

Minutes for the May 13, 2025 Hazard and Dose-Response Specialty Group (HDRSG) meeting

1. A discussion of ALARA for chemicals, specifically formaldehyde, was chosen as the topic for the June webinar. Jakob Menz (BfR) was contacted as a possible speaker on May 12th. He is considering the offer. Other possible speakers include Nga Tran (Exponent) and Peder Wolkoff (NRCWE) if Jakob declines.
2. Speakers on other topics were also proposed:
 - a. Tracy Woodruff – seminar on their paper regarding underestimation of interindividual variability using a factor of 10.
 - b. Knutsen et al. (EFSA CONTAM Panel) – seminar regarding perchlorate in food.
 - c. Naheeda Beugm – seminar on their paper regarding dose-response curves in plants.
3. There are 73 current members in HDRSG and 39 on the list serve. 34 members are not on the list serve. There was a discussion on whether all current members should be added to the list serve or whether they should be asked before being added. A suggestion was made to send an email letting them know they are about to be added to a list serve. The email would explain the list serve is the primary form of communication for the HDRSG, that the emails will remain professional, and to make sure the list serve is not sent to the spam or junk folders.
4. The next list serve email will include:
 - a. June abstract deadline
 - b. Discussion of the student award
 - c. Solicitation of seminar speakers and topics
 - d. Note that it has been a challenge in finding speakers in recent years
5. A suggestion was made to look at university web pages for risk assessment and dose-response research programs. Young investigators or graduate students could be asked to discuss their research. The HDRSG has traditionally focused on “hot topics” for seminars; however, interesting or novel mechanisms for risk assessment would be considered for seminar topics.
6. A student award email was sent to universities in the D.C. area. A few acknowledgements were received that the award email would be forwarded to students; however, it is unknown if anyone has applied. There is a delay between the application and when the Society for Risk Analysis (SRA) provides the award list to the HDRSG. After the applications are received, an extended abstract can be requested. This was identified as one of the challenges with the student award process.

7. A suggestion was made to add a sentence to the award email requesting students contact HDRSG if they are planning to apply so that the HDRSG can read their abstract.
8. Financial opportunities currently include \$500 for a student award. A runner-up prize of \$300 will be added. Registration waivers will be available for both awards. There will be between 0-2 runner-up awards.
9. A small research project fund of \$500-\$2,000 will be added to the financial opportunities. It was suggested to offer the full \$2,000 for the award. SRA leadership will need to be notified and approve the research project fund before it can be offered. SRA leadership has not yet responded to this request.
10. For the research project funding, proposals will be requested from HDRSG members. It was suggested that it could be made available to all SRA members, but the proposal must involve hazard and dose-response. The recipient could give a webinar on their research project when it is complete.
11. Requirements for the proposal (e.g., what it should look like, sections to include) need to be determined. Iris volunteered to send a rough draft of the requirements in 1-1.5 weeks.