



Cross-border Exposure characterisation for Risk Assessment in Chemical Incidents

The CERACI project aims to strengthen the public health risk assessment for the acute phase of chemical incidents by improving exposure assessment. The project will contribute to improving planning, preparedness and response capabilities and enhance transnational cooperation and interoperability of organisations involved in health risk assessment.

The objectives of CERACI are to improve chemical incident exposure assessment by:

- Identifying and describing the organisation of environmental modelling and monitoring for health risk assessment during acute chemical incidents in EU Member States.
- Investigating which Member States have organised collaboration and interoperability on environmental modelling and monitoring for health risk assessment nationally and across national borders.
- Identifying and developing best practices for environmental modelling and monitoring for health risk assessment during acute chemical incidents.
- Determining if harmonisation and collaboration in this field has the potential to improve Member States' capabilities and capacities to respond to acute chemical health threats.

Web-based survey

Building on a literature review, a web-based survey is currently being conducted to identify:

- Exposure assessment capabilities, guidelines, tools and practices for chemical incident response in Member States.
- Examples of organised cooperation between Member States and interoperability on exposure assessment in the case of cross-border incidents.

We are inviting professionals from the 27 EU Member States to complete the survey. Experts from government departments, environment and health protection agencies, emergency services, research institutes and voluntary organisations are invited to participate.

To access the survey, please go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/GXGD5QT>

The survey is open until 30 september 2011.

Workshops with table-top exercises

Information from the survey will be used in the design of table-top exercises. These will be conducted in spring 2012 to verify and test best practices for exposure characterisation in cross-border chemical incidents. Interested professionals from Member States will be invited to contribute to these workshops. Participants will be experts in exposure characterisation and public health risk assessment of chemical incidents.

Project partners

National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM), the Netherlands: Coordinator
Health Protection Agency (HPA), United Kingdom

Nofer Institute of Occupational Medicine (NIOM), Poland

If you have any questions, please contact us at ceraci@rivm.nl

For more information: www.rivm.nl/ceraci



National Institute for Public Health
and the Environment
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport



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