

# Case Study

## WHO Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit: Chemical Hazards

Training on Risk Assessment of Chemicals at National Level in a Global Context

24-25 February 2011  
Ministry of Environment, Yerevan, Armenia

Dr Kersten Gutschmidt, Public Health and Environment



**World Health  
Organization**

# Example case study

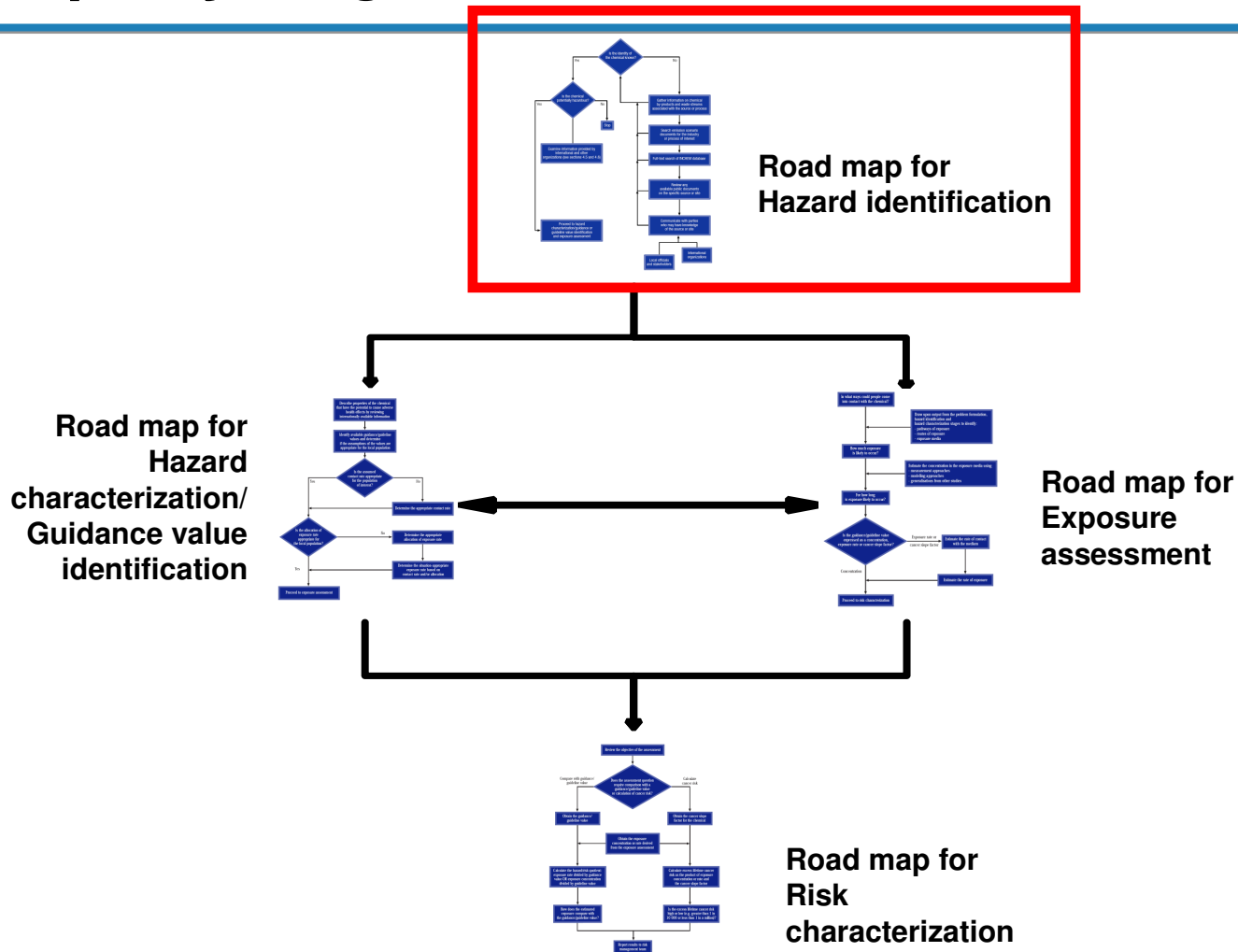
---

## Statement of problem:

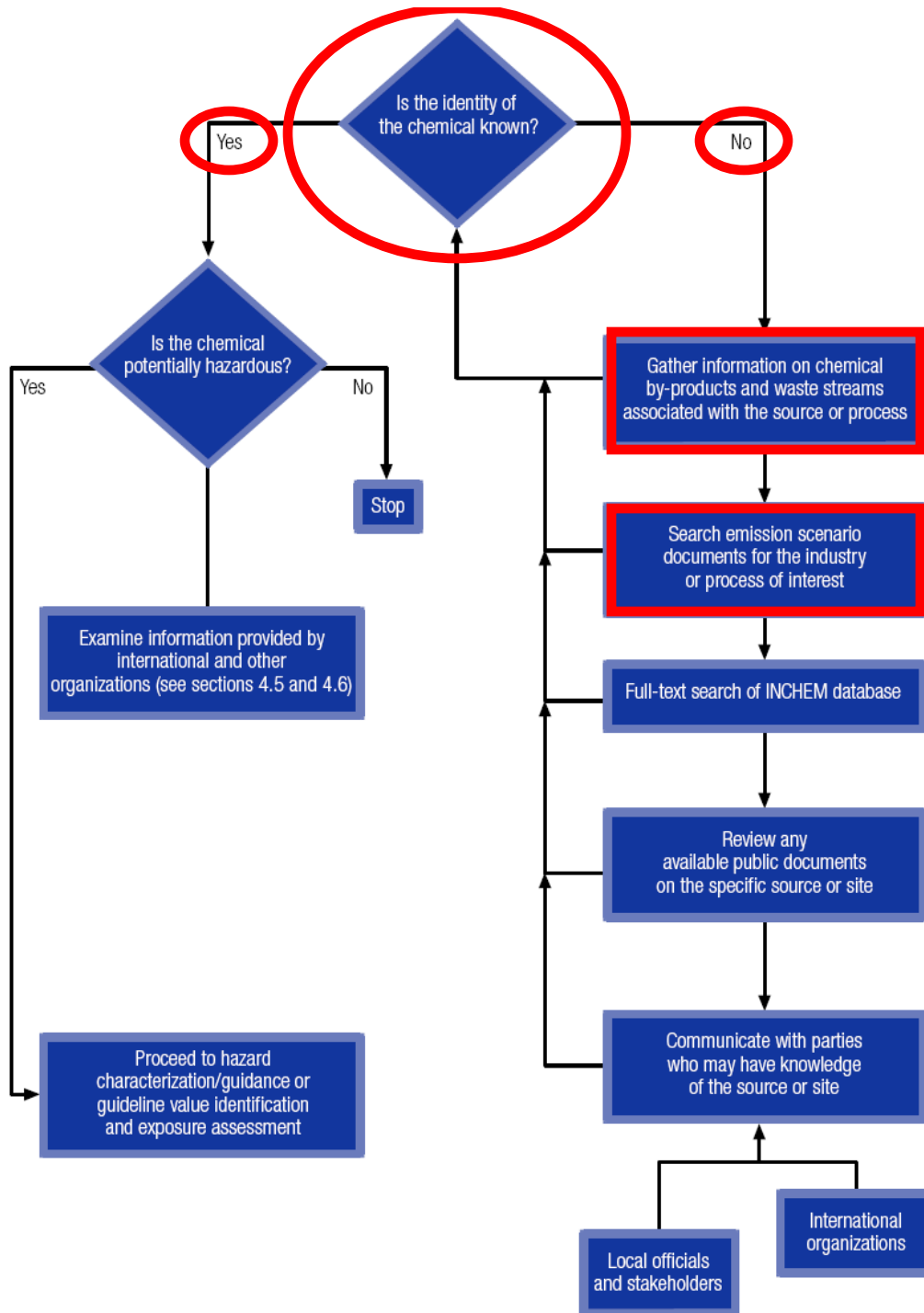
- **Metal finishing facility discharges waste from plating operations into river for 24/7.**
- **River flows directly through community which is short distance downstream.**
- **River water is used for drinking, cooking, and bathing.**
- **Cadmium was identified as a by-product of chrome-plating operations.**
- ⇒ **What are the potential health risks of discharges into the river?**



