↑	13↓
3,4-DMBA	42↓	47↓↓	44↓↓	34↓	39↓↓	43↓↓	151↑	33↓↓	25↓	43↓↓	148↑	20↑
Mesitylene (%)												
3,5-DMBA	29↑	48↓↓	26↑	60↑↑	62↑↑	17↓↓	15↑	19↑	48↑↑	44↑↑	35↑	8↑
Hemimellitene (%)												
2,6-DMBA	n.d.	n.d	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	129↑↑	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	2↓
2,3-DMBA	n.d.	11↑	24↑	57↑↑	n.d.	35↓↓	53↓↓	176↑↑	13↓	35↓↓	35↓↓	27↑
↑ = insignificant increase; ↑↑ = significant increase; ↓ = insignificant decrease; ↓↓ = significant decrease												
Mean body weights of rats exposed to hemimellitene at 0 ppm (N = 5), 25 ppm (N = 5), 100 ppm (N = 5), and 250 ppm (N = 5) for 4 wks.												
												
Source: Świercz et al. (2016).												

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Kinetics of hemimellitene elimination from venous blood of rats after termination of 6-hr and 4-wk exposures to hemimellitene vapors at nominal concentration of (a) 25 ppm (N = 5), (b) 100 ppm (N = 5), and (c) 250 ppm (N = 5).



1  
2**Table C-61. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tsujimoto et al. \(2000\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Slc Wistar rats	M	4/dose	i.p. in corn oil	0, 0.3, 1, and 3 mmol/kg body weight 1,2,4-TMB	2 d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Groups of four male Wistar rats dosed with 0, 0.3, 1, or 3 mmol/kg body weight 1,2,4-TMB.</li><li>Urine samples collected for 2 d.</li><li>High performance liquid chromatography used to quantify amount of dimethylbenzyl mercapturic acid in urine.</li></ul>					
<b>Urinary excretion of dimethylbenzyl mercapturic acid in 1,2,4-TMB treated rats</b>					
Dose (mmol/kg)	% of dose ± SD				
	0–24 hr	24–48 hr	Total		
0.3	14.0 ± 1.2	ND	14.0 ± 1.2		
1.0	19.4 ± 1.8	ND	19.4 ± 1.8		
3.0	16.7 ± 6.2	2.5 ± 1.6	19.2 ± 4.8		
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed a marked decrease in dimethylbenzyl mercapturic acid excretion between 24 and 48 hrs following exposure. Authors do not report specific speciation data for 2,4-, 2,5-, or 3,4-dimethylbenzyl mercapturic acid.					

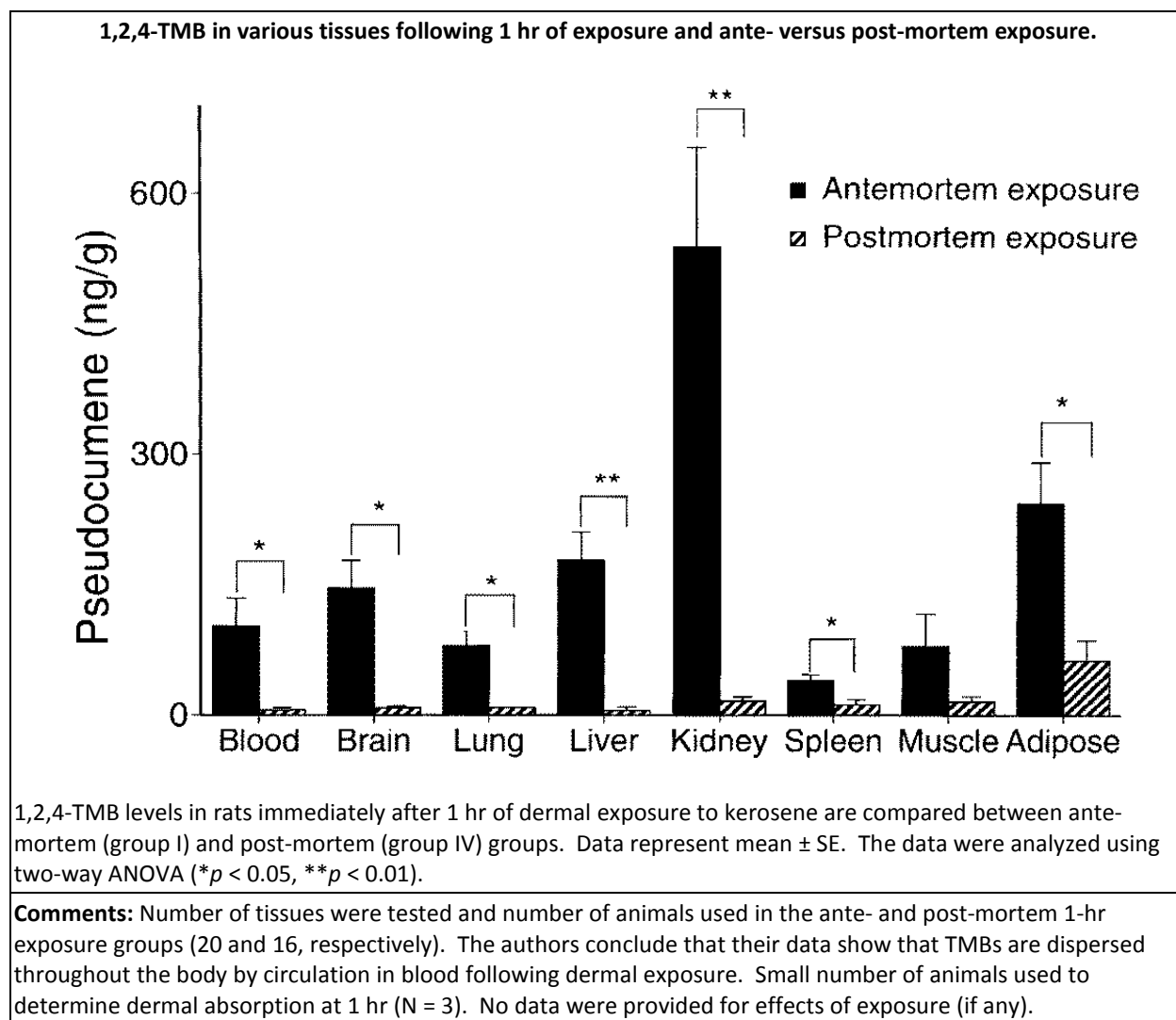


Table C-62. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tsujimoto et al. \(2005\)](#)

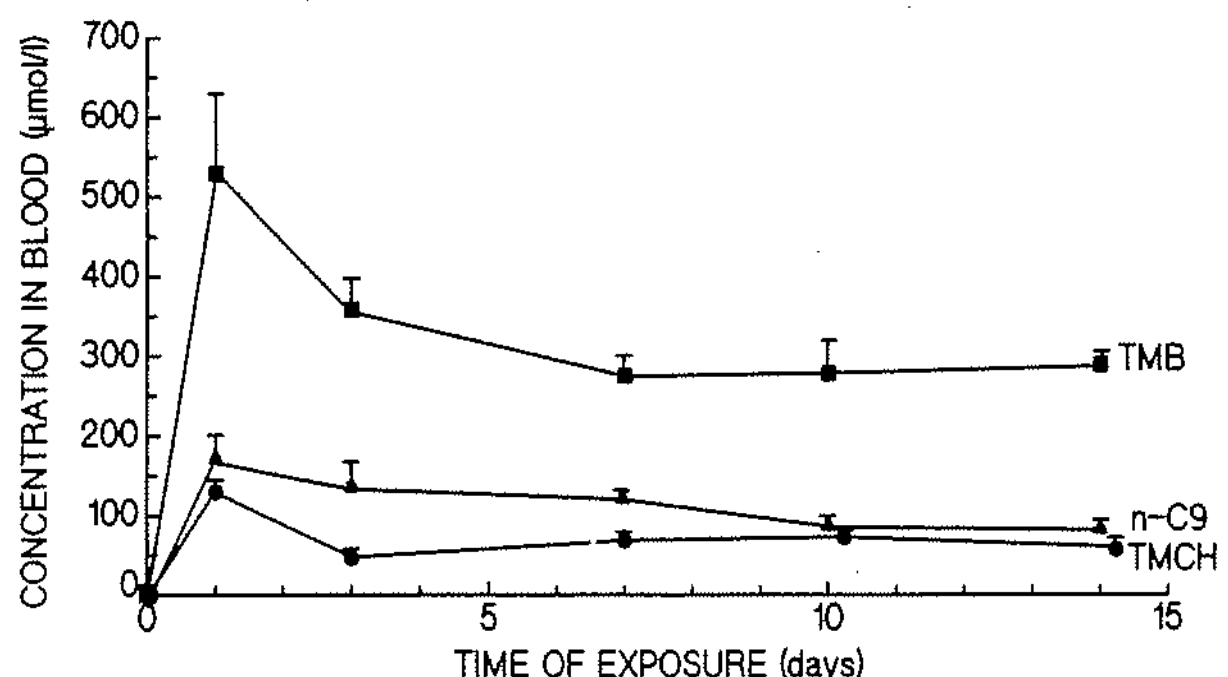
Study design						
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration	
Wistar rats	M	4/dose	i.p. in corn oil	0, 0.3, 1, and 3 mmol/kg body weight given 1,2,3- or 1,3,5- TMB	2 d	
Additional study details						
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Groups of four male Wistar rats were given 1,2,3- or 1,3,5-TMB i.p. in doses of 0, 0.3, 1, or 3 mmol/kg body weight.</li><li>Urine samples collected for 2 d, then analyzed for TMPs via gas chromatography-mass spectrometry.</li></ul>						
Urinary excretion (% of dose $\pm$ SD) of phenolic metabolites in 1,2,3-TMB treated rats						
Dose (mmol/kg)	2,3,4-TMP			3,4,5-TMP		
	0–24 hr	24–48 hr	Total	0–24 hr	24–48 hr	Total
0.3	5.90 $\pm$ 2.62	0.46 $\pm$ 0.34	6.36 $\pm$ 2.92	ND	ND	ND
1.0	7.93 $\pm$ 5.00	0.35 $\pm$ 0.16	8.28 $\pm$ 4.85	$\leq$ 0.24	ND	$\leq$ 0.24
3.0	6.20 $\pm$ 3.45	0.57 $\pm$ 0.34	6.77 $\pm$ 3.60	$\leq$ 0.19	$\leq$ 0.04	$\leq$ 0.19
ND = not detected.						
Urinary excretion (% of dose $\pm$ SD) of phenolic metabolites in 1,3,5-TMB-treated rats						
2,4,6-TMP						
Dose (mmol/kg)	0–24 hr		24–48 hr		Total	
0.3	7.04 $\pm$ 1.24		0.53 $\pm$ 0.29		7.57 $\pm$ 0.99	
1.0	4.39 $\pm$ 0.61		0.51 $\pm$ 0.12		4.90 $\pm$ 0.64	
3.0	3.32 $\pm$ 0.58		0.82 $\pm$ 0.34		4.14 $\pm$ 0.67	
<b>Comments:</b> This study observed a marked decrease in TMP excretion between 24 and 48 hrs following exposure. This study does not include data for 1,2,4-TMB and phenolic metabolites. Variation between rats (high SD) within exposure groups.						

