

Introduction to the AOP framework concept and online course

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Outline

Why

- Need for more efficient tools for chemical risk assessment
- Need to better use our existing and future data and knowledge

What

- The Adverse Outcome Pathway framework
- Purpose, definition

How

- Relational “knowledgebase”
- Guidance
- Evaluation
- Training and free course

Issue #1: too many chemicals, current system inadequate

- e.g. tens of thousands of chemicals await assessment
- e.g. 95% clinical failure rate for new drugs in spite of increased spending
- Faster, more relevant approaches needed across sectors



Issue #2: The need to better leverage our existing knowledge

Too much data!

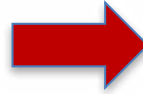
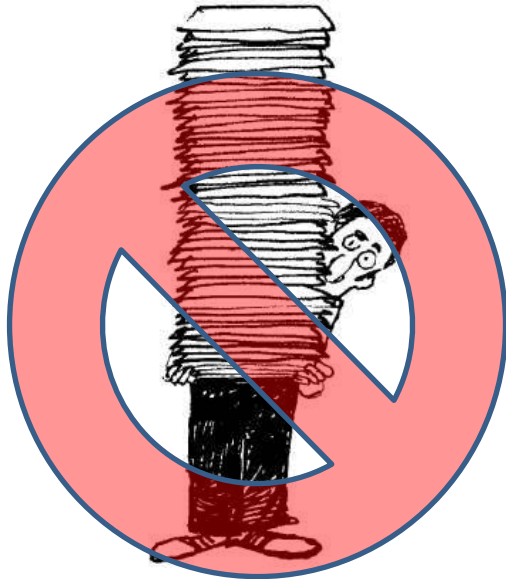
- Decades of research and testing data
- Global scientific output doubles every 9 years

Where is the data?!

- Journal articles, reports, laboratory notebooks, agency archives,
- Institutional and government databases