# Roadmaps by stage of the risk assessment



# Roadmap for hazard identification



# OECD – Emission Scenario Documents



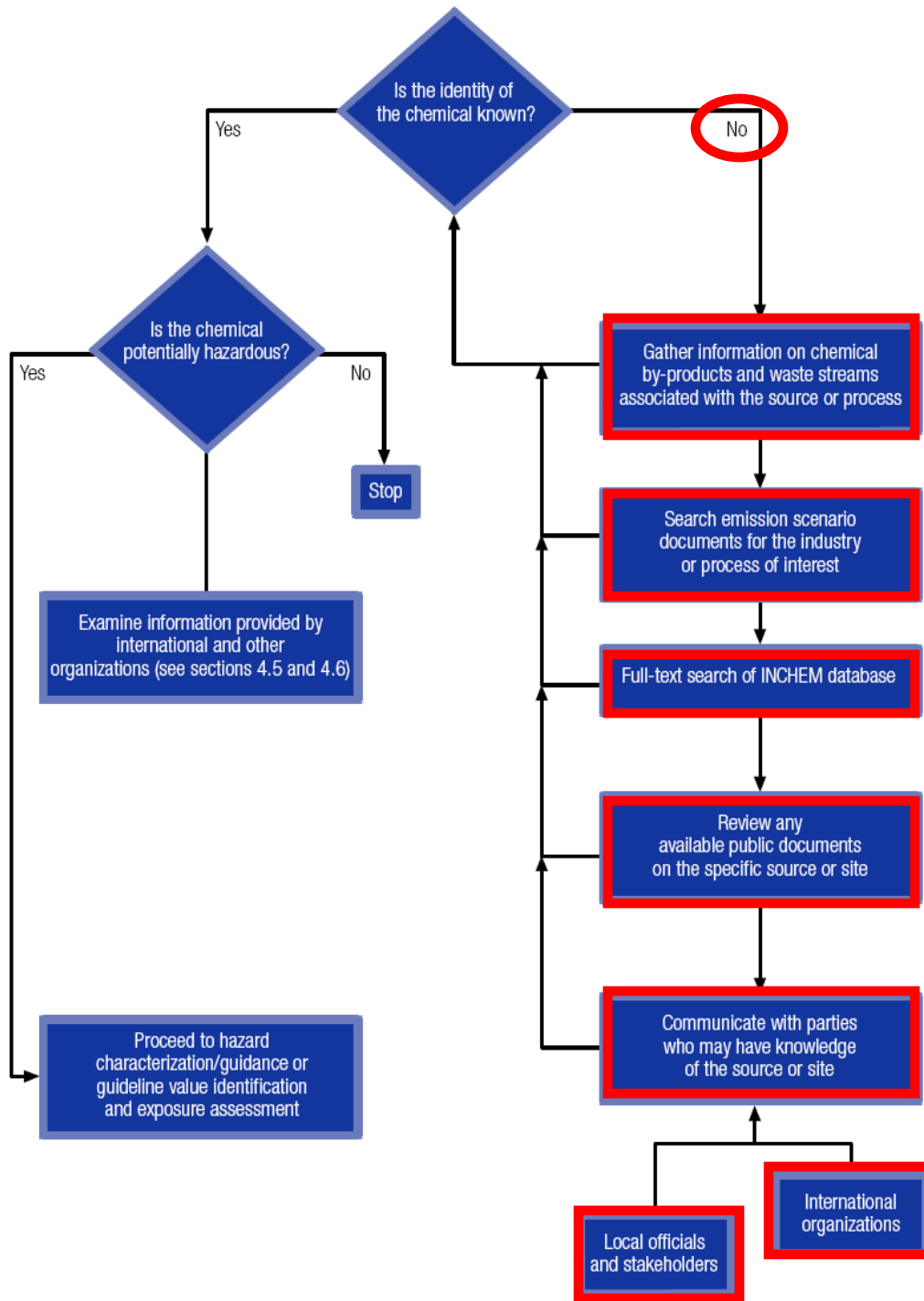
The screenshot shows the OECD website's interface for Emission Scenario Documents. At the top left is the OECD logo with '50' indicating its anniversary. A search bar and navigation links (Help/FAQ, MyOECD, Français) are at the top right. The main content area is titled 'Environment' and 'Emission Scenario Documents'. It includes a sidebar with a list of environmental topics, a 'Don't miss' section with links to related documents, and a central section titled 'What's an ESD?' with sub-sections for 'Published OECD ESDs series', 'How is an ESD developed?', 'Comments and additional information on published ESDs', 'Industry categories', and 'Use Categories'. A 'Brochure' section is also visible with a thumbnail image and the text 'OECD Work on Environment 2011-2012'.