1 Table C-63. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Tsujino et al. \(2002\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Wistar rats	M	3 for Experiment 1; 36 for Experiment 3 (shown below)	Dermal (via saturated cotton)	1 mL kerosene	0, 1, 3, or 6 hrs
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In the first experiment, rats were dermally exposed to kerosene on a saturated, sealed piece of cotton for 1 hr to analyze TMB and aliphatic hydrocarbon dermal absorption.</li><li>In the second experiment, 44 rats were divided into four groups, which varied by exposure duration, post-exposure time, and/or exposure either before or after death.</li><li>TMBs were detected at greater levels than aliphatic hydrocarbons, and were only detected in traces following post-mortem exposure.</li><li>Trace concentrations of TMBs following post-mortem exposure suggest that TMB must circulate in blood before being distributed to organs.</li></ul>					
<b>1 -Hr exposure and ratio of TMBs to internal standard (o-xylene d<sub>10</sub>) (mean ± SD)</b>					
Tissue source		Post-mortem samples spiked with kerosene (positive control)		Post-mortem samples following dermal exposure	
Blood		3.6 ± 1.6		0.4 ± 0.4	
Brain		3.6 ± 1.6		0.14 ± 0.05*	
Lung		1.2 ± 0.5*		0.09 ± 0.03	
Liver		1.1 ± 0.5		0.3 ± 0.09**	
Spleen		0.7 ± 0.3		0.1 ± 0.04	
Kidney		1.0 ± 0.4		0.5 ± 0.1**	
Muscle		1.2 ± 0.5*		0.09 ± 0.02	
Adipose		0.9 ± 0.3*		0.15 ± 0.07	
Overall		1.4 ± 0.3***		0.21 ± 0.05*	
* $p \leq 0.05$ . ** $p \leq 0.01$ . *** $p \leq 0.001$ .					

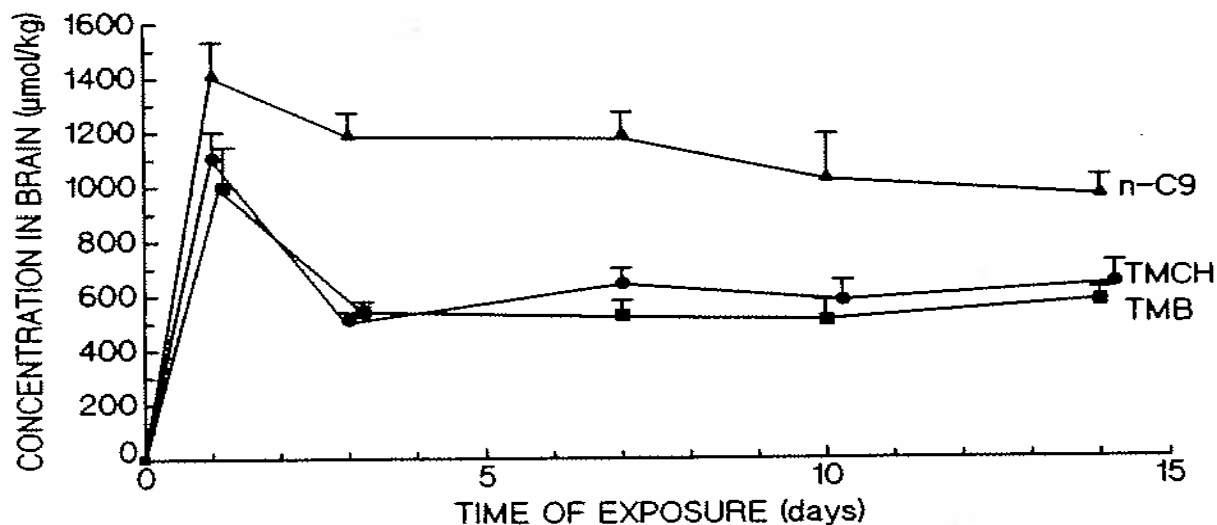


1 Table C-64. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Zahlsen et al. \(1990\)](#)

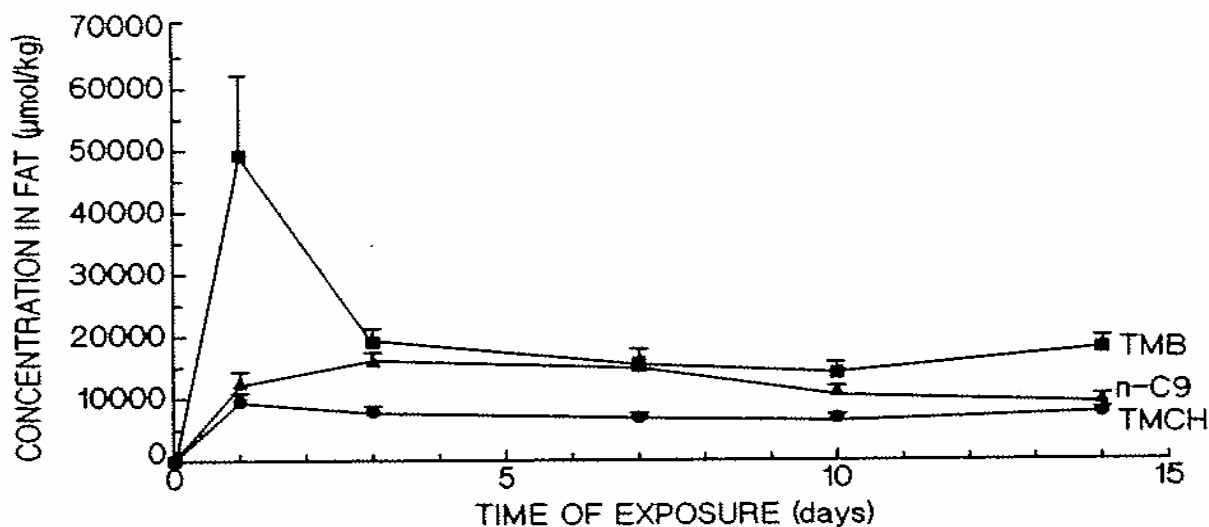
Study design																																	
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration																												
Sprague-Dawley rats	M	24	Inhalation	1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ) 1,2,4-TMB	12-hr exposures on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14																												
<b>Additional study details</b>																																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Male Sprague-Dawley rats were exposed to 1,000 ppm (4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>) 1,2,4-TMB in an inhalation for 12 hrs on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14.</li><li>Food and water were given ad libitum except during exposure, and animal weight ranged between 150 g and 200 g prior to exposure on d 1.</li><li>Hydrocarbon concentration in blood was determined via head space gas chromatography. Daily mean concentrations did not vary by more than ±10% from nominal concentrations.</li><li>Multiple exposures to 1,2,4-TMB resulted in decreases in blood concentrations following subsequent exposures, possibly due to the induction of metabolic enzymes that play a role in the metabolism of 1,2,4-TMB.</li></ul>																																	
<b>Blood concentrations (+SD) of n-nonane, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,4-trimethylcyclohexane following 12-hr exposures on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14.</b>																																	
 <p>The graph displays the concentration of three substances in blood over a 15-day period following 12-hour exposures. The y-axis represents 'CONCENTRATION IN BLOOD (μmol/l)' ranging from 0 to 700. The x-axis represents 'TIME OF EXPOSURE (days)' ranging from 0 to 15. Three data series are plotted: TMB (squares), n-C9 (triangles), and TMCH (circles). All three substances show a rapid increase in concentration on day 1, followed by a decline and then a relatively stable level. TMB has the highest concentration, peaking at approximately 530 μmol/l on day 1 and remaining around 300 μmol/l by day 14. n-C9 peaks at approximately 170 μmol/l on day 1 and declines to about 80 μmol/l by day 14. TMCH peaks at approximately 130 μmol/l on day 1 and declines to about 60 μmol/l by day 14. Error bars representing standard deviation are shown for each data point.</p> <table><caption>Estimated data from the graph</caption><tr><th>Time of Exposure (days)</th><th>TMB (μmol/l)</th><th>n-C9 (μmol/l)</th><th>TMCH (μmol/l)</th></tr><tr><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td><td>0</td></tr><tr><td>1</td><td>530</td><td>170</td><td>130</td></tr><tr><td>3</td><td>360</td><td>140</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td>7</td><td>280</td><td>120</td><td>80</td></tr><tr><td>10</td><td>280</td><td>90</td><td>70</td></tr><tr><td>14</td><td>290</td><td>80</td><td>60</td></tr></table>						Time of Exposure (days)	TMB (μmol/l)	n-C9 (μmol/l)	TMCH (μmol/l)	0	0	0	0	1	530	170	130	3	360	140	100	7	280	120	80	10	280	90	70	14	290	80	60
Time of Exposure (days)	TMB (μmol/l)	n-C9 (μmol/l)	TMCH (μmol/l)																														
0	0	0	0																														
1	530	170	130																														
3	360	140	100																														
7	280	120	80																														
10	280	90	70																														
14	290	80	60																														

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Brain concentrations (+SD) of n-nonane, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,4-trimethylcyclohexane following 12-hr exposures on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14.



Perirenal fat concentrations (+SD) of n-nonane, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,2,4-trimethylcyclohexane following 12-hr exposures on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 14.



Brain:blood and fat:blood TMB distribution after 12-hr exposure at end of d 14

Compound	Concentration ratio
Brain:blood TMB ratio	2.0
Fat:blood TMB ratio	63

**Comments:** Perirenal fat was analyzed and shown to retain higher concentrations of 1,2,4-TMB than blood. Exposure was not continuous (only occurred on d 1, 3, 7, 10, and 15). Only one exposure concentration (1,000 ppm [4,920 mg/m<sup>3</sup>]) was tested, and there were no control groups.

1      Table C-65. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Zahlsen et al. \(1992\)](#)

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Sprague-Dawley rats	M	4/time point	Inhalation	100 ppm 1,2,4-TMB	12 hrs/d for 3 d
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Food and water were given ad libitum, except during exposure.</li><li>Rats weighed between 150 and 200 g and were between 40 and 50 d of age.</li><li>Four rats were housed in each cage, and each exposure chamber contained four cages; 16 rats were present at the beginning of exposure.</li><li>At each time point, four rats were sacrificed and their tissues analyzed for 1,2,4-TMB presence.</li></ul>					
Observation	1,2,4-TMB concentration in rat tissues at various time points (mean ± SD)				
	100 ppm C9 exposure group				
Blood day 1	14.2 ± 0.7				
Blood day 2	12.6 ± 0.9				
Blood day 3	17.1 ± 2.2				
Blood rec <sup>a</sup>	0.2 ± 0.1				
Brain day 1	38.1 ± 1.5				
Brain day 2	34.9 ± 3.9				
Brain day 3	36.5 ± 2.2				
Brain rec	ND				
Liver day 1	41.0 ± 4.5				
Liver day 2	30.5 ± 3.4				
Liver day 3	35.4 ± 2.4				
Liver rec <sup>a</sup>	0.6 ± 0.1				
Kidney day 1	113.8 ± 26.5				
Kidney day 2	142.0 ± 35.2				
Kidney day 3	103.6 ± 18.8				
Kidney rec <sup>a</sup>	2.0 ± 0.3				
Fat day 1	1,741 ± 329				
Fat day 2	1,375 ± 88				
Fat day 3	1,070 ± 93				
Fat rec <sup>a</sup>	120 ± 52				
<sup>a</sup> rec = after 12-hour recovery.					
<b>Comments:</b> Data were collected immediately following exposure and 12 hrs following exposure, providing insight into metabolic clearance and excretion. Study duration was short term (5 d), making it difficult to determine if tissue concentration changes following chronic exposure.					

2

## C.7. ANIMAL AND HUMAN TOXICOKINETIC STUDIES

Table C-66 provides study details for an animal and human toxicokinetic study.