Better access, better organization leads to better understanding

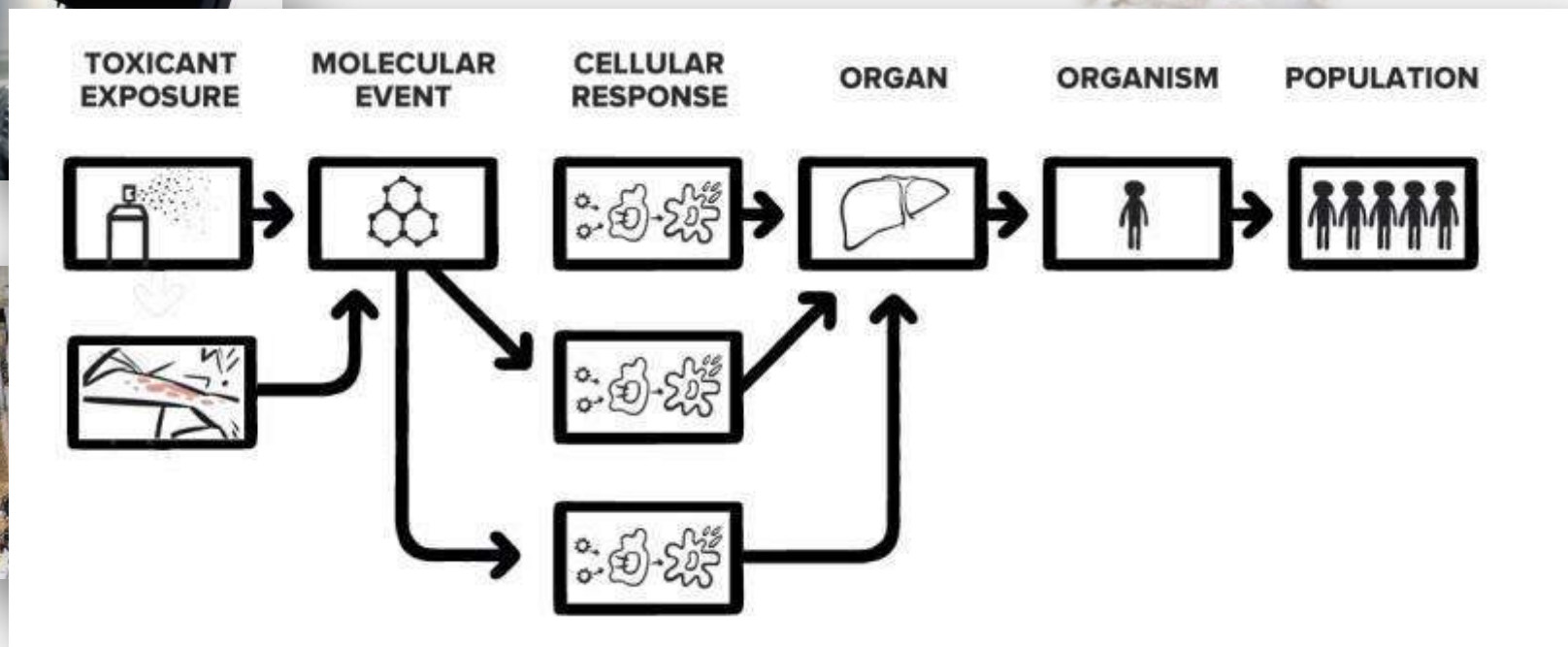


- PDFs
- Fragmented
- Siloed
- Proprietary

- Searchable
- Machine-readable
- Linked
- Facilitating collaboration
- Avoiding duplication

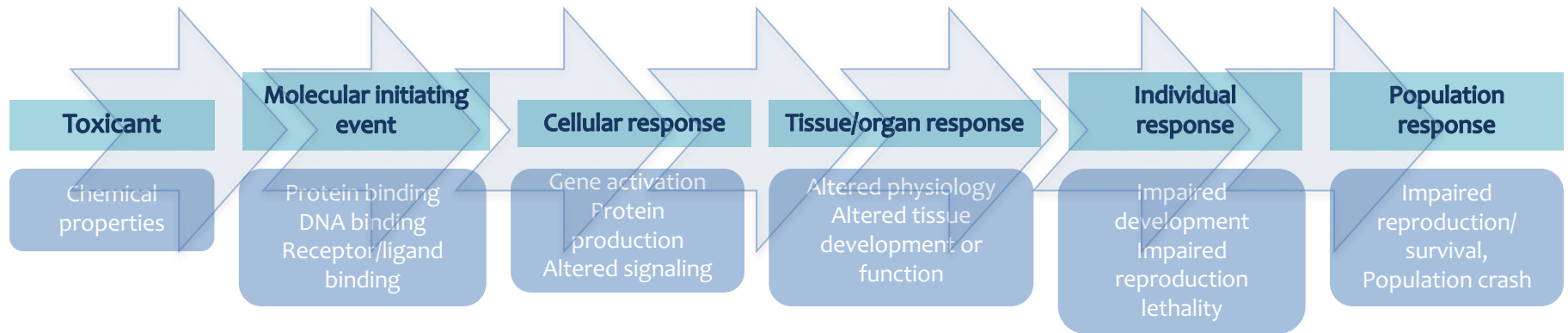
(adapted from D. Villeneuve)

Adverse Outcome Pathway framework: linking molecular initiation to adverse outcomes



- How to use molecular understanding to make better decisions about chemical safety
- Provides a framework for collecting, organizing and evaluating biological information