## Published OECD ESDs series:

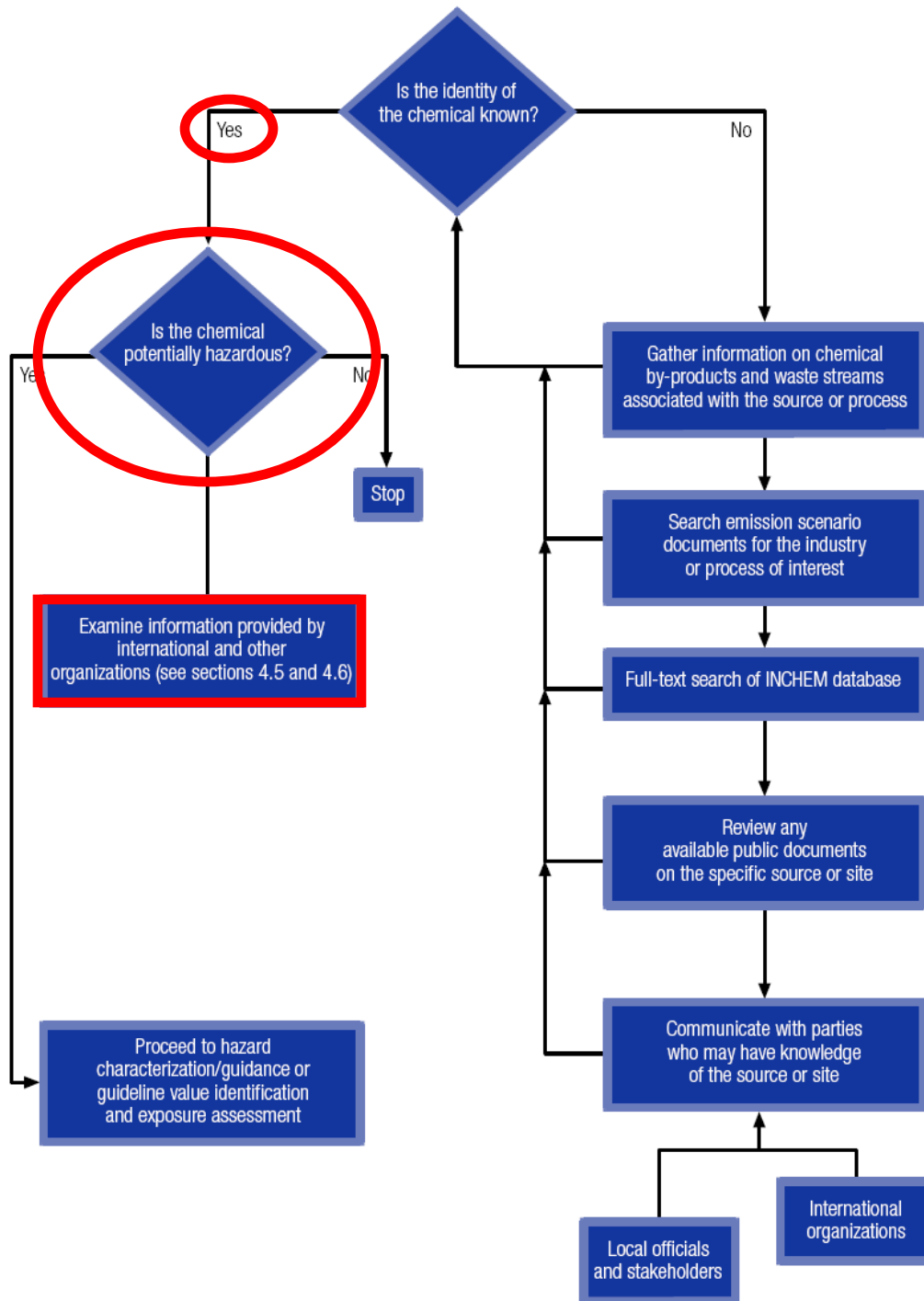
- Series No. 1, Guidance Document on Emission Scenario Documents ENV/JM/MONO(2000)12 (2000)
- Series No. 2, Wood preservatives, (joint project with OECD Biocides Programme), Part 1, Part 2, Part 3, Part 4 (2000)
- Series No. 3, Plastic Additives (2004, revised 2009)
- Series No. 4, Water Treatment Chemicals (2004)
- Series No. 5, Photographic Industry (2004)
- Series No. 6, Rubber Additives (2004)
- Series No. 7, Textile Finishing (2004)
- Series No. 8, Leather Processing (2004)
- Series No. 9, Photoresist Use in Semiconductor Manufacturing [2004 Revised January 2010]
- Series No. 10, Lubricants and Lubricant Additives (2004)
- Series No. 11, Automotive spray application (2004)
- Series No. 12, Metal finishing (2004)
- Series No. 13, Antifoulants main document and ANNEX (2005) (joint project with OECD Biocides Programme)
- Series No. 14, Insecticides for Stables and Manure Storage Systems (2006) (joint project with OECD Biocides Programme)
- Series No. 15, Kraft Pulp Mills (2006)
- Series No. 16, Non-Integrated Paper Mills (2006)
- Series No. 17, Recovered Paper Mills (2006)
- Series No. 18, Insecticides, acaricides and products to control other arthropods for household and professional uses (2008) (joint project with OECD Biocides Programme)
- Series No. 19, Complementing Guideline for Writing ESDs: The Life-Cycle Step "service-life" [NEW; July 2009]
- Series No. 20, Adhesive Formulation [NEW, April 2009]
- Series No. 21 Formulation of Radiation Curable Coatings, Inks and Adhesives [2009 Revised January 2010]
- Series No. 22 Coating Industry (Paints, Lacquers and Varnishes) [NEW; July 2009]
- Series No. 23 Pulp, Paper and Board Industry [NEW; July 2009]
- Series No. 24 Transport and Storage of Chemicals [NEW; July 2009]
- Series No. 25 Chemicals Used in the Electronics Industry [New; September 2010]
- Series No. 26 Blending of Fragrance Oils into Commercial and Consumer Products [New; September 2010]








