



FIFTEEN YEARS OF EDC RESEARCH – TRACKING PROGRESS ON SCIENCE TO POLICY

Tuesday, 21 September 2021 | 11:00-13:00 (CAT)

Endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are exogenous chemicals that are part of the so-called emerging organic contaminants of concern. EDCs interfere with hormone action, thereby increasing the risk of adverse health outcomes, including cancer, reproductive impairment, cognitive deficits and obesity. The potential occurrence of EDCs in the environment, and related health effects have been of concern since the early 1960s. These concerns were prompted by the observed effects of wildlife exposed to chlorinated pesticides, such as dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane (DDT). To date, thousands of chemicals have been identified as potential EDCs. The awareness and need to conduct large-scale EDC research in South Africa were recognised in the early 1990s. In 2005, a WRC-led coordinated programme on EDC research was launched. The main aim of this session is to share research accomplishments under this programme and track progress towards informing policy and decision making on minimising human and environmental exposure to EDCs.

Chair: Nonhlanhla Kalebaila

11:00	Welcome and introductions	Nonhlanhla Kalebaila, WRC
11:10	Contamination of water resources by highly hazardous pesticides (that are EDCs)	Dr James Dabrowski, Confluent <i>not confirmed</i>
11:30	EDCs in swimming pool water <i>Or alternative to above</i> Health Risk Assessment Protocol for EDCs	Prof Rialet Pieters, NWU <i>not confirmed</i> <i>Or alternative to above</i> Mrs Bettina Genthe, CSIR <i>not confirmed</i>
11:50	EDCs in the marine environment	Prof Leslie Petrik, UWC
12:10	Towards development of an EDC toolbox for water quality assessment	Dr Natalie Aneck-Hahn, UP
12:30	Chemicals management in the environment	Mrs Zukie Gwayi, DFFE <i>not confirmed</i>
12:50-13:00	Mini panel discussion / Questions	All, facilitated by the chair