AOPs: Linking molecular information to adverse outcomes

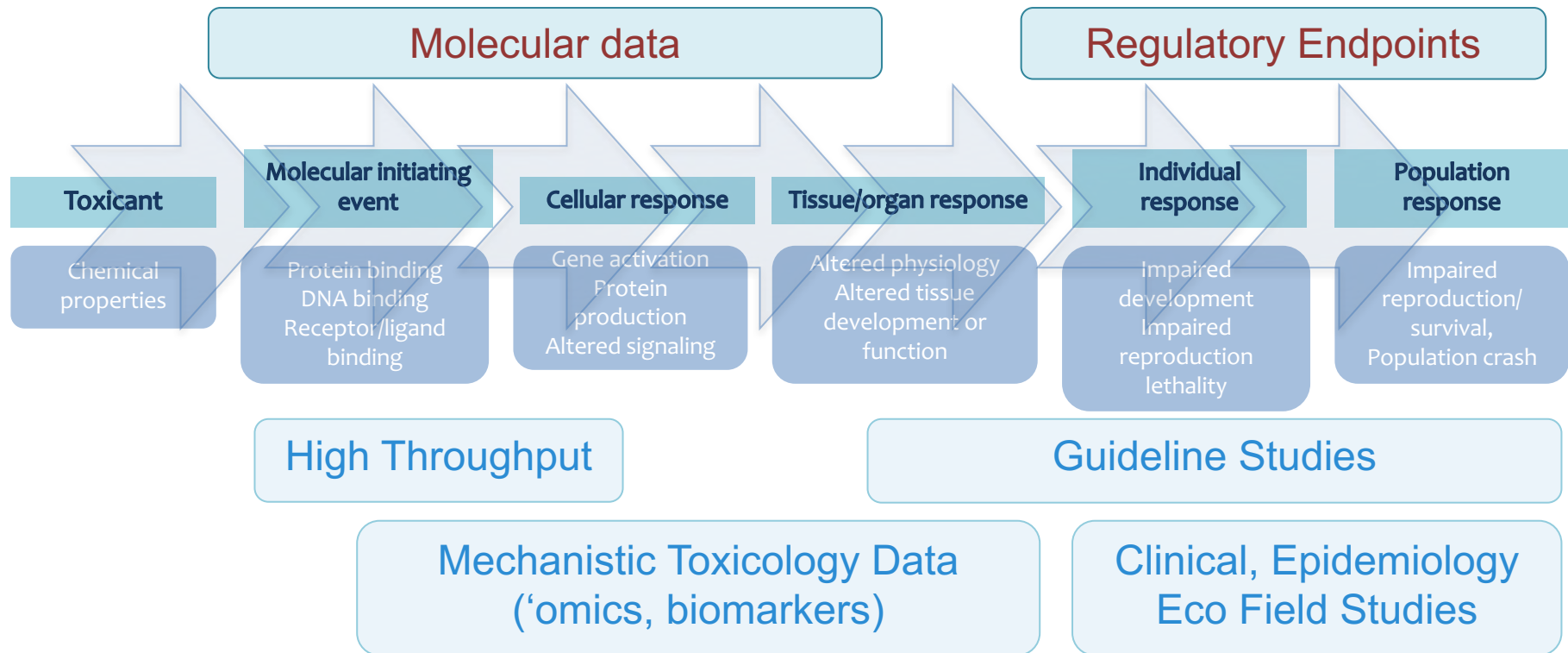


A sequence of events

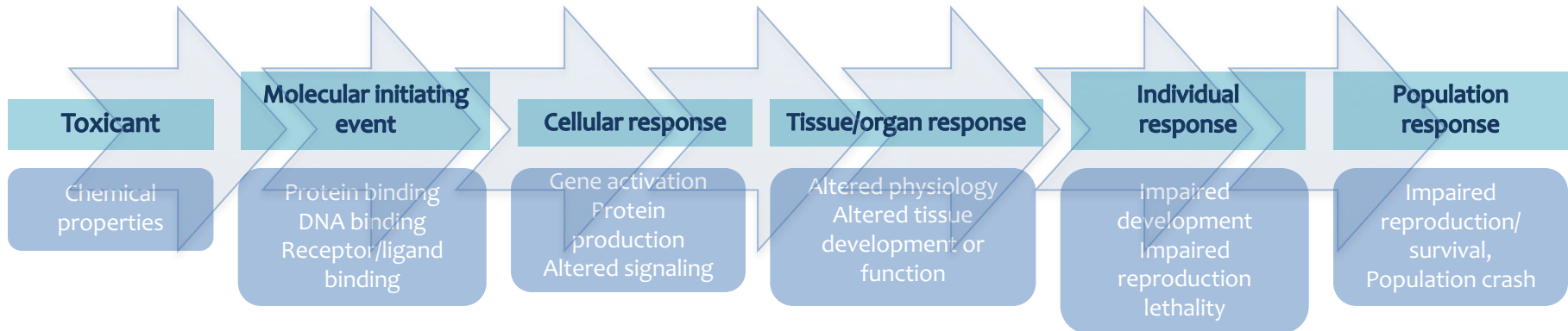
- beginning with initial interactions of a stressor with a biomolecule in a target cell or tissue (**the molecular initiating event**),
- progressing through a dependent series of intermediate events (**key events**)
- culminating with an **adverse outcome***

*if compensatory mechanisms are overwhelmed

AOPs: Provides scaffold for organizing, evaluating and understanding data



Essential elements of an AOP



- **Key Events (KEs) – nodes**

- Change in biological or physiological state
- Measurable and essential for progression