**Table C-66. Characteristics and quantitative results for [Meulenberg and Vijverberg \(2000\)](#)**

Study design					
Species	Sex	N	Exposure route	Dose range	Exposure duration
Rat and Human	F & M	Varies	N/A	Not given	Not given
<b>Additional study details</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Authors examined partition coefficients for many VOCs from multiple studies.</li><li>• 1,2,3-, 1,2,4-, and 1,3,5-TMB were among the VOCs considered for review.</li><li>• Partition coefficients for blood, fat, brain, liver, muscle, and kidney were reported for both rats and humans.</li></ul>					
Observation	Partition coefficients for 1,2,3-, 1,2,4- and 1,3,5-TMB				
	1,2,3-TMB	1,2,4-TMB		1,3,5-TMB	
	Reported and predicted partition coefficients For oil, saline, and air				
P <sub>oil:air</sub>	10,900 <sup>a</sup>	10,200 <sup>a</sup>		9,880 <sup>a</sup>	
P <sub>saline:air</sub>	2.73 <sup>a</sup>	1.61 <sup>a</sup>		1.23 <sup>a</sup>	
	Reported and predicted P <sub>tissue:air</sub> values for various human tissues				
Blood	66.5 <sup>a</sup>	59.1 <sup>a</sup>		43 <sup>a</sup>	
Fat	4,879 <sup>b</sup>	4,566		4,423	
Brain	220	206		199	
Liver	306	286		277	
Muscle	155	144		140	
Kidney	122	114		110	
	Reported and predicted P <sub>tissue:air</sub> values for various rat tissues				
Blood	62.6	55.7		55.7	
Fat	6,484	6,068		5,878	
Brain	591	552		535	
Liver	288	269		260	
Muscle	111	104		100	
Kidney	1,064	995		963	
<sup>a</sup> Averaged values as reported by <a href="#">Järnberg and Johanson (1995)</a> .					
<sup>b</sup> All other values predicted by <a href="#">Meulenberg and Vijverberg (2000)</a> .					
<b>Comments:</b> This study evaluated a number of parameters, presenting predicted partition coefficients for blood, fat, brain, liver, muscle, and kidney tissue in both humans and rats. Reported values based on single trial.					

## APPENDIX D. DOSE-RESPONSE MODELING FOR THE DERIVATION OF REFERENCE VALUES FOR EFFECTS OTHER THAN CANCER AND THE DERIVATION OF CANCER RISK ESTIMATES

### D.1. BENCHMARK DOSE (BMD) MODELING SUMMARY

This appendix provides technical detail on dose-response evaluation and determination of points of departure (PODs) for relevant neurological, hematological, and developmental toxicity endpoints in the trimethylbenzene (TMB) database. The endpoints were modeled using the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Benchmark Dose Software (BMDS, version 2.6.0.1). Sections D.1.1.1 and D.1.1.2 (noncancer) describe the common practices used in evaluating the model fit and selecting the appropriate model for determining the POD, as outlined in the *Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance Document* ([U.S. EPA, 2012](#)). In some cases, it may be appropriate to use alternative methods, based on statistical judgement; exceptions are noted as necessary in the summary of the modeling results.

#### D.1.1. Noncancer Endpoints

##### D.1.1.1. Evaluation of Model Fit

For each continuous endpoint (see Table D-1), BMDS continuous models were fitted to the data using the maximum likelihood method. Model fit was assessed by a series of tests as follows. For each model, first the homogeneity of the variances was tested using a likelihood ratio test (BMDS Test 2). If Test 2 was not rejected ( $\chi^2$   $p$ -value  $\geq 0.10$ ), the model was fitted to the data assuming constant variance. If Test 2 was rejected ( $\chi^2$   $p$ -value  $< 0.10$ ), the variance was modeled as a power function of the mean, and the variance model was tested for adequacy of fit using a likelihood ratio test (BMDS Test 3). For fitting models using either constant variance or modeled variance, models for the mean response were tested for adequacy of fit using a likelihood ratio test (BMDS Test 4, with  $\chi^2$   $p$ -value  $< 0.10$  indicating inadequate fit). Other factors were also used to assess the model fit, such as scaled residuals, visual fit, and adequacy of fit in the low-dose region and in the vicinity of the benchmark response (BMR).

##### D.1.1.2. Model Selection

For each endpoint, the BMDL estimate (95% lower confidence limit on the BMD, as estimated by the profile likelihood method) and Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) value were



used to select a best-fit model from among the models exhibiting adequate fit. If the BMDL estimates were “sufficiently close,” (i.e., differed by at most 3-fold), the model selected was the one that yielded the lowest AIC value. If the BMDL estimates were not sufficiently close, the lowest BMDL was selected as the POD.

**Table D-1. Noncancer endpoints selected for dose-response modeling for 1,2,3-TMB, 1,2,4-TMB, and 1,3,5-TMB**

Species (strain)/sex endpoint		Internal doses, external exposure concentrations, and effect data				
<a href="#">Korsak and Rydzyński (1996)</a>						
1,2,4-TMB						
Rat (Wistar)/male	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	123	492	1,230	
CNS: paw-lick (seconds)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	9 15.4 ± 5.8	10 18.2 ± 5.7	9 27.6 ± 3.2	10 30.1 ± 7.9	
1,2,3-TMB						
Rat (Wistar)/male	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	123	492	1,230	
CNS: paw-lick (seconds)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	30 9.7 ± 2.1	20 11.8 ± 3.8	10 16.3 ± 6.3	10 17.3 ± 3.4	
<a href="#">Korsak et al. (2000a)</a> —1,2,4-TMB						
Rat (Wistar)/male	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	129	492	1,207	
Decreased RBC (10 <sup>6</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup> )	Number of animals Mean ± SD	10 9.98 ± 1.6	10 9.84 ± 1.82	10 8.50 ± 1.11	10 7.70 + 1.38	
Rat (Wistar)/female	Internal dose (mg/L)	0	0.1335	0.8899	5.5189	
Clotting time (seconds)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	10 30 ± 10	10 23 ± 4	10 19 ± 5	10 22 ± 7	
<a href="#">Korsak et al. (2000b)</a> —1,2,3-TMB						
Rat (Wistar)/male	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	128	523	1,269	
Decreased segmented neutrophils (%)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	10 24.8 ± 4.5	10 25.4 ± 5.8	10 20.7 ± 5.8	10 17.7 ± 8.3	
Increased reticulocytes (%)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	10 2.8 ± 1.3	10 2.1 ± 1.7	10 3.8 ± 2.1	10 4.5 ± 1.8	
Rat (Wistar)/female	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	128	523	1,269	
Decreased segmented neutrophils (%)	Number of animals Mean ± SD	10 23.1 ± 6.1	10 19.7 ± 3.4	10 16.4 ± 4.2	10 11.9 ± 7.1	
<a href="#">Saillenfait et al. (2005)</a>						
1,2,4-TMB						
Rat (Sprague-Dawley), F <sub>1</sub> pups and dams	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	492	1,471	2,913	4,408
Male fetal weight (g)	Number of litters Mean ± SD <sup>a</sup>	23 5.86 ± 0.34	22 5.79 ± 0.30	22 5.72 ± 0.49	22 5.55 ± 0.48	24 5.20 ± 0.42
Female fetal weight (g)	Number of litters Mean ± SD <sup>a</sup>	23 5.57 ± 0.33	22 5.51 ± 0.31	22 5.40 ± 0.45	22 5.28 ± 0.40	24 4.92 ± 0.40

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

Species (strain)/sex endpoint	Internal doses, external exposure concentrations, and effect data					
Maternal weight gain (g)	Number of dams Mean ± SD	24 131 ± 33	22 124 ± 18	22 126 ± 24	22 116 ± 23	24 95 ± 19
1,3,5-TMB						
F <sub>1</sub> rat pups and dams (Sprague-Dawley)	Concentration (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	0	497	1,471	2,974	5,874
Male fetal weight (g)	Number of litters Mean ± SD <sup>a</sup>	21 5.80 ± 0.41	22 5.76 ± 0.27	21 5.50 ± 0.31	17 5.39 ± 0.55	18 5.10 ± 0.57
Female fetal weight (g)	Number of litters Mean ± SD <sup>a</sup>	21 5.50 ± 0.32	22 5.47 ± 0.21	21 5.27 ± 0.47	17 5.18 ± 0.68	18 4.81 ± 0.45
Maternal weight gain (g)	Number of dams Mean ± SD	21 135 ± 15	22 138 ± 11	21 118 ± 24	17 95 ± 24	18 73 ± 28

<sup>a</sup>SD reported for fetal weights represent variability among reported litter means, not among fetuses. In any subsequent BMD analyses of these endpoints, the BMDs and BMDLs estimated using 1 SD as the comparative BMR corresponding to the SD among litter means.

CNS = central nervous system; RBC = red blood cell; SD = standard deviation

For all endpoints, BMD modeling was conducted using the reported external exposure concentrations as the dose inputs, except when actual concentrations were not provided. In these cases, the target concentrations were used. In cases where the poor model fit to the mean or variance was evident due mainly to poor fit in the high dose, the high dose was dropped and the truncated dataset was re-modeled. Comprehensive modeling results for all endpoints are provided on EPA's Health Effects Research Online (HERO) database ([U.S. EPA, 2016b](https://hero.epa.gov/)).

### D.1.1.3. Modeling Results

Tables D-2 to D-34 and Figures D-1 to D-13 summarize the modeling results for the noncancer endpoints modeled. The following continuous model parameter restrictions were applied, unless otherwise noted: (1) polynomial model  $\beta$  coefficients were restricted with respect to the appropriate direction of effect (i.e.,  $\geq 0$  for responses that increase with dose, and  $\leq 0$  for responses that decrease with dose); and (2) Hill, power, and exponential power parameters were restricted to be  $\geq 1$ . A 1 SD change in the control mean was used as the BMR for all endpoints except decreased fetal weight, for which a 5% RD BMR was used. However, as recommended by EPA's *Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance* ([U.S. EPA, 2012](https://www.epa.gov/benchmark-dose-technical-guidance)), a BMR equal to a 1 SD change in the control mean was presented for decreased fetal weight to facilitate comparisons across assessments.

**Table D-2. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.0115	184.29	674	531	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-3).
Exponential (M4)	0.376	178.14	161	84.0	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	179.36	211	92.5	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	179.36	195	90.2	
Power <sup>d</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>°e</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°f</sup> Linear	0.0293	182.42	535	396	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.0765, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0765); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-3. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.0172	185.21	572	400	No model selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.1. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-4)
Exponential (M4)	0.406	179.78	154	78.4	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	181.09	202	85.6	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	181.09	189	82.9	
Power <sup>d</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>°e</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°f</sup>	0.0500	183.08	425	274	
Linear <sup>g</sup>	0.0500	183.08	425	274	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.0765, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0371); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>The Power model may appear equivalent to the Linear model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

<sup>f</sup>The Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model may appear equivalent to the Linear model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>g</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model. This also applies to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

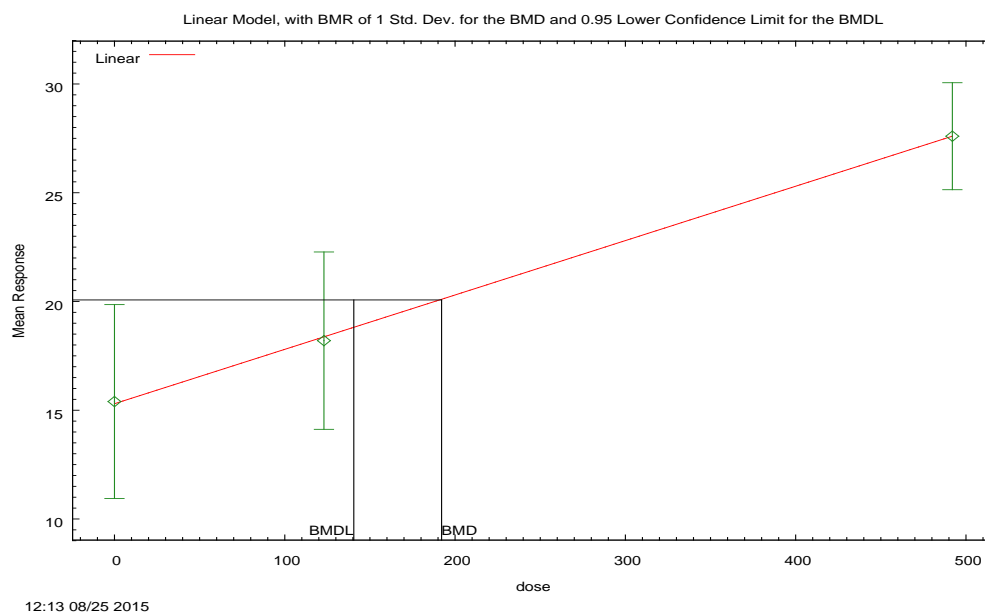
**Table D-4. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) (Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.854	121.80	231	181	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M4)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	123.79	192	84.7	
Power	N/A <sup>c</sup>	123.77	204	141	
Polynomial 2°	N/A <sup>c</sup>	123.77	206	141	
<b>Linear</b>	<b>0.899</b>	<b>121.79</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>141</b>	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = 0.169), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 123, and 492 were 0.08, --0.1, and 0.03, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-1. Plot of mean response by dose for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996).**