# Roadmap for hazard identification



# Roadmap for hazard identification





CADMIUM		ICSC: 0020	
<b>Date of Peer Review: April 2005</b>			
CAS #	7440-43-9	Cd	
RTECS #	EU8800000	Atomic mass: 112.4	
UN #	2570		
EC #	049-002-00-0		
TYPES OF HAZARD / EXPOSURE	ACUTE HAZARDS / SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	FIRST AID / FIRE FIGHTING
FIRE	Flammable in powder form and spontaneously combustible in pyrophoric form. Gives off irritating or toxic fumes (or gases) in a fire.	NO open flames, NO sparks, and NO smoking. NO contact with heat or acid(s).	Dry sand. Special powder. NO other agents.
EXPLOSION	Finely dispersed particles form explosive mixtures in air.	Prevent deposition of dust: closed system, dust explosion-proof electrical equipment and lighting.	
EXPOSURE		PREVENT DISPERSION OF DUST! AVOID ALL CONTACT!	IN ALL CASES CONSULT A DOCTOR!
Inhalation	Cough. Sore throat.	Local exhaust or breathing protection.	Fresh air, rest. Refer for medical attention.
Skin		Protective gloves.	Remove contaminated clothes. Rinse and then wash skin with water and soap.
Eyes	Redness. Pain.	Safety goggles or eye protection in combination with breathing protection.	First rinse with plenty of water for several minutes (remove contact lenses if easily possible), then take to a doctor.
Ingestion	Abdominal pain. Diarrhoea. Headache. Nausea. Vomiting.	Do not eat, drink, or smoke during work.	Rest. Refer for medical attention.
SPILLAGE DISPOSAL		PACKAGING & LABELLING	
Evacuate danger area! Personal protection: chemical protection suit including self-contained breathing apparatus. Remove all ignition sources. Sweep spilled substance into containers. Carefully collect remainder, then remove to safe place.		Airtight. Unbreakable packaging; put breakable packaging into closed unbreakable container. Do not transport with food and feedstuffs. EU Classification Symbol: T+, N R: 45-20-43/23/25-82-83-88-50/53 S: 53-43-60-61 Note: [E] UN Classification UN Hazard Class: 6.1	
EMERGENCY RESPONSE		STORAGE	
		Fireproof. Dry. Keep under inert gas. Separated from ignition sources, oxidants acids, food and feedstuffs.	
     <p>Prepared in the context of cooperation between the International Programme on Chemical Safety and the Commission of the European Communities © IPCS, CEC 1999</p> <p>SEE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ON BACK</p>			

CADMIUM		ICSC: 0020	
IMPORTANT DATA			
<b>PHYSICAL STATE; APPEARANCE:</b> SOFT BLUE-WHITE METAL LUMPS OR GREY POWDER. MALLEABLE. TURNS BRITTLE ON EXPOSURE TO 80°C AND TARNISHES ON EXPOSURE TO MOIST AIR.		<b>ROUTES OF EXPOSURE:</b> The substance can be absorbed into the body by inhalation of its aerosol and by ingestion.	
<b>PHYSICAL DANGERS:</b> Dust explosion possible if in powder or granular form, mixed with air.		<b>INHALATION RISK:</b> A harmful concentration of airborne particles can be reached quickly when dispersed, especially if powdered.	
<b>CHEMICAL DANGERS:</b> Reacts with acids forming flammable/explosive gas (hydrogen- see ICSC0001.) Dust reacts with oxidants, hydrogen azide, zinc, selenium or tellurium, causing fire and explosion hazard.		<b>EFFECTS OF SHORT-TERM EXPOSURE:</b> The fume is irritating to the respiratory tract. Inhalation of fume may cause lung oedema (see Notes). Inhalation of fumes may cause metal fume fever. The effects may be delayed. Medical observation is indicated.	
<b>OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE LIMITS:</b> TLV: (Total dust) 0.01 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ; (Respirable fraction) 0.002 mg/m <sup>3</sup> ; as TWA; A2 (suspected human carcinogen); BEI issued; (ACGIH 2005). MAK: skin absorption (H); Carcinogen category: 1; Germ cell mutagen group: 3A; (DFG 2004).		<b>EFFECTS OF LONG-TERM OR REPEATED EXPOSURE:</b> Lungs may be affected by repeated or prolonged exposure to dust particles. The substance may have effects on the kidneys, resulting in kidney impairment. This substance is carcinogenic to humans.	
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES			
Boiling point: 766°C Melting point: 321°C Density: 8.6 g/cm <sup>3</sup> Solubility in water: none		Auto-ignition temperature: (cadmium metal dust) 250°C	
ENVIRONMENTAL DATA			
NOTES			
Reacts violently with fire extinguishing agents such as water, foam, carbon dioxide and halons. Depending on the degree of exposure, periodic medical examination is indicated. The symptoms of lung oedema often do not become manifest until a few hours have passed and they are aggravated by physical effort. Rest and medical observation are therefore essential. Do NOT take working clothes home. Cadmium also exists in a pyrophoric form (EC No. 049-011-00-X), which bears the additional EU labelling symbol F, R phrase 17, and S phrases 7/8 and 43. UN numbers and packing group will vary according to the physical form of the substance.			
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION			
<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>		Neither the CEC nor the IPCS nor any person acting on behalf of the CEC or the IPCS is responsible for the use which might be made of this information	
© IPCS, CEC 1999			