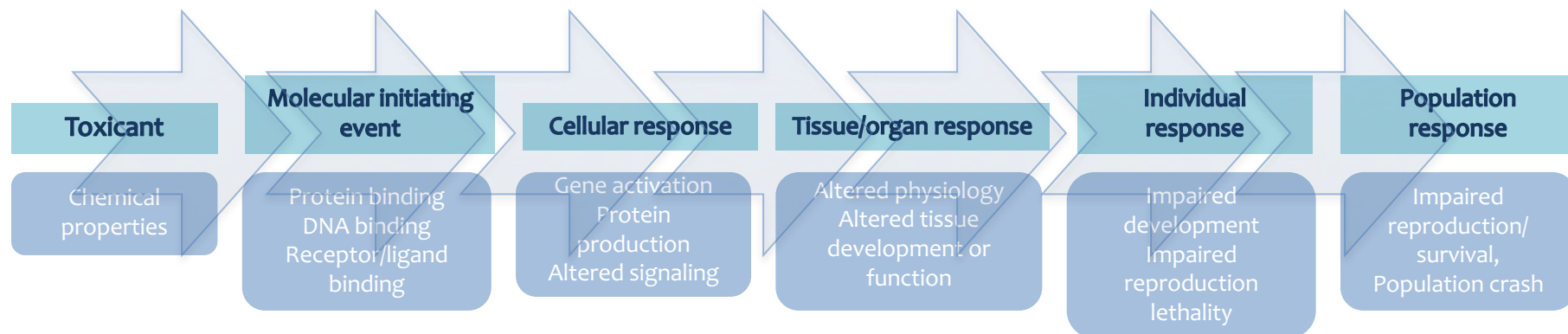
- **Molecular Initiating Event (MIE):** specialized KE that represents the initial point of stressor interaction with the organism

- **Adverse Outcome (AO):** specialized KE of regulatory significance

- **Key Event Relationships (KERs)**

- Connection between two key events
- Critical for assembling evidence in support of the AO
- Facilitates inference or extrapolation

Building an AOP



- **Start anywhere**

- but one AOP = one MIE leading to one AO as a pragmatic unit

- **Gather all existing knowledge**

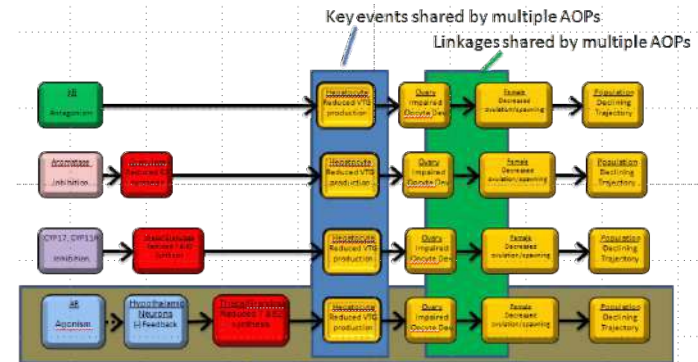
- Not every detail, but critical steps or check-points
- Collaboration is encouraged

- **Evaluate and document the information**

- Refer to extensive OECD guidance

- **Translate and capture information as a pathway in the AOP Wiki**

Fundamental principles of AOP development



AOPs are modular

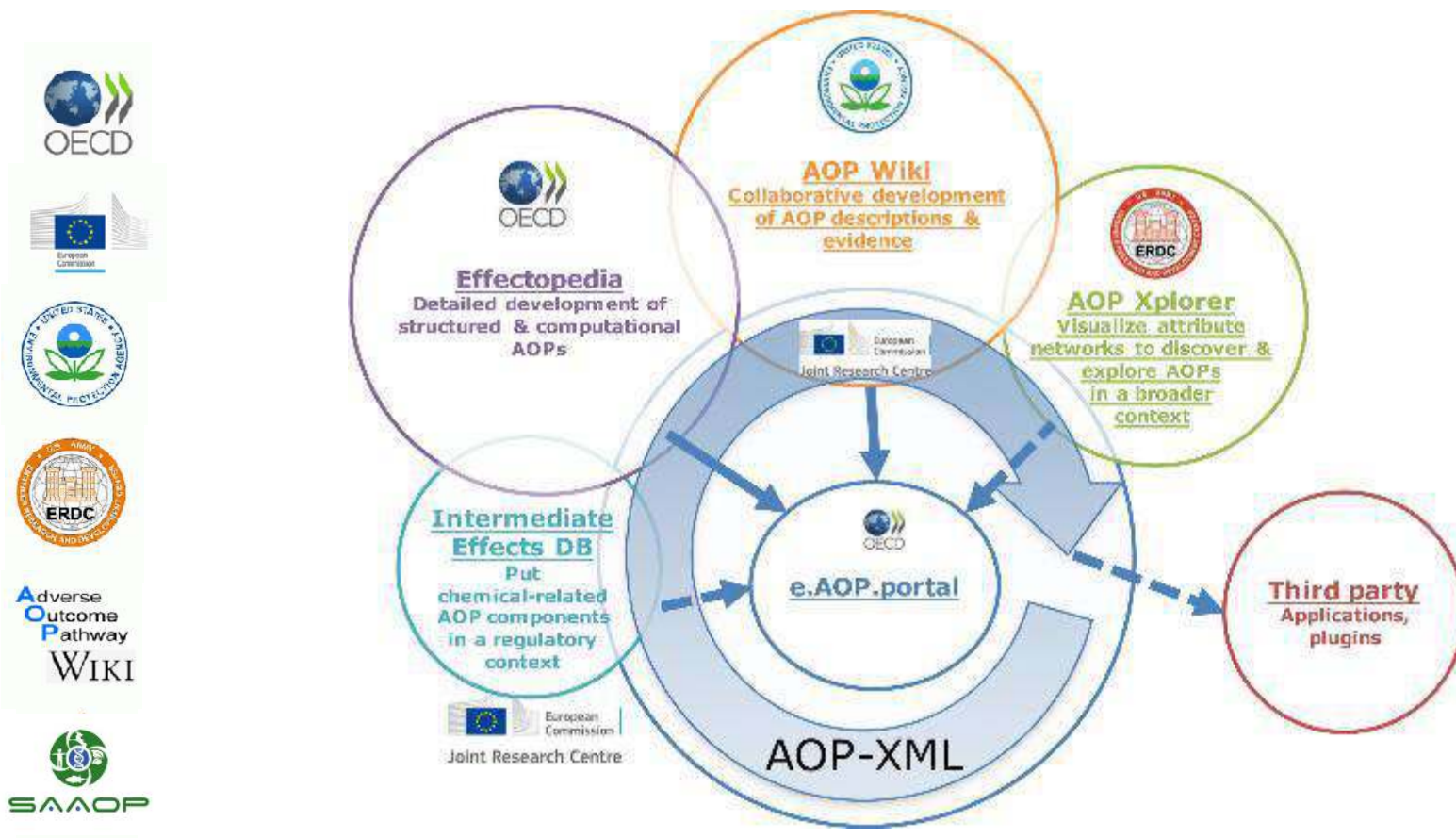
- Key events and relationships can be shared by multiple AOPs