**Polynomial Model** (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose}$

A constant variance model is fit

**Benchmark Dose Computation**

BMR = 1 Estimated SD from the control mean

BMD = 192.088

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 140.537

**Parameter Estimates**

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
alpha	22.9935	25.738
rho	N/A	0
beta_0	15.277	15.2846
beta_1	0.0249633	0.0249531

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	9	15.4	15.3	5.8	4.8	0.0769
123	10	18.2	18.3	5.7	4.8	-0.0973
492	9	27.6	27.6	3.2	4.8	0.0256

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-57.884957	4	123.769915
A2	-56.10689	6	124.213781
A3	-57.884957	4	123.769915
Fitted	-57.89298	3	121.785961
R	-68.599682	2	141.199364

**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	24.9856	4	<0.0001
Test 2	3.55613	2	0.169
Test 3	3.55613	2	0.169
Test 4	0.0160462	1	0.8992

**Table D-5. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.00570	262.21	701	566	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-6).
Exponential (M4)	0.546	254.24	192	107	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	255.87	201	111	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	255.87	186	110	
Power <sup>d</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>oe</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>of</sup> Linear	0.0173	259.99	578	443	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value =  $1.15 \times 10^{-4}$ , BMDS Test 3 p-value =  $1.15 \times 10^{-4}$ ); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-6. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	<0.0001	259.53	497	329	No model selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.1. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-7)
Exponential (M4)	0.301	241.42	86.2	46.7	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	242.59	113	52.0	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	242.59	120	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear	3.25 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	254.41	320	196	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value =  $1.15 \times 10^{-4}$ , BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0708); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



**Table D-7. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) ([Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.445	218.88	301	237	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-8).
Exponential (M4)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	220.30	223	112	
Exponential (M5) Hill Polynomial 3 <sup>o</sup>	Error	Error	Error <sup>e</sup>	Error <sup>e</sup>	
Power <sup>f</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>o</sup> Linear	0.645	218.51	266	196	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMD Test 3 p-value = <0.0001); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model

<sup>f</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-8. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance, high dose dropped) (Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.0745	203.27	192	132	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M4)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	202.08	105	52.6	
<b>Power<sup>d</sup></b> <b>Polynomial 2<sup>oe</sup></b> <b>Linear</b>	<b>0.202</b>	<b>201.71</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>97.2</b>	

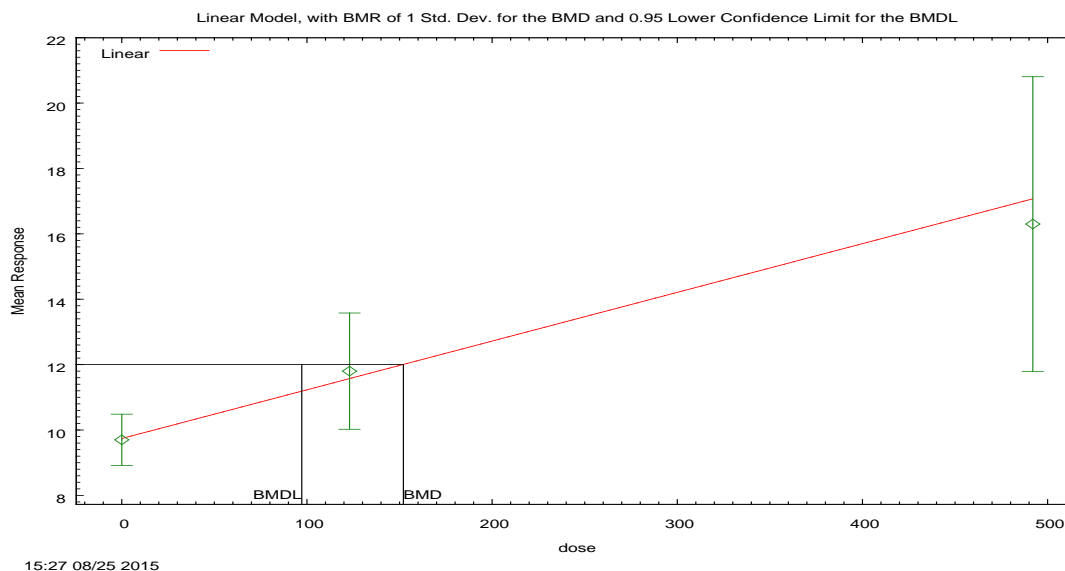
<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMD Test 3 p-value = 0.5008), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 123, and 492 were -0.1, 0.32, and -0.35, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 2° model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB.

**Figure D-2. Plot of mean response by dose for increased latency to paw-lick in male Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996).**

**Polynomial Model** (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose}$

A modeled variance is fit

**Benchmark Dose Computation**

BMR = 1 Estimated SD from the control mean

BMD = 152.065

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 97.1911

**Parameter Estimates**

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
lalpha	-7.3421	2.58956
rho	3.94293	0
beta_0	9.74214	9.90769
beta_1	0.0148851	0.0131332

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	30	9.7	9.74	2.1	2.26	-0.102
123	20	11.8	11.6	3.8	3.18	0.319
492	10	16.3	17.1	6.3	6.84	-0.354

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-106.147893	4	220.295786
A2	-95.815379	6	203.630758
A3	-96.041973	5	202.083946
Fitted	-96.857406	4	201.714812
R	-116.95626	2	237.91252

**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	42.2818	4	<0.0001
Test 2	20.665	2	<0.0001
Test 3	0.453187	1	0.5008
Test 4	1.63087	1	0.2016

**Table D-9. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased RBCs in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Korsak et al., 2000a](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
<b>Exponential (M2)</b> <b>Exponential (M3)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>0.611</b>	<b>76.397</b>	<b>695</b>	<b>452</b>	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Exponential 2 model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M4)	0.530	77.805	477	178	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	79.411	482	191	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	79.411	480	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Linear <sup>f</sup>	0.540	76.642	752	516	
Polynomial 3 <sup>g</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>h</sup>	0.540	76.642	752	516	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD5 Test 2 p-value = 0.433), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 129, 492, and 1,207 were 0.08, 0.41, -0.83, and 0.34, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

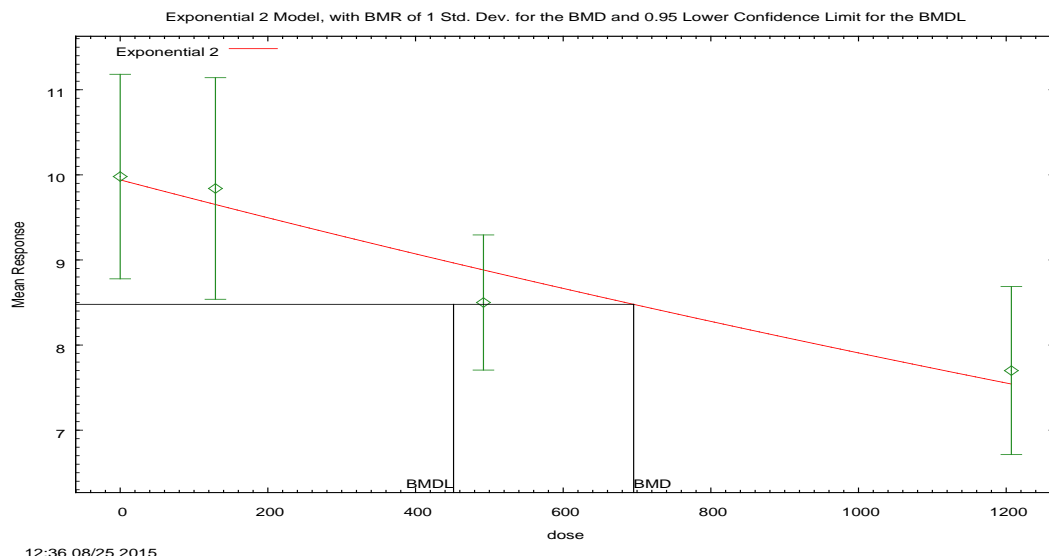
<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 3° model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Polynomial 2° model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2° model.

<sup>h</sup>The Polynomial 2° model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Linear model.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-3. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased RBCs in male Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Exponential 2 model with constant variance (Korsak and Rydzyński, 1996).**

**Exponential Model** (Version: 1.10; Date: 01/12/2015)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = a * \exp(\text{sign} * b * \text{dose})$

A constant variance model is fit

#### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 1.0000 Estimated SDs from control

BMD = 695.431

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 451.511

#### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
Inalpha	0.759919	0.735269
rho	N/A	0
a	9.94081	8.08952
b	0.000228786	0.000222126
c	N/A	0
d	N/A	1

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

### Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	10	9.98	9.94	1.68	1.46	0.08476
129	10	9.84	9.65	1.82	1.46	0.4072
492	10	8.5	8.88	1.11	1.46	-0.8273
1,207	10	7.7	7.54	1.38	1.46	0.3414

### Likelihoods of Interest

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-34.70537	5	79.41075
A2	-33.33353	8	82.66706
A3	-34.70537	5	79.41075
R	-41.88886	2	87.77771
2	-35.19837	3	76.39674

### Tests of Interest

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	17.11	6	0.008885
Test 2	2.744	3	0.4329
Test 3	2.744	3	0.4329
Test 4	0.986	2	0.6108

**Table D-10. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased clotting time in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Korsak et al., 2000a](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.0102	205.39	1,466	691	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-11).
Exponential (M4)	0.300	199.29	111	0.531	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	201.25	122	0.532	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	201.25	127	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear	0.00852	205.74	1,585	835	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.0229, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0229); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-11. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased clotting time in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) ([Korsak et al., 2000a](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) <sup>b</sup>	5.75 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	206.81	1,962	721	No model was selected as the only possibly fitting models (Exponential models 4 and 5 and the Hill model) returned implausibly low BMDL values. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-12)
Exponential (M3) <sup>c</sup>	5.75 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	206.81	1,962	721	
Exponential (M4)	0.0922	196.72	299	0.680	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>d</sup>	198.72	201	0.590	
Hill	N/A <sup>d</sup>	198.72	164	2.56 × 10 <sup>-6</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup>	4.95 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	207.11	2,046	875	
Polynomial 3 <sup>f</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>g</sup> Linear <sup>h</sup>	4.95 × 10 <sup>-4</sup>	207.11	2,046	875	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 *p*-value = 0.0229, BMDS Test 3 *p*-value = 0.200); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>The Exponential (M2) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M3) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>c</sup>The Exponential (M3) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M2) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>d</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>e</sup>The Power model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 3° model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Polynomial 2° model. This also applies to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2° model. For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2° model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>h</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.