## See Also:

[Toxicological Abbreviations](#)  
[Cadmium \(EC 134, 1992\)](#)  
[Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 52\)](#)  
[Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 4\)](#)  
[Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 24\)](#)  
[Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 55\)](#)  
[CADMIUM \(JECFA Evaluation\)](#)  
[Cadmium \(IOM 089\)](#)



# IARC evaluation



International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) -  
Summaries & Evaluations

Your Query "Cadmium" matched 1 documents out of 8835.  
1 documents displayed.

0.9996 [Cadmium and Cadmium Compounds \(IARC Summary & Evaluation, Volume 58, 1993\)](#)

09-21-10, <http://www.inchem.org/documents/iarc/vol58/mono58-2.html>  
**Summary:** In two inhalation studies in rats, malignant lung tumours were produced by cadmium chloride, cadmium sulfide/sulfate, cadmium sulfate and cadmium oxide fume and dust at low levels of exposure for short durations. In one inhalation study in mice of cadmium chloride, cadmium sulfide/sulfate, cadmium sulfate and cadmium oxide fume and dust, some groups exposed to cadmium oxide fume or dust had increased incidences of lung tumours. In one inhalation study in hamsters of cadmium chloride, cadmium ...

## Overall evaluation

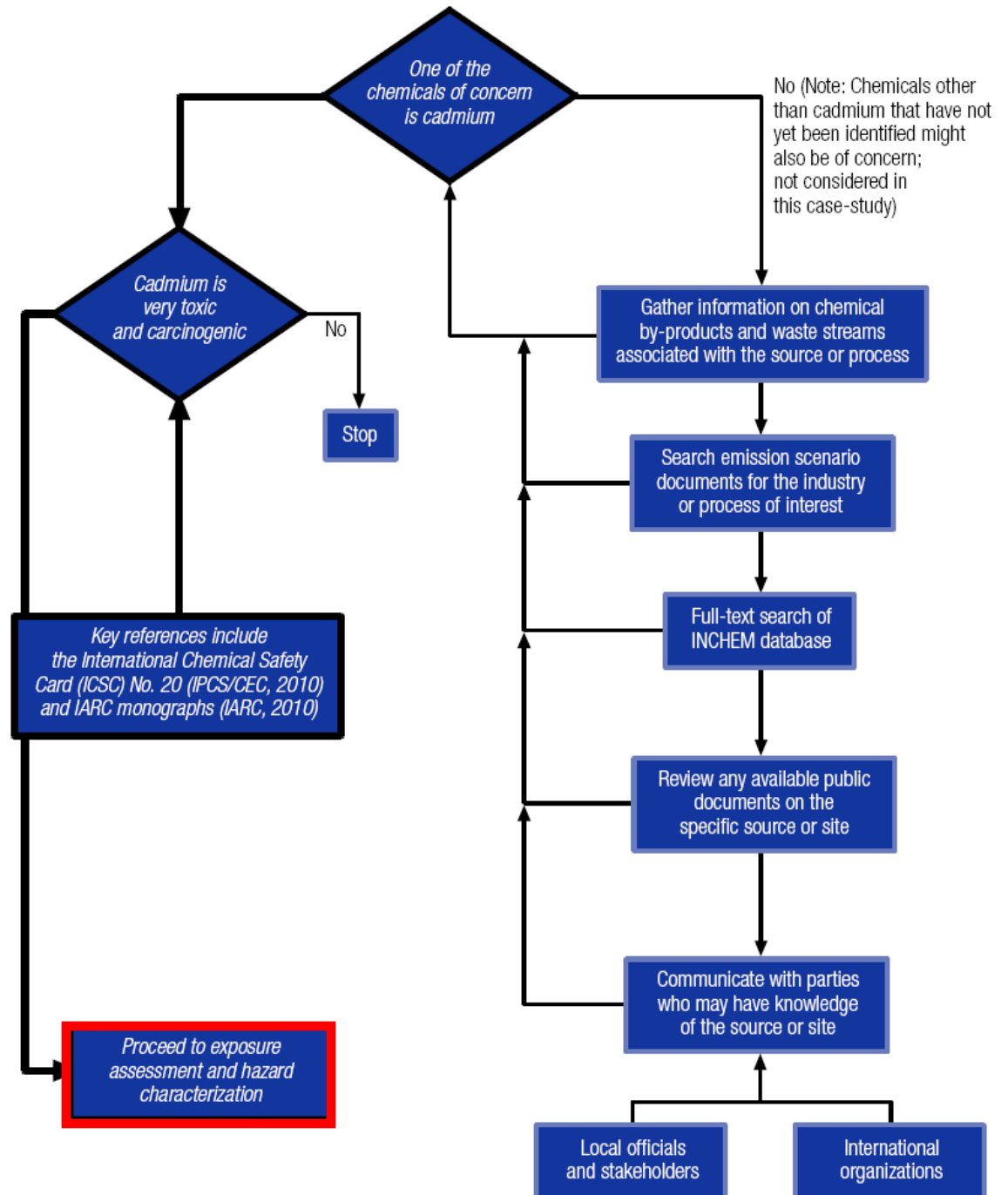
Cadmium and cadmium compounds are *carcinogenic to humans (Group 1)*.