AOPs are living documents

- AOP descriptions can be expected to evolve over time
- As descriptions are updated and expanded – all AOP descriptions they link to update automatically

AOP networks will emerge and are the basis for prediction

AOP Knowledgebase: an international partnership



AOP Wiki: information storage, linkage and evaluation

- Captures and organizes all information and supporting documentation for AOP elements
- Supported by extensive guidance, tutorials and an online course
- Is designed to enable rigorous evaluation and scientific review



Publically accessible since 2014
www.aopwiki.org

AOP WIKI: Home page

[AOPWiki](#)[AOPs](#)[Key Events](#)[KE Relationships](#)[Stressors](#)[sign in](#)[sign up](#)

AOP Welcome

Welcome to the Collaborative Adverse Outcome Pathway Wiki (AOP-Wiki)



This wiki represents a joint effort between the European Commission - DG Joint Research Centre (JRC) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This serves as one component of a larger OECD-sponsored AOP Knowledgebase (AOP-KB) effort and represents the central repository for all AOPs developed as part of the OECD AOP Development Effort by the Extended Advisory Group on Molecular Screening and Toxicogenomics. The other major components of this knowledgebase are Effectopedia, produced by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the AOP Xplorer, produced by the US Army Corps of Engineers - Engineering Research and Development Center, and the Intermediate Effects DB produced by the JRC. All AOPs from the AOP Knowledgebase are available via the eAOPPortal, which is the primary entry point for the AOP-KB.

This wiki is based upon the Chemical Mode of Action wiki developed by the EPA under the auspices of the WHO International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) Mode of Action Steering Group.

Disclaimer

The content of this wiki is the sole responsibility of the individual contributors and does not necessarily represent the views of the authors' organizations nor the organizations responsible for development of the AOP-Wiki or the AOP-KB. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement by any of these organizations.

Contents

1. Announcements
 1. Event Components Coming Soon
2. AOP Welcome
 1. Welcome to the Collaborative Adverse Outcome Pathway Wiki (AOP-Wiki)
 2. Disclaimer
3. Help
 1. Before you start
 2. New Training Course Available
 3. Requesting Access to Create and Edit AOPs
 4. Frequently Asked Questions
4. Wiki 2.0 Upgrade
 1. User Account Migration
 2. Confirm AOP Information Following Migration
 3. Notable Changes for Authors
 4. Wiki 2.1 Release
 5. Firefox Users Redirecting to Old Wiki

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AOP Wiki 2.2 released Jan 28, 2018

AOP WIKI: search “liver fibrosis”

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AOP Title Search Results

Id	Title ▲	Point of Contact	Author Status	SAAOP Status	MIE	AO	OECD Status	OECD Project
38	Protein Alkylation leading to Liver Fibrosis	Brigitte Landesmann	Open for citation & comment	Included in OECD Work Plan	Protein alkylation	liver fibrosis	TFHA/WNT Endorsed	1.14

