



**WORKSHOP ON
UNDERSTANDING AND
INTERPRETING
BIOMONITORING RESULTS**

March 17, 2011

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Discuss approaches for understanding and interpreting biomonitoring results
- Discuss methods for developing comparison levels in blood or urine
- Consider scientific challenges in interpreting results, including how to address
 - Multiple chemical exposures
 - Sensitive sub-populations
- Provide input to Biomonitoring California

Background

- **Biomonitoring California**
 - Returns individual results to participants upon request
 - Advises individuals on follow-up steps as needed
- **Biomonitoring results will help California evaluate public health efforts to reduce chemical exposures**
- **Program will be interpreting results at the individual and population level**

Some interpretation issues

- Interpreting elevated blood or urine levels of a particular chemical and deciding on follow-up steps
- Providing context for individual results and answering questions about what the results mean
- Explaining biomonitoring results to the general public
- Evaluating chemical exposures at the population level to guide public health actions

Discussion questions

- What approaches should be used to understand and interpret biomonitoring results?
- What information is needed to properly interpret and explain biomonitoring results
 - at the individual level?
 - at the population level?

Discussion questions (cont.)

- Other than measured levels in relevant populations, what types of comparison levels in blood or urine would be useful to provide context for biomonitoring results
 - at the individual level?
 - at the population level?
- What methods could be use to develop these comparison levels?

Discussion questions (cont.)

- How should biomonitoring results of multiple chemicals that act in the same way or produce the same health effect be interpreted
 - at the individual level?
 - at the population level?
- How should sensitive populations be taken into account when interpreting results
 - at the individual level?
 - at the population level?

Introduction of morning speakers

- Dana Boyd Barr, Emory University
- Ruthann Rudel, Silent Spring Institute
- Tina Bahadori, American Chemistry Council