For definition of the italicized terms, see [Preamble Evaluation](#).

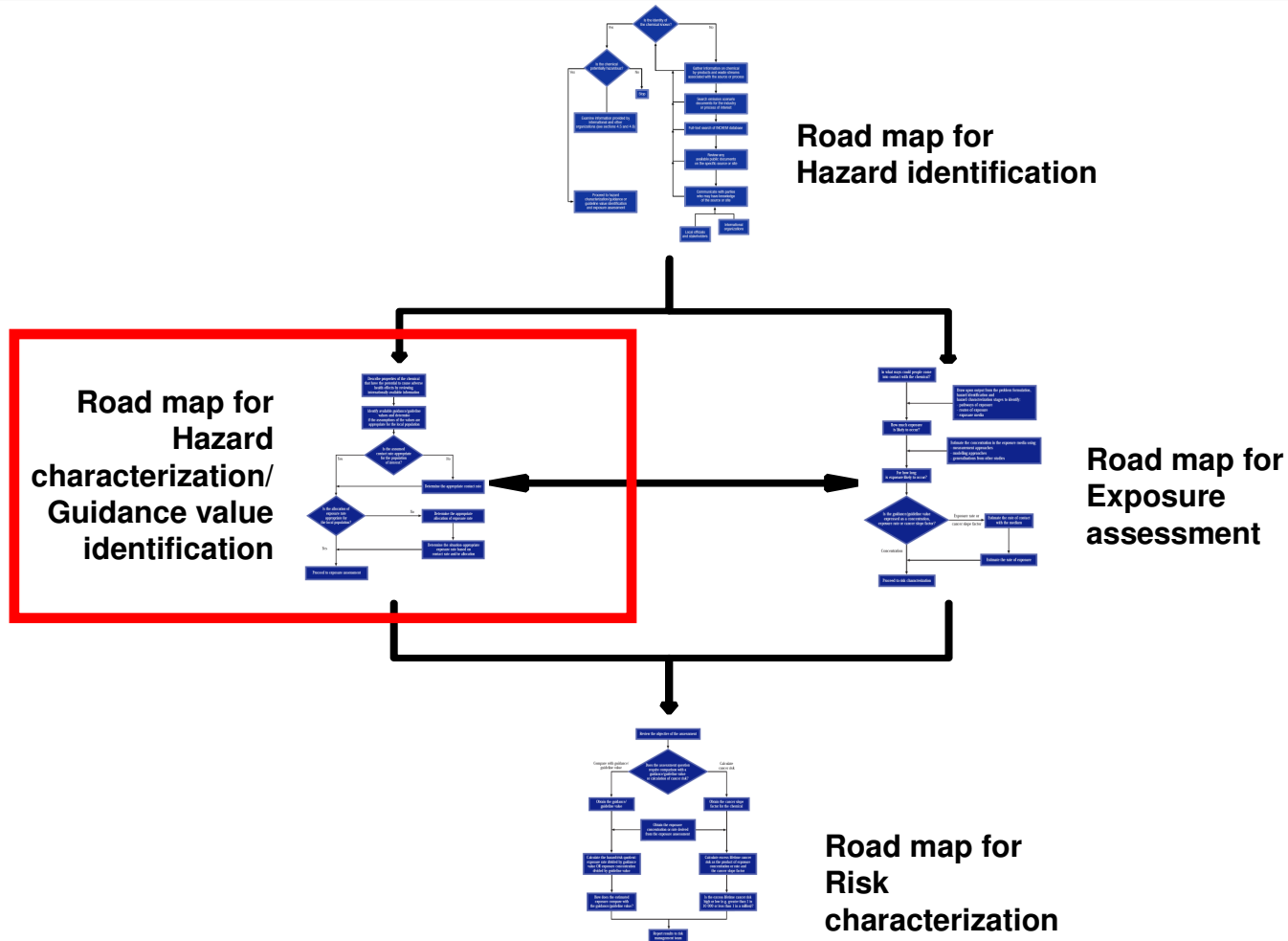


## Cadmium case study:

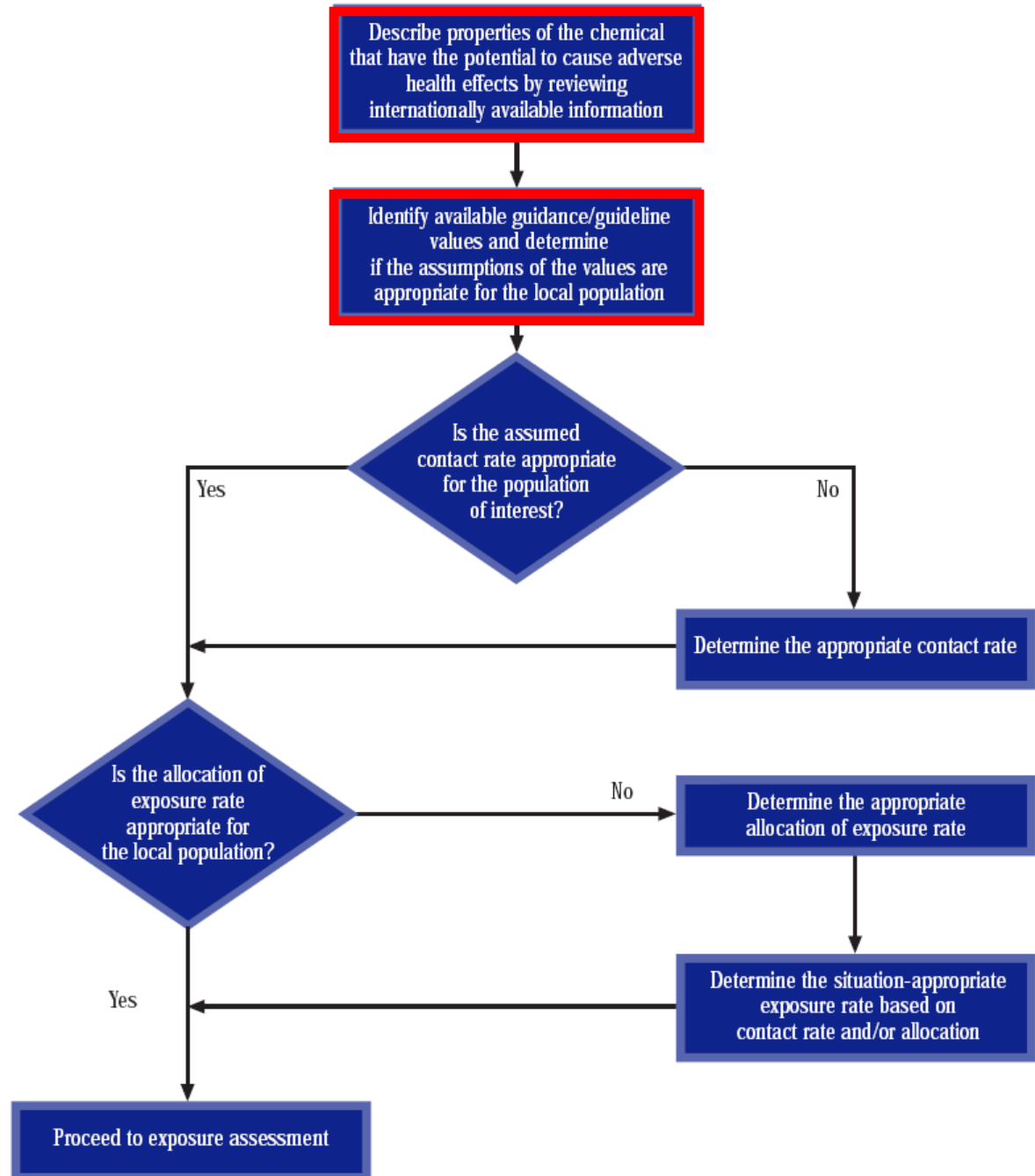
## Roadmap for hazard identification



# Roadmaps by stage of the risk assessment



# Roadmap for hazard characterization/ guidance and guideline value identification



# Key references for Cadmium

**INCHEM**  
Chemical Safety Information from Intergovernmental Organizations

**Search options:**

**Full-text Search**  
Cadmium  
Example: kidney <AND> DDT  
Search

**Chemical Identity Search**  
CAS Number  
Example: 108-88-3  
OR  
Chemical Name or Synonym  
Example: Toluene  
Search  
[Advanced Search](#)

**Browse content using links below:**

- ▶ Concise International Chemical Assessment Documents (CICADs)
- ▶ Environmental Health Criteria (EHC) Monographs
- ▶ Harmonization Project Publications
- ▶ Health and Safety Guides (HSGs)
- ▶ International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) - Summaries and Evaluations
- ▶ International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSCs)
- ▶ IPCS/CEC Evaluation of Antidotes Series
- ▶ Joint Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA) - Monographs and Evaluations
- ▶ Joint Meeting on Pesticide Residues (JMPR)
- ▶ Kemi-Riskline
- ▶ Pesticide Documents (PDs)
- ▶ Poisons Information Monographs (PIMs)
- ▶ Screening Information Data Set (SIDS) for High Production Volume Chemicals
- ▶ UK Poison Information Documents (UKPID)

## 1.0000 [CONTAMINANTS: CADMIUM \(addendum\) \(JECFA 52, 2004\)](#)

09-21-10, <http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecmono/v52je22.htm>