**Table D-12. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased clotting time in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) (Korsak et al., 2000a)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.167	150.26	294	171	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> (U.S. EPA, 2012), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-13).
Exponential (M4)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	150.34	114	0.484	
Exponential (M5) Hill Polynomial 3 <sup>o</sup>	Error	Error	Error <sup>d</sup>	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Linear <sup>f</sup>	0.123	150.73	340	222	
Polynomial 2 <sup>g</sup>	0.123	150.73	340	222	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD5 Test 2 p-value = 0.00849, BMD5 Test 3 p-value = 0.00849); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>g</sup>The Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Linear model.

**Table D-13. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased clotting time in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance, high dose dropped) (Korsak et al., 2000a)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.0276	148.13	413	227	No model was selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, this endpoint cannot be modeled in BMDS and the NOAEL/LOAEL approach is recommended.
Exponential (M3)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	154.45	495	165	
Exponential (M4)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	145.28	149	0.431	
Power <sup>c</sup> Linear <sup>d</sup>	0.0197	148.72	447	275	
Polynomial 2 <sup>°e</sup>	0.0197	148.72	447	275	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.00849, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.116); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>c</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>d</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>e</sup>The Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Linear model.

**Table D-14. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased segmented neutrophils in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) (Korsak et al., 2000a)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
<b>Exponential (M2)</b> <b>Exponential (M3)<sup>b</sup></b>	<b>0.716</b>	<b>189.11</b>	<b>916</b>	<b>535</b>	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Exponential M2 model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M4)	0.448	191.01	815	262	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	192.49	548	138	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	192.49	564	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear	0.671	189.23	979	633	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = 0.269), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 128, 523, and 1,269 were -0.24, 0.57, -0.5, and 0.18, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

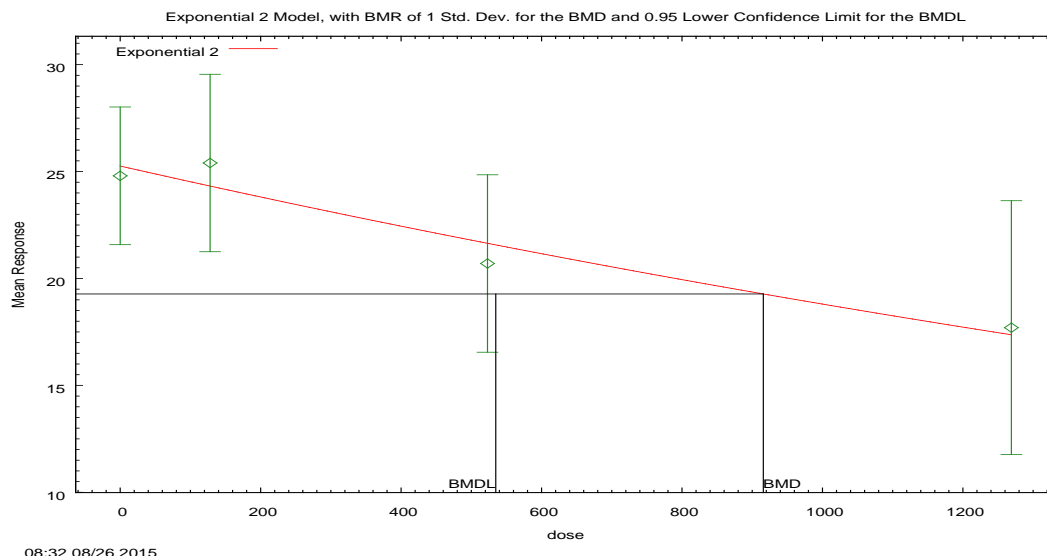
<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



BMR = 1 std. dev. change from control mean; dose shown in  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,3-TMB.

**Figure D-4. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased segmented neutrophils in male Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Exponential M2 model with constant variance (Korsak et al., 2000a).**

**Exponential Model** (Version: 1.10; Date: 01/12/2015)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = a * \exp(\text{sign} * b * \text{dose})$

A constant variance model is fit

#### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 1.0000 Estimated SD from control

BMD = 915.77

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 534.809

#### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
Inalpha	3.57763	3.56089
rho	N/A	0
a	25.2579	19.0843
b	0.000295164	0.00028845
c	N/A	0
d	N/A	1

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	10	24.8	25.26	4.5	5.98	-0.242
128	10	25.4	24.32	5.8	5.98	0.5701
523	10	20.7	21.64	5.8	5.98	-0.4994
1,269	10	17.7	17.37	8.3	5.98	0.176

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-91.2178	5	192.4356
A2	-89.25328	8	194.5066
A3	-91.2178	5	192.4356
R	-96.16301	2	196.326
2	-91.55261	3	189.1052

**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	<i>p</i> -value
Test 1	13.82	6	0.03172
Test 2	3.929	3	0.2692
Test 3	3.929	3	0.2692
Test 4	0.6696	2	0.7155

**Table D-15. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased segmented neutrophils in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) (Korsak et al., 2000a)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.640	177.65	517	335	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Hill model was selected, based on lowest BMDL (BMDLS differed by >3-fold)
Exponential (M4) Exponential (M5) <sup>c</sup>	0.521	179.17	365	134	
<b>Hill</b>	<b>0.569</b>	<b>179.08</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>99.2</b>	
Polynomial 3 <sup>od</sup>	0.453	178.34	646	465	
Polynomial 2 <sup>oe</sup> Linear <sup>f</sup>	0.453	178.34	646	465	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = 0.0925), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 128, 523, and 1,269 were 0.21, -0.41, 0.31, and -0.11, respectively.

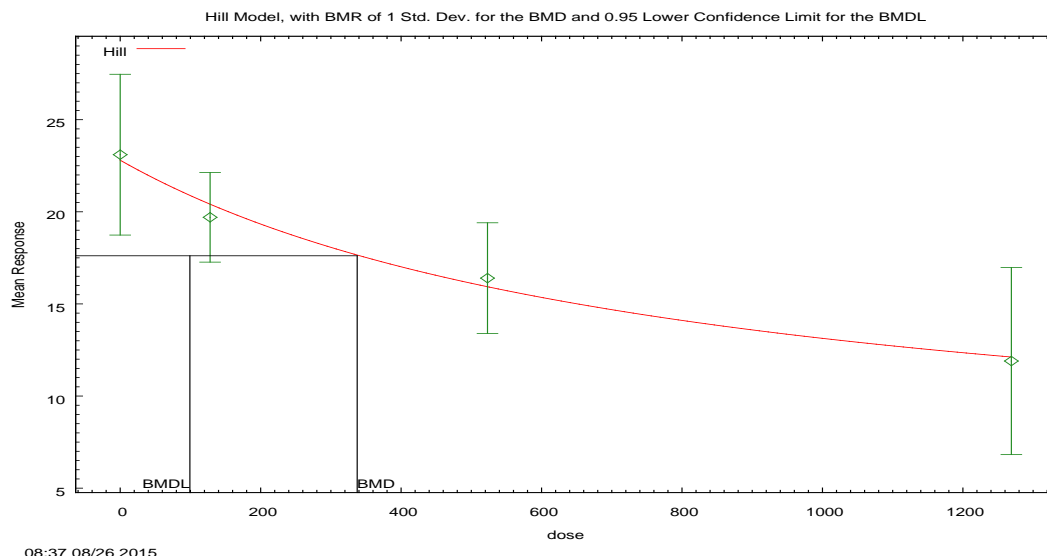
<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Exponential (M5) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M4) model.

<sup>d</sup>The Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB.

**Figure D-5. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased segmented neutrophils in female Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Hill model with constant variance (Korsak et al., 2000a).**

**Hill Model** (Version: 2.17; Date: 01/28/2013)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{intercept} + v \cdot \text{dose}^n / (k^n + \text{dose}^n)$

A constant variance model is fit

### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 1 Estimated SD from the control mean

BMD = 337.444

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 99.2111

### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
alpha	26.4982	29.205
rho	N/A	0
intercept	22.76	23.1
v	-17.5026	-11.2
n	1	1.05772
k	809.904	391.333

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	10	23.1	22.8	6.1	5.15	0.209
128	10	19.7	20.4	3.4	5.15	-0.412
523	10	16.4	15.9	4.2	5.15	0.312
1,269	10	11.9	12.1	7.1	5.15	-0.108

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-85.379588	5	180.759176
A2	-82.165225	8	180.33045
A3	-85.379588	5	180.759176
Fitted	-85.541569	4	179.083138
R	-95.409822	2	194.819645

**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	26.4892	6	0.0001804
Test 2	6.42873	3	0.09252
Test 3	6.42873	3	0.09252
Test 4	0.323961	1	0.5692



**Table D-16. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased reticulocytes in female Wistar rats exposed to 1,2,3-TMB by inhalation for 3 months; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Korsak et al., 2000a](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.273	89.084	1,112	807	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M4)	0.140	90.670	900	308	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	91.370	540	141	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	91.370	554	Error <sup>d</sup>	
<b>Power<sup>e</sup></b> <b>Polynomial 3<sup>of</sup></b> <b>Polynomial 2<sup>g</sup></b> <b>Linear</b>	<b>0.311</b>	<b>88.829</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>653</b>	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = 0.522), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 128, 523, and 1,269 were 0.56, -1.14, 0.79, and -0.21, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

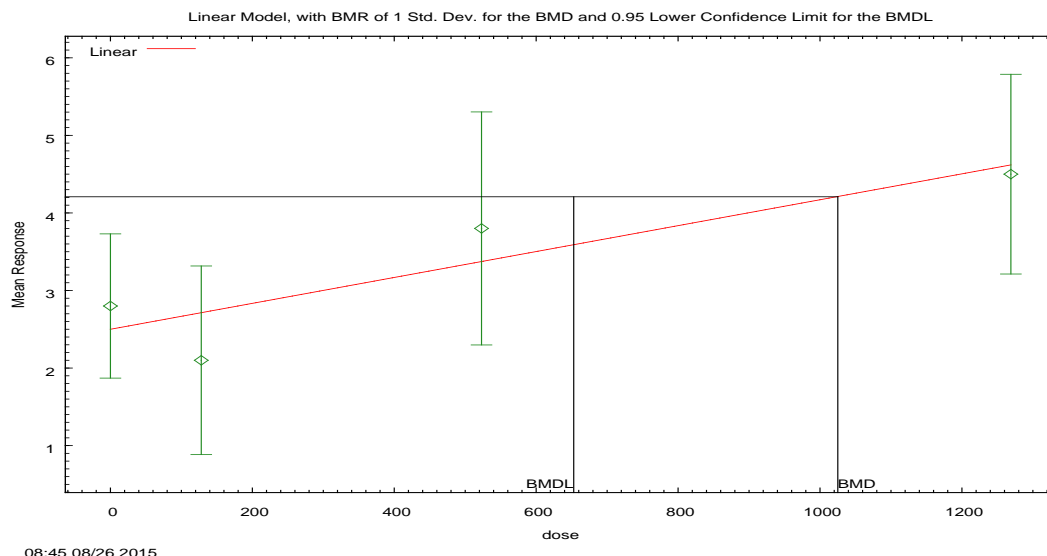
<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m<sup>3</sup> 1,2,3-TMB.