AOP Fulltext Search Results

Id	Title ▲	Point of Contact	Author Status	SAAOP Status	MIE	AO	OECD Status	OECD Project
38	Protein Alkylation leading to Liver Fibrosis	Brigitte Landesmann	Open for citation & comment	Included in OECD Work Plan	Protein alkylation	liver fibrosis	TFHA/WNT Endorsed	1.14
34	LXR activation leading to hepatic steatosis	Marina Goumenou	Under development: Not open for comment. Do not cite	Under Development	LXR	liver steatosis		
144	Lysosomal damage leading to liver inflammation	Brigitte Landesmann	Under development: Not open for comment. Do not cite	Included in OECD Work Plan		Liver, Inflammation	Under Development	1.47
131	Aryl hydrocarbon receptor activation leading to uroporphyrria	Amani Farhat	Open for comment. Do not cite	Included in OECD Work Plan	AhR	uroporphyrria	EAGMST Under Review	1.7

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AOP 38 Summary

AOPWiki AOPs Key Events KE Relationships Stressors

Kate ▾

Summary of the AOP

Events: Molecular Initiating Events (MIE)  Key Events (KE)  Adverse Outcomes (AO) 

Sequence	Type	Event ID	Title	Short name
1	MIE	244	Alkylation, Protein	Alkylation, Protein
2	KE	55	N/A, Cell injury/death	N/A, Cell injury/death
3	KE	134	Increased, Activation and Recruitment of Hepatic macrophages (Kupffer Cells)	Increased, Activation and Recruitment of Hepatic macrophages (Kupffer Cells)
4	KE	276	Up Regulation, TGFbeta1 expression	Up Regulation, TGFbeta1 expression
5	KE	265	Activation, Stellate cells	Activation, Stellate cells
6	KE	68	Accumulation, Collagen	Accumulation, Collagen
7	AO	344	N/A, Liver fibrosis	N/A, Liver fibrosis

Snapshots

All AOPs

Watch ☐

View history

Discussion

Comment

1. AOP Title
2. Graphical Representation
3. Abstract
4. Background
5. Summary of the AOP
 1. Molecular Initiating Event
 2. Key Events
 3. Adverse Outcome
 4. Relationships Between Two Key Events
 5. Network View
 6. Stressors
 7. Life Stage Applicability
 8. Taxonomic Applicability
 9. Sex Applicability
6. Overall Assessment of the AOP
 1. Domain of Applicability
 2. Essentiality of the Key Events

AOP WIKI: KER and AOP confidence evaluation

Biological Plausibility: between KE upstream and KE downstream?		
High (strong): Extensive understanding of KER	Moderate: KER is plausible	Low (weak): some empirical support
Essentiality: are downstream KEs prevented if upstream KE's blocked?		
High (strong): direct evidence from experimental studies	Moderate: indirect evidence	Low (weak) No or contradictory evidence
Empirical Evidence: amount, quality, consistent, inconsistent?		
High (strong): extensive evidence for temporal, dose-response	Moderate: multiple reports of consistent evidence, some inconsistent	Low (weak): limited or no studies and/or significant inconsistencies

List of AOPs

[AOPWiki](#)[AOPs](#)[Key Events](#)[KE Relationships](#)[Stressors](#)

Kate ▾

[API](#)[With OECD status](#)[With SAAOP status](#)[Recent AOPs](#)

AOPs



Id ▲	Title	Point of Contact	Author Status	SAAOP Status	MIE	AO	OECD Status	OECD Project
3	Inhibition of the mitochondrial complex I of nigro-striatal neurons leads to parkinsonian motor deficits	Andrea Terron	Open for citation & comment	Included in OECD Work Plan	NADH-ubiquinone oxidoreductase (complex I), Binding of inhibitor	Motor function, impaired	EAGMST Approved	1.33
4	Ecdysone receptor agonism leading to mortality	Knut Erik Tollefsen	Open for citation & comment	Under Development	EcR	mortality		
6	Antagonist binding to PPARα leading to body-weight loss	Kurt A. Gust	Open for comment. Do not cite	Included in OECD Work Plan	PPAR	starvation-like body-weight loss	EAGMST Under Review	2.3
7	Aromatase (Cyp19a1) reduction leading to impaired fertility in adult female	Elise Grignard	Open for citation & comment	Included in OECD Work Plan	PPAR	impaired fertility	EAGMST Under Review	1.21
8	Hypoxia-induced mitochondrial dysfunction leading to cell death	Kurt A. Gust	Open for citation & comment	Included in OECD Work Plan	PPAR	impaired fertility	EAGMST Under Review	1.21