**Summary:** Nephrotoxicity was induced at lower concentrations of renal cadmium after parenteral exposure to cadmium-metlothionein (Sabolic et al., 2002). In all women, the rate of absorption of cadmium was significantly correlated with age, serum ferritin, serum iron, blood cadmium and urinary cadmium concentrations. In this study, urinary cadmium was considered to be a surrogate for body burden of cadmium, which reflects the overall uptake of cadmium.

## 1.0000 [251. Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 4\)](#)

09-21-10, <http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecmono/v004je04.htm>

**Summary:** Likewise, leachable cadmium in enamel and pottery glazes may be a source of cadmium contamination in the food. Since commercial zinc can contain up to 1% cadmium, galvanized food utensils may also contribute to cadmium levels in food. Urinary excretion of cadmium is considerably increased when renal damage has occurred following exposure to excessive amounts of cadmium (Friberg et al., 1971).

## 1.0000 [CADMIUM](#)

09-21-10, <http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecmono/v46je11.htm>

**Summary:** Metallothionein is also induced by cadmium, and intracellular binding of cadmium to metallothionein protects against the toxicity of cadmium. The blood cadmium concentrations mainly reflected long, light exposure, as the variation in blood cadmium concentration was accounted for by urinary cadmium, serum ferritin, age and fibre intake (Berghud et al. The whole blood and erythrocyte concentrations of cadmium and urinary cadmium excretion were not affected by increased cadmium intake.