**Figure D-6. Plot of mean response by dose for increased reticulocytes in female Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Korsak et al., 2000a).**

#### Polynomial Model (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose}$

A constant variance model is fit

#### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 1 Estimated SD from the control mean

BMD = 1025.1

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 652.898

#### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
alpha	2.91747	3.0575
rho	N/A	0
beta_0	2.50021	2.50021
beta_1	0.00166623	0.00166623

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	10	2.8	2.5	1.3	1.71	0.555
128	10	2.1	2.71	1.7	1.71	-1.14
523	10	3.8	3.37	2.1	1.71	0.793
1,269	10	4.5	4.61	1.8	1.71	-0.212

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-40.244741	5	90.489483
A2	-39.119955	8	94.23991
A3	-40.244741	5	90.489483
Fitted	-41.414322	3	88.828645
R	-45.600613	2	95.201226

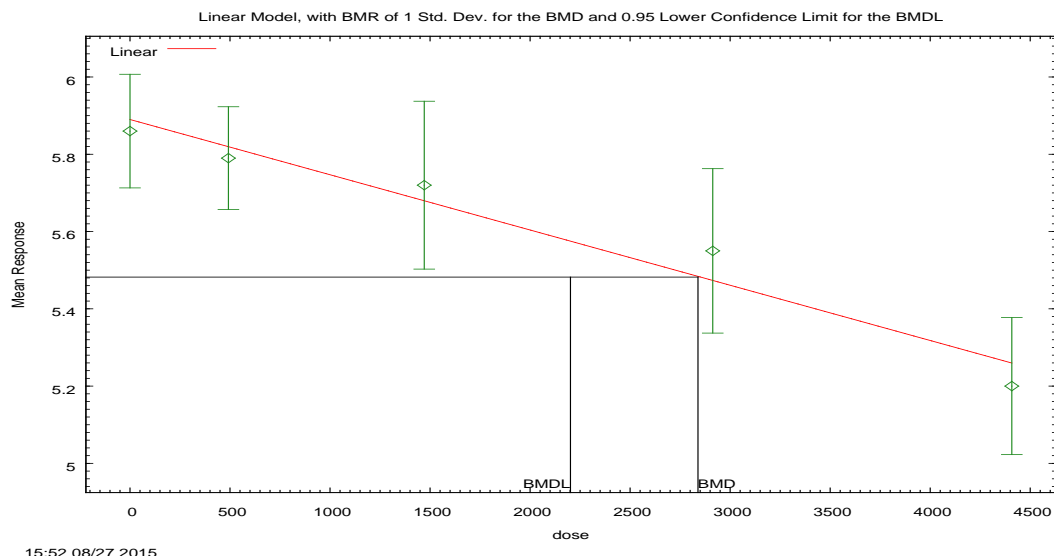
**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	12.9613	6	0.04365
Test 2	2.24957	3	0.5223
Test 3	2.24957	3	0.5223
Test 4	2.33916	2	0.3105

**Table D-17. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD or 5% change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

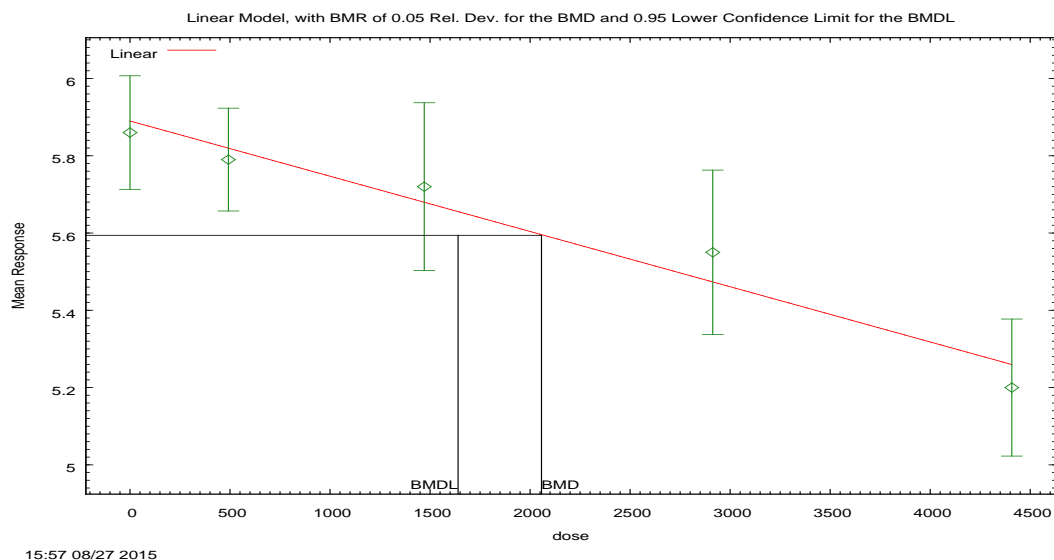
Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
BMR = 1 SD change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.571	−84.273	2,803	2,140	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3)	0.833	−83.913	3,440	2,349	
Exponential (M4)	0.571	−84.273	2,803	2,052	
Exponential (M5)	0.546	−81.913	3,440	2,349	
Hill	0.559	−81.936	3,441	2,367	
Power	0.843	−83.937	3,441	2,368	
Polynomial 3°	0.952	−84.180	3,444	2,408	
Polynomial 2°	0.883	−84.029	3,399	2,383	
Linear	0.622	−84.509	2,839	2,202	
BMR = 5% change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.571	−84.273	2,009	1,577	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3)	0.833	−83.913	2,861	1,716	
Exponential (M4)	0.571	−84.273	2,009	1,428	
Exponential (M5)	0.546	−81.913	2,861	1,716	
Hill	0.559	−81.936	2,858	1,750	
Power	0.843	−83.937	2,857	1,751	
Polynomial 3°	0.952	−84.180	2,841	1,777	
Polynomial 2°	0.883	−84.029	2,799	1,761	
Linear	0.622	−84.509	2,057	1,640	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.101), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 492, 1,471, 2,913, and 4,408 were –0.34, –0.32, 0.49, 0.91, and –0.69, respectively.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-7. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**



BMR = 5% change from control mean; dose shown in  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-8. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

### Polynomial Model (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose}$

A constant variance model is fit

### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 5% Relative deviation

BMD = 2057.05

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 1640.07

### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
alpha	0.165139	0.170101
rho	N/A	0
beta_0	5.88846	5.88821
beta_1	-0.000143129	-0.000142292

### Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	23	5.86	5.89	0.34	0.41	-0.336
492	22	5.79	5.82	0.3	0.41	-0.324
1,471	22	5.72	5.68	0.49	0.41	0.486
2,913	22	5.55	5.47	0.48	0.41	0.906
4,408	24	5.2	5.26	0.42	0.41	-0.694

### Likelihoods of Interest

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	46.139026	6	-80.278052
A2	50.018128	10	-80.036256
A3	46.139026	6	-80.278052
Fitted	45.254542	3	-84.509084
R	28.974008	2	-53.948016

### Tests of Interest

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	42.0882	8	<0.0001
Test 2	7.7582	4	0.1008
Test 3	7.7582	4	0.1008
Test 4	1.76897	3	0.6217

**Table D-18. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.693	–66.941	3,397	2,560	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-19).
Exponential (M4)	0.698	–65.678	2,605	1,341	
Exponential (M5)	0.397	–63.679	2,603	1,341	
Hill	0.409	–63.716	2,572	1,275	
Power <sup>c</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>od</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>oe</sup> Linear	0.650	–66.753	3,513	2,695	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.00237, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.00237); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-19. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.521	–73.291	2,523	1,779	No model selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.1. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-20)
Exponential (M4)	0.430	–71.859	2,042	1,125	
Exponential (M5)	0.388	–70.799	2,045	1,238	
Hill	0.458	–70.996	1,984	1,235	
Power <sup>c</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>od</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>oe</sup> Linear	0.479	–73.067	2,636	1,890	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.00237, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0603); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2° model. For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 2° model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



**Table D-20. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.557	–68.864	2,536	1,720	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-21).
Exponential (M4)	0.395	–67.312	2,232	971	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	–66.037	1,961	530	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	–66.037	2,182	551	
Power <sup>d</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>°e</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°f</sup> Linear	0.539	–68.798	2,563	1,768	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.00872, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.00872); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-21. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in male Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.454	–70.868	2,049	1,327	No model was selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, this endpoint cannot be modeled in BMDS and the NOAEL/LOAEL approach is recommended.
Exponential (M3)	0.272	–69.242	2,226	1,364	
Exponential (M4)	0.454	–70.868	2,049	1,130	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	–68.255	1,549	1,204	
Hill	N/A <sup>b</sup>	–68.255	1,568	1,156	
Power	0.266	–69.213	2,236	1,390	
Polynomial 3 <sup>°c</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°</sup>	0.233	–69.024	2,218	1,372	
Linear	0.462	–70.905	2,067	1,360	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.00872, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0269); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

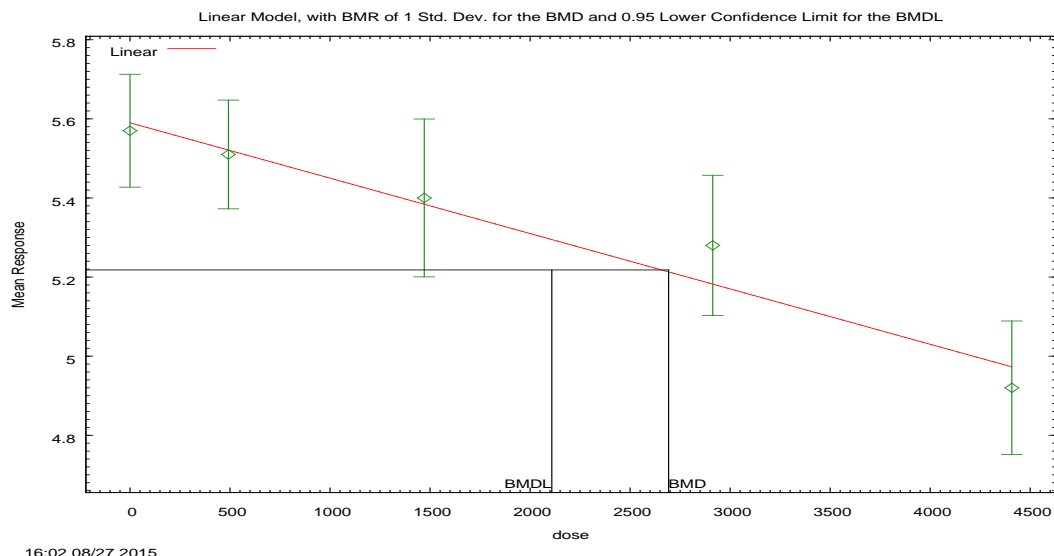
<sup>b</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>c</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

**Table D-22. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD or 5% change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

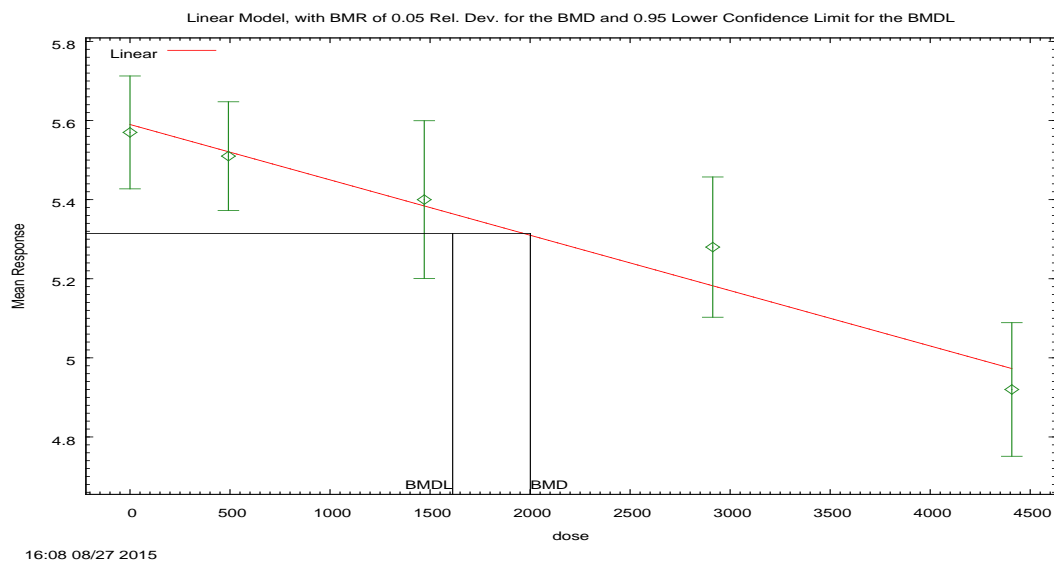
Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
BMR = 1 SD change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.506	−101.65	2,651	2,045	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3)	0.654	−101.14	3,313	2,212	
Exponential (M4)	0.506	−101.65	2,651	1,948	
Exponential (M5)	0.357	−99.136	3,313	2,212	
Hill	0.370	−99.180	3,312	2,241	
Power	0.669	−101.18	3,312	2,242	
Polynomial 3°	0.832	−101.62	3,322	2,307	
Polynomial 2°	0.725	−101.34	3,259	2,264	
Linear	0.555	−101.90	2,692	2,109	
BMR = 5% change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.506	−101.65	1,951	1,549	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Linear model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3)	0.654	−101.14	2,779	1,663	
Exponential (M4)	0.506	−101.65	1,951	1,398	
Exponential (M5)	0.357	−99.136	2,779	1,663	
Hill	0.370	−99.180	2,774	1,702	
Power	0.669	−101.18	2,773	1,704	
Polynomial 3°	0.832	−101.62	2,765	1,747	
Polynomial 2°	0.725	−101.34	2,703	1,719	
Linear	0.555	−101.90	2,001	1,613	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.394), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 492, 1,471, 2,913, and 4,408 were –0.31, –0.19, 0.14, 1.16, and –0.76, respectively.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m³ 1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-9. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**