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OECD AOP Development Programme

Extended Advisory Group for Molecular Screening & Toxicogenomics (EAGMST)

- Guidance, users Handbook
- Review
- Training

Task force on Hazard Assessment (TFHA)

- Guidance for use of AOPs in regulatory decision making
- Integrated Approaches to Testing and Assessment (IATA)

Society for the Advancement of AOPS



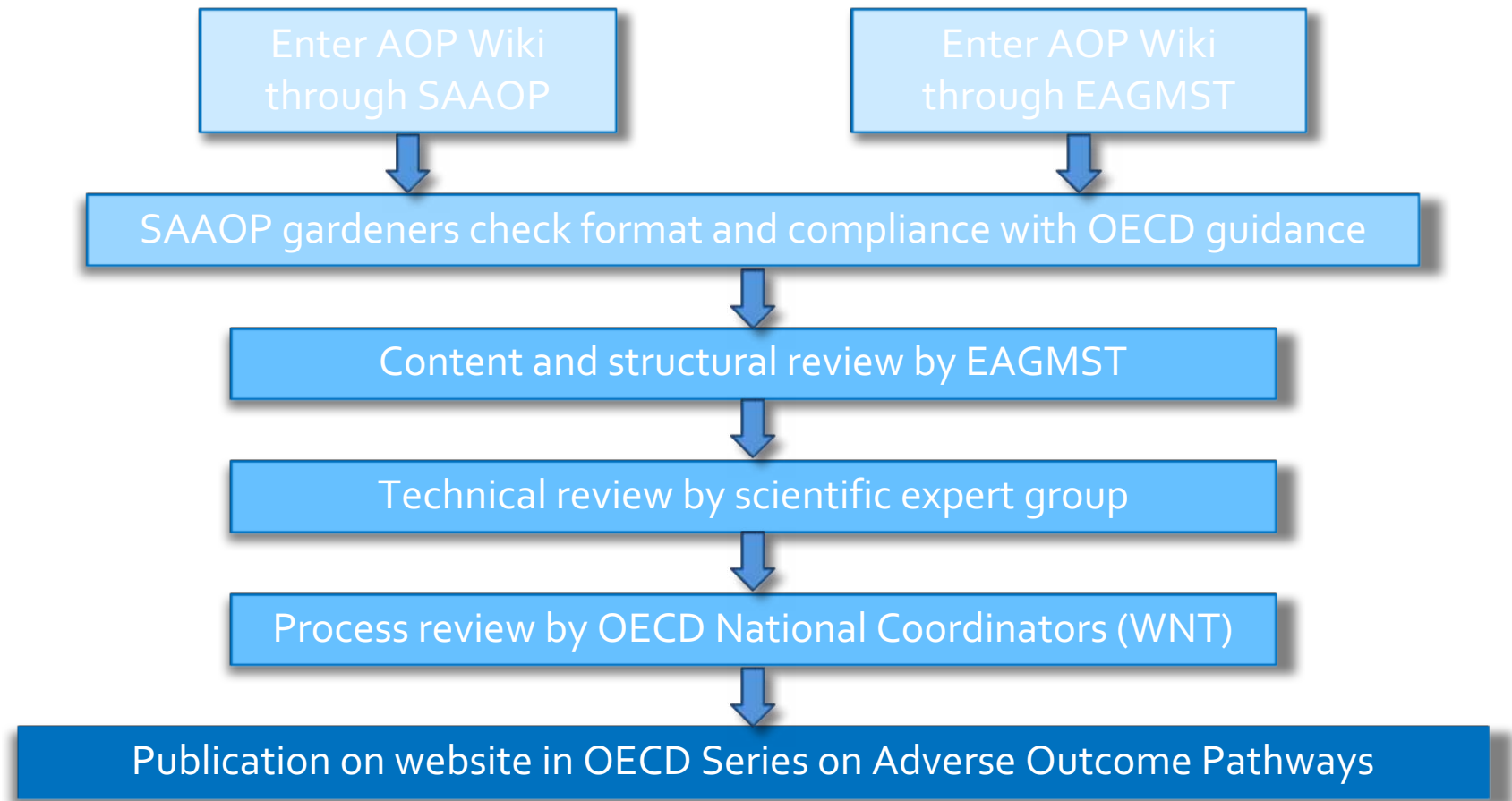
- Not officially part of the OECD programme
- Any person active in developing an AOP in the wiki can join
- Is another way to enter the AOP wiki
- Provides “gardening” and other support functions
- www.saaop.org