BMR = 5% change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m³ 1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-10. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups, with fitted curve for Linear model with constant variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**

**Polynomial Model** (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose}$

A constant variance model is fit

**Benchmark Dose Computation**

BMR = 5% Relative deviation

BMD = 2001.36

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 1612.89

**Parameter Estimates**

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
alpha	0.141584	0.14543
rho	N/A	0
beta_0	5.59423	5.59388
beta_1	-0.000139761	-0.000138886

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	23	5.57	5.59	0.33	0.38	-0.309
492	22	5.51	5.53	0.31	0.38	-0.193
1,471	22	5.4	5.39	0.45	0.38	0.142
2,913	22	5.28	5.19	0.4	0.38	1.16
4,408	24	4.92	4.98	0.4	0.38	-0.757

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	54.992554	6	-97.985109
A2	57.03888	10	-94.07776
A3	54.992554	6	-97.985109
Fitted	53.949538	3	-101.899075
R	36.10487	2	-68.20974

**Tests of Interest**

Test	-2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	p-value
Test 1	41.868	8	<0.0001
Test 2	4.09265	4	0.3936
Test 3	4.09265	4	0.3936
Test 4	2.08603	3	0.5547

**Table D-23. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.911	–61.962	3,582	2,669	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> (U.S. EPA, 2012), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-24).
Exponential (M4) <sup>c</sup>	0.766	–59.962	3,573	1,916	
Exponential (M5) <sup>d</sup>	0.766	–59.962	3,573	1,916	
Hill	0.766	–59.963	3,570	1,866	
Power <sup>e</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear	0.909	–61.950	3,677	2,794	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMDS Test 3 p-value = <0.0001); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>The Exponential (M4) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M5) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>d</sup>The Exponential (M5) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M4) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-24. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.0193	–67.537	2,693	1,828	No model selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.1. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-25)
Exponential (M4)	0.0510	–69.499	1,482	798	
Exponential (M5)	0.533	–73.064	1,469	1,070	
Hill	0.782	–75.064	1,469	1,023	
Power	0.0155	–67.061	2,841	1,970	
Polynomial 3 <sup>°c</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°d</sup> Linear	0.0148	–67.061	2,841	1,970	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMD Test 3 p-value = 0.0130); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-25. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.769	–50.212	3,703	2,222	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-26).
Exponential (M4)	0.565	–48.406	4,626	1,518	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	–46.738	Error <sup>d</sup>	0	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	–46.738	Error <sup>d</sup>	Error <sup>d</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear	0.759	–50.187	3,688	2,258	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMD Test 3 p-value = <0.0001); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



**Table D-26. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased fetal weight in female Sprague-Dawley rat pups exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.310	–68.515	2,083	1,198	No model was selected as Test 3 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, this endpoint cannot be modeled in BMDS and the NOAEL/LOAEL approach is recommended.
Exponential (M3)	0.159	–66.872	2,156	1,237	
Exponential (M4)	0.310	–68.515	2,083	1,104	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	–68.570	1,527	1,210	
Hill	N/A <sup>b</sup>	–68.570	1,555	Error <sup>c</sup>	
Power	0.153	–66.809	2,171	1,255	
Polynomial 3 <sup>°d</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°</sup>	0.0181	–66.546	2,122	1,227	
Linear	0.0608	–68.532	2,093	1,226	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = <0.0001, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0609); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>c</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

**Table D-27. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD or 10% change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
BMR = 1 SD change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.221	844.93	3,204	2,312	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-28).
Exponential (M3)	0.613	843.50	3,839	2,967	
Exponential (M4)	0.221	844.93	3,204	2,299	
Exponential (M5)	0.322	845.50	3,839	2,967	
Hill	0.324	845.49	3,850	2,943	
Power	0.615	843.49	3,851	2,940	
Polynomial 3°	0.664	843.34	3,813	2,924	
Polynomial 2°	0.771	841.65	3,734	3,266	
Linear	0.292	844.25	3,231	2,444	
BMR = 10% change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.221	844.93	1,683	1,273	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-28).
Exponential (M3)	0.613	843.50	2,994	1,791	
Exponential (M4)	0.221	844.93	1,683	1,185	
Exponential (M5)	0.322	845.50	2,994	1,791	
Hill	0.324	845.49	2,991	1,736	
Power	0.615	843.49	2,990	1,729	
Polynomial 3°	0.664	843.34	2,906	1,714	
Polynomial 2°	0.771	841.65	2,753	2,451	
Linear	0.292	844.25	1,781	1,406	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.0215, BMDS Test 3 p-value = 0.0215); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

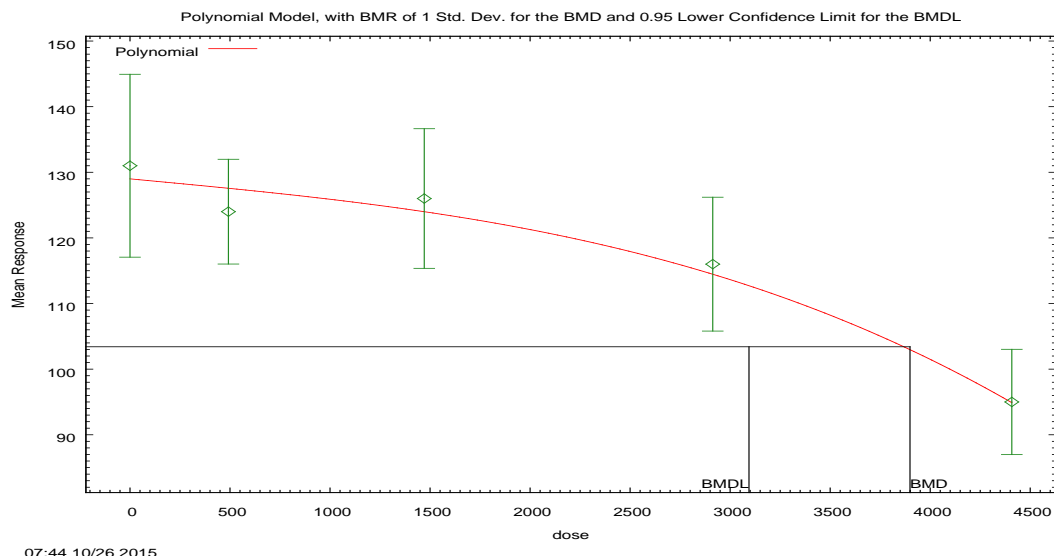
**Table D-28. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,2,4-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD or 10% change from control mean (modeled variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
BMR = 1 SD change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.0996	843.22	3,458	2,516	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Polynomial 3 model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3) Exponential (M5) <sup>b</sup>	0.218	842.00	3,935	3,116	
Exponential (M4)	0.0996	843.22	3,458	2,515	
Hill	0.0827	843.97	3,941	Error <sup>c</sup>	
Power	0.222	841.97	3,941	3,078	
Polynomial 3°	0.274	841.55	3,899	3,094	
Polynomial 2°	0.219	842.00	3,851	3,025	
Linear	0.144	842.38	3,474	2,649	
BMR = 10% change from control mean					
Exponential (M2)	0.0996	843.22	1,581	1,232	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Polynomial 3 model was selected, based on lowest AIC (BMDLS differed by <3-fold)
Exponential (M3) Exponential (M5) <sup>b</sup>	0.218	842.00	2,910	1,664	
Exponential (M4)	0.0996	843.22	1,581	1,152	
Hill	0.0827	843.97	2,891	1,799	
Power	0.222	841.97	2,889	1,573	
Polynomial 3°	0.274	841.55	2,734	1,631	
Polynomial 2°	0.219	842.00	2,655	1,567	
Linear	0.144	842.38	1,694	1,380	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 *p*-value = 0.0215), selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 492, 1,471, 2,913, and 4,408 were 0.29, −0.73, 0.29, 0.22, and −0.09, respectively.

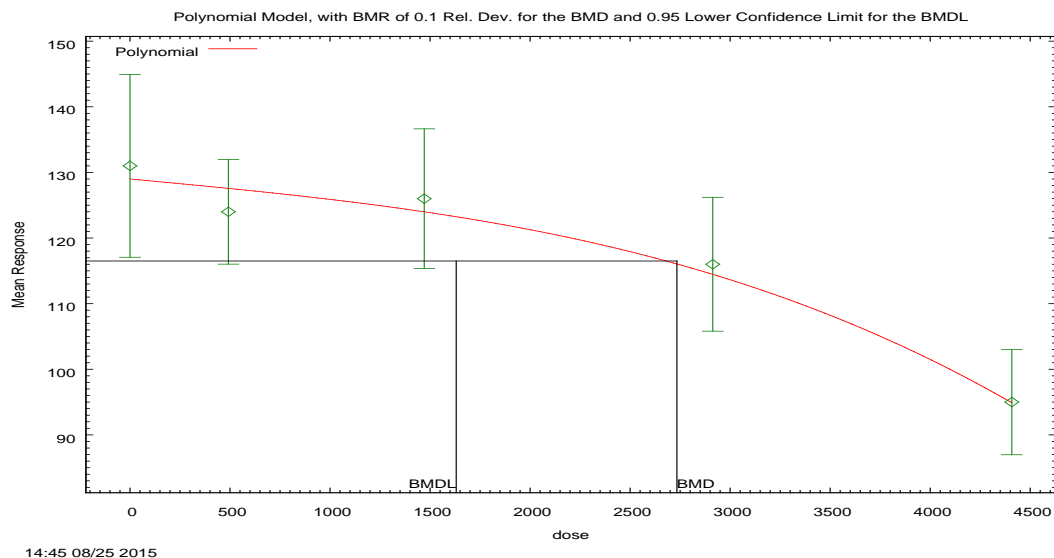
<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M5) model, the estimate of *c* was 0 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M3) model.

<sup>c</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.