OECD AOP Development Programme

AOP Wiki Access: three levels

1. **Read access:** anyone can access the wiki, search and read entries
2. **Commenter access:** a self-created account is needed to leave comments
 - Create an account on the wiki
3. **Author access: to write and edit AOPs**
 - must be requested through the wiki
 - You should have a familiarity with the wiki and desire to build an AOP

Work Process for Development and Review of AOPs through OECD



OECD Guidance for developing AOPs

Guidance Document for Developing and Assessing AOPs (2017)

Series on Testing & Assessment No. 233

OECD User's Handbook Supplement to the Guidance Document for
Developing and Assessing AOPs (2017)

Series on Testing & Assessment No. 233

Series on Adverse Outcome Pathways No. 1

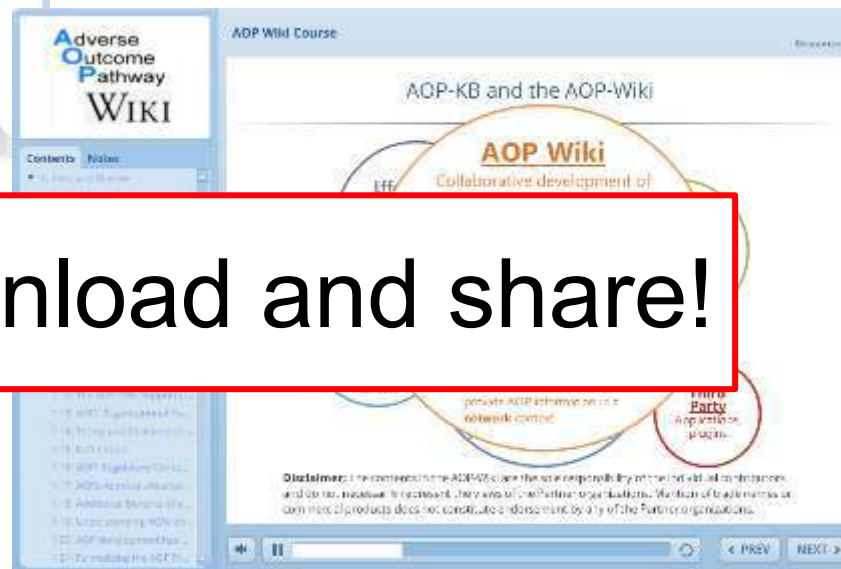
Section of AOP Wiki	Section of Handbook
AOP Description	Section 1
KE descriptions (unique pages)	Section 2
KER descriptions (unique pages) KER evaluation	Section 3
Overall AOP assessment	Section 4

AOP Online Training Course



Three volume course:

1. Introduction and Overview
2. AOP Wiki Training with quizzes
3. Self exam



Please run, download and share!

Download:

<https://humantoxicologyproject.org/about-pathways-2/aop-online-course/>

Run:

<https://aopwiki.org/>

Current state of the AOP Wiki

AOPWiki AOPs Key Events KE Relationships Stressors

Available Reports

Summary

AOPS

Key events

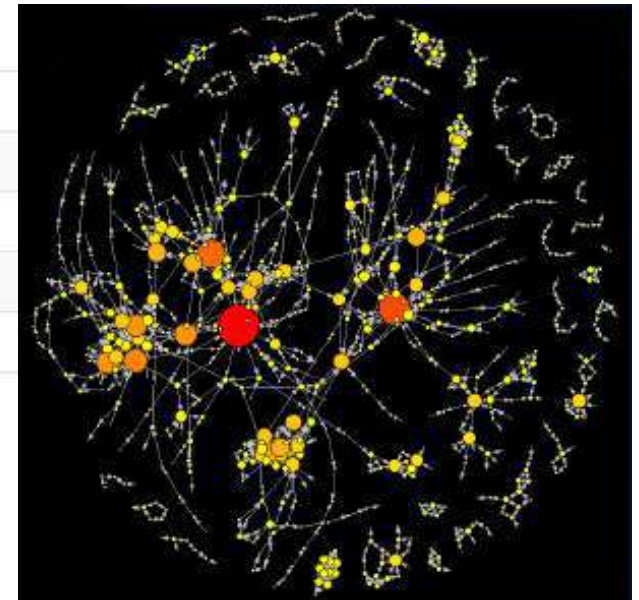
KE relationships

Stressors

User contributions

Reports Summary

Report	Count
AOPs	218
Key events	1104
KE relationships	1352
Stressors	345



23 June 2017 D. Villeneuve

The more participation, the better it will be!