BMR = 1 SD change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m³ 1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-11. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats, with fitted curve for Polynomial 3 model with modeled variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**



BMR = 10% change from control mean; dose shown in mg/m³ 1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-12. Plot of mean response by dose for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats, with fitted curve for Polynomial 3 model with modeled variance (Saillenfait et al., 2005).**

**Polynomial Model** (Version: 2.20; Date: 10/22/2014)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = \text{beta}_0 + \text{beta}_1 \cdot \text{dose} + \text{beta}_2 \cdot \text{dose}^2 + \dots$

A modeled variance is fit

**Benchmark Dose Computation**

BMR = 1 Estimated SD from the control mean

BMD = 3898.99

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 3094.13

**Parameter Estimates**

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
lalpha	-4.72235	6.36522
rho	2.31145	0
beta_0	129.446	129.55
beta_1	-0.00285669	-0.00648229
beta_2	$-1.02802 \times 10^{-17}$	0
beta_3	-0.000000000251312	-0.000000000702052

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	24	131	129	33	26	0.292
492	22	124	128	18	25.7	-0.732
1,471	22	126	124	24	24.9	0.293
2,913	22	116	115	23	22.7	0.225
4,408	24	95	95.3	19	18.3	-0.0881

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	-417.261306	6	846.522613
A2	-411.512361	10	843.024723
A3	-414.479759	7	842.959518
Fitted	-415.773389	5	841.546778
R	-432.234922	2	868.469844

**Tests of Interest**

Test	$-2 \cdot \log(\text{likelihood ratio})$	Test df	p-value
Test 1	41.4451	8	<0.0001
Test 2	11.4979	4	0.0215
Test 3	5.9348	3	0.1148
Test 4	2.58726	2	0.2743

**Table D-29. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.276	705.72	1,414	1,142	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-30).
Exponential (M3)	0.153	707.61	1,520	1,147	
Exponential (M4)	0.149	707.66	1,349	930	
Exponential (M5)	0.281	707.01	1,634	1,126	
Hill	0.341	706.76	1,611	1,131	
Power <sup>b</sup> Polynomial 3 <sup>°c</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°d</sup> Linear	0.128	707.53	1,825	1,537	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value =  $2.83 \times 10^{-4}$ , BMDS Test 3 p-value =  $2.83 \times 10^{-4}$ ); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>For the Power model, the power parameter estimate was 1. The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

**Table D-30. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) (Saillenfait et al., 2005)**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	<i>p</i> -value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.0503	697.91	1,058	816	No model selected as Test 3 <i>p</i> -value was <0.1. The data were remodeled after dropping the high dose (see Table D-31)
Exponential (M3)	0.0234	699.62	1,180	827	
Exponential (M4)	0.0209	699.84	1,011	690	
Exponential (M5)	0.0675	697.45	1,266	891	
Hill	0.114	696.61	1,248	Error <sup>b</sup>	
Power Polynomial 3 <sup>°c</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°</sup>	0.0200	699.94	1,359	1,075	
Linear	0.0200	699.94	1,359	Error <sup>b</sup>	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 *p*-value =  $2.83 \times 10^{-4}$ , BMDS Test 3 *p*-value = 0.0575); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>c</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

**Table D-31. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.120	564.09	1,187	910	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-32).
Exponential (M3)	0.177	563.66	1,571	1,063	
Exponential (M4)	0.120	564.09	1,187	881	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	564.12	1,471	1,132	
Hill	N/A <sup>b</sup>	564.12	1,471	1,118	
Power	0.149	563.92	1,596	1,088	
Polynomial 3 <sup>°c</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°</sup>	0.112	564.36	1,595	1,064	
Linear	0.188	563.18	1,288	1,028	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMDs Test 2 p-value = 0.00105, BMDs Test 3 p-value = 0.00105); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>c</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.



**Table D-32. Summary of BMD modeling results for decreased dam weight gain in female Sprague-Dawley rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by inhalation on GDs 6–20; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance, high dose dropped) ([Saillenfait et al., 2005](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2)	0.0128	559.00	978	717	Although Test 3 <i>p</i> -value was approximately 0.10, indicating appropriate fit of the variance model, no model was selected as Test 4 <i>p</i> -value was <0.10. Therefore, this endpoint cannot be modeled in BMDS and the NOAEL/LOAEL approach is recommended.
Exponential (M3)	0.0127	558.50	1,275	853	
Exponential (M4)	0.0128	559.00	978	698	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>b</sup>	555.51	1,410	966	
Hill	0.269	553.51	1,397	Error <sup>c</sup>	
Power	0.00946	559.02	1,297	858	
Polynomial 3 <sup>°d</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>°</sup>	0.00618	559.78	1,256	820	
Linear	0.0181	558.31	1,053	798	

<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 *p*-value = 0.00105, BMDS Test 3 *p*-value = 0.0996); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>c</sup>BMD or BMDL computation failed for this model.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>°</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>°</sup> model.

**Table D-33. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased monocytes in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by gavage for 13 weeks; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (constant variance) ([Adenuga et al., 2014](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) <sup>b</sup>	0.00910	-106.57	1,600	640	No model selected as Test 2 p-value was <0.10. Therefore, as suggested in the <i>Benchmark Dose Technical Guidance</i> ( <a href="#">U.S. EPA, 2012</a> ), the data were remodeled using a non-homogenous variance model (see Table D-32).
Exponential (M3) <sup>c</sup>	0.00910	-106.57	1,600	640	
Exponential (M4)	0.0917	-111.12	99.3	0.410	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>d</sup>	-109.20	71.7	0.329	
Hill	N/A <sup>d</sup>	-109.20	58.0	6.86 × 10 <sup>-7</sup>	
Power <sup>e</sup>	0.00969	-106.69	1,645	582	
Polynomial 3 <sup>of</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>og</sup> Linear <sup>h</sup>	0.00969	-106.69	1,645	582	

<sup>a</sup>Constant variance case presented (BMD Test 2 p-value = 0.0402, BMD Test 3 p-value = 0.0402); no model was selected as a best-fitting model.

<sup>b</sup>The Exponential (M2) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M3) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>c</sup>The Exponential (M3) model may appear equivalent to the Exponential (M2) model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

<sup>d</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>e</sup>The Power model may appear equivalent to the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table. This also applies to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. This also applies to the Linear model.

<sup>f</sup>For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model. For the Polynomial 3<sup>o</sup> model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>g</sup>For the Polynomial 2<sup>o</sup> model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>h</sup>The Linear model may appear equivalent to the Power model; however, differences exist in digits not displayed in the table.

**Table D-34. Summary of BMD modeling results for increased monocytes in male Wistar rats exposed to 1,3,5-TMB by gavage for 13 weeks; BMR = 1 SD change from control mean (modeled variance) ([Adenuga et al., 2014](#))**

Model <sup>a</sup>	Goodness of fit		BMD <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	BMDL <sub>1SD</sub> (mg/m <sup>3</sup> )	Basis for model selection
	p-value	AIC			
Exponential (M2) Exponential (M3) <sup>b</sup>	0.00313	-107.32	772	334	Of the models that provided an adequate fit, the Exponential M4 model was selected as the only appropriately fitting model.
<b>Exponential (M4)</b>	<b>0.231</b>	<b>-115.41</b>	<b>52.0</b>	<b>13.9</b>	
Exponential (M5)	N/A <sup>c</sup>	-113.92	56.1	17.3	
Hill	N/A <sup>c</sup>	-113.92	51.8	33.9	
Power	<0.0001	-62.935	60,000	5.87 × 10 <sup>-12</sup>	
Polynomial 3 <sup>od</sup> Polynomial 2 <sup>oe</sup> Linear	0.00553	-108.45	453	161	

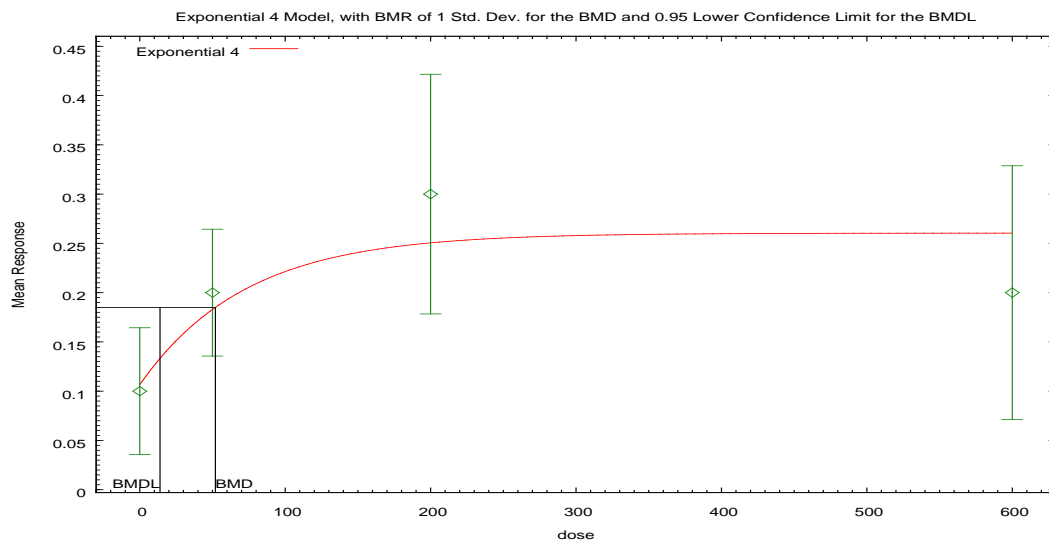
<sup>a</sup>Modeled variance case presented (BMDS Test 2 p-value = 0.0402); selected model in bold; scaled residuals for selected model for doses 0, 50, 200, and 600 were -0.27, 0.44, 0.98, and -1.15, respectively.

<sup>b</sup>For the Exponential (M3) model, the estimate of d was 1 (boundary). The models in this row reduced to the Exponential (M2) model.

<sup>c</sup>No available degrees of freedom to calculate a goodness-of-fit value.

<sup>d</sup>For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 coefficient estimates was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Polynomial 2° model. For the Polynomial 3° model, the b3 and b2 coefficient estimates were 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.

<sup>e</sup>For the Polynomial 2° model, the b2 coefficient estimate was 0 (boundary of parameters space). The models in this row reduced to the Linear model.



BMR = 10% change from control mean; dose shown in  $\text{mg}/\text{m}^3$  1,2,4-TMB.

**Figure D-13. Plot of mean response by dose for increased monocytes in male Wistar rats, with fitted curve for Exponential M4 model with modeled variance (Adenuga et al., 2014).**

**Exponential Model** (Version: 1.10; Date: 01/12/2015)

The form of the response function is:  $Y[\text{dose}] = a * [c - (c-1) * \exp(-b * \text{dose})]$

A modeled variance is fit

### Benchmark Dose Computation

BMR = 1.0000 Estimated SD from control

BMD = 51.9881

BMDL at the 95% confidence level = 13.9214

### Parameter Estimates

Variable	Estimate	Default initial parameter values
Inalpha	-1.3469	-2.24702
rho	1.67291	1.1326
a	0.106615	0.095
b	0.0137132	0.00238203
c	2.44253	3.31579
d	N/A	1

## Supplemental Information—Trimethylbenzenes

**Table of Data and Estimated Values of Interest**

Dose	N	Observed mean	Estimated mean	Observed SD	Estimated SD	Scaled residuals
0	10	0.1	0.11	0.09	0.08	−0.2668
50	10	0.2	0.18	0.09	0.12	0.4381
200	10	0.3	0.25	0.17	0.16	0.977
600	10	0.2	0.26	0.18	0.17	−1.154

**Likelihoods of Interest**

Model	Log(likelihood)	Number of parameters	AIC
A1	60.98264	5	−111.9653
A2	65.13368	8	−114.2674
A3	63.4237	6	−114.8474
R	55.94043	2	−107.8809
4	62.70505	5	−115.4101

**Tests of Interest**

Test	−2*log(likelihood ratio)	Test df	<i>p</i> -value
Test 1	18.39	6	0.005336
Test 2	8.302	3	0.04016
Test 3	3.42	2	0.1809
Test 6a	1.437	1	0.2306

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