## 1.0000 [659. Cadmium \(WHO Food Additives Series 24\)](#)

09-21-10, <http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecmono/v024je09.htm>

**Summary:** Major industrial uses of cadmium are in electroplating, pigments, particularly in plastics, plastic stabilizers (e.g., cadmium stearate), and nickel-cadmium rechargeable batteries. Mice given cadmium-metlothionein had lower blood and liver cadmium but higher kidney cadmium concentrations than animals given a similar dose as cadmium chloride (Cherian et al., 1978; Sullivan et al., 1984). The concentration of cadmium in liver and renal cortex may fall subsequent to renal damage and increased...

## 0.9474 [JECFA Evaluations-CADMIUM-](#)

09-21-10, [http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecval/jec\\_297.htm](http://www.inchem.org/documents/jecfa/jecval/jec_297.htm)

**Summary:** CADMIUM Functional class: CONTAMINANT Latest evaluation: 2005 Tolerable Intake: 0.007 mg/kg bw/day (Reference: JECFA 52, 2004)





Search

- All WHO  
 This site only

[Publications](#) | [About IPCS](#) | [Events](#)

[International Programme on Chemical Safety](#) > [Chemicals in food](#) > [Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives \(JECFA\)](#)

## Evaluations of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

### Search for chemical

Partial Name/CAS

First Character

Functional Class

Partial name or CAS number:

### SEARCH RESULTS FOR CADMIUM

[CADMIUM](#) (0)

[Contacts](#) | [E-mail scams](#) | [Employment](#) | [FAQs](#) | [Feedback](#) | [Privacy](#) | [RSS feeds](#)  
© WHO 2009



# Guidance values for Cadmium

The International Programme  
on Chemical Safety (IPCS)

 Search

- All WHO  
 This site only

[Publications](#) | [About IPCS](#) | [Events](#)

[International Programme on Chemical Safety](#) > [Chemicals in food](#) > [Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives \(JECFA\)](#)

## Evaluations of the Joint FAO/WHO Expert Committee on Food Additives (JECFA)

### CADMIUM

#### General Information

[printable version](#)

CAS number: 7440-43-9

Functional Class:

- Food Contaminant
- METALS

#### Evaluations

**Evaluation year:** 2005

**Comments:** The PTWI of 0.007 mg/kg bw that was established at the thirty-third meeting (1988) was not re-evaluated and was maintained at the sixty-fourth meeting (2005). The Committee evaluated the impact of different maximum levels on the overall intake of cadmium and concluded that the effect would be very small. At the proposed Codex maximum levels, mean intake of cadmium would be reduced by approximately 1% of the PTWI. The imposition of maximum levels one level lower would result in potential reductions in intake of cadmium of no more than 6% (wheat, potatoes) of the PTWI. At the proposed Codex maximum levels, no more than 9% of a commodity would be violative (oysters). Maximum levels one level below those proposed would result in approximately 20% of wheat, potatoes, and other vegetables being violative.

**Tolerable Intake:** PTWI 0.007 mg/kg bw

**Meeting:** 41

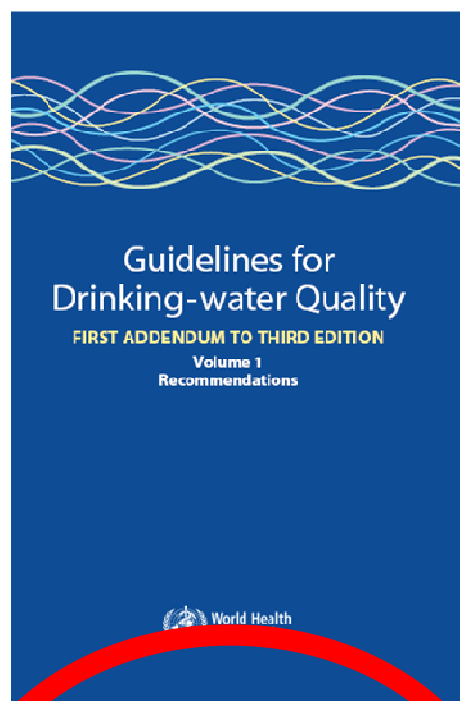
**Report:** [TRS 930-JECFA 64/26](#)

**Tox Monograph:** [FAS 55-JECFA 64/157](#)

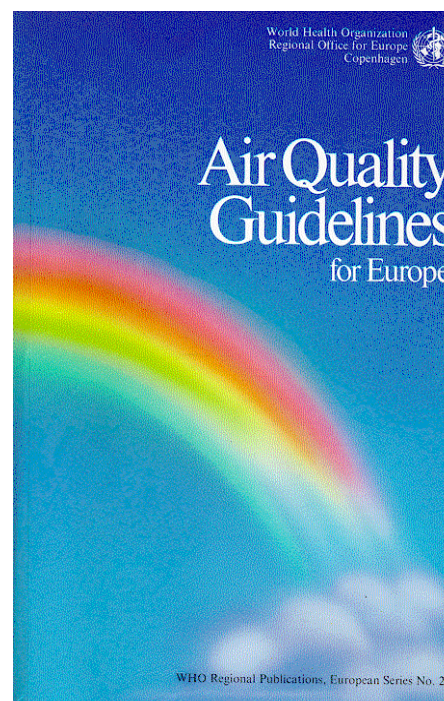
**Previous Years:** 2003, TRS 922-JECFA 61/127, FAS 52-JECFA 61/505. THE PTWI OF 0.007 MG/KG BW THAT WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE THIRTY-THIRD MEETING (1988) WAS MAINTAINED AT THE SIXTY-FIRST MEETING (2003).  
2000, TRS 901-JECFA 55/61, FAS 46-JECFA 55/247. THE PTWI OF 0.007 mg/kg



# Guideline values for Cadmium



**Drinking-water  
guideline value =  
0.003 mg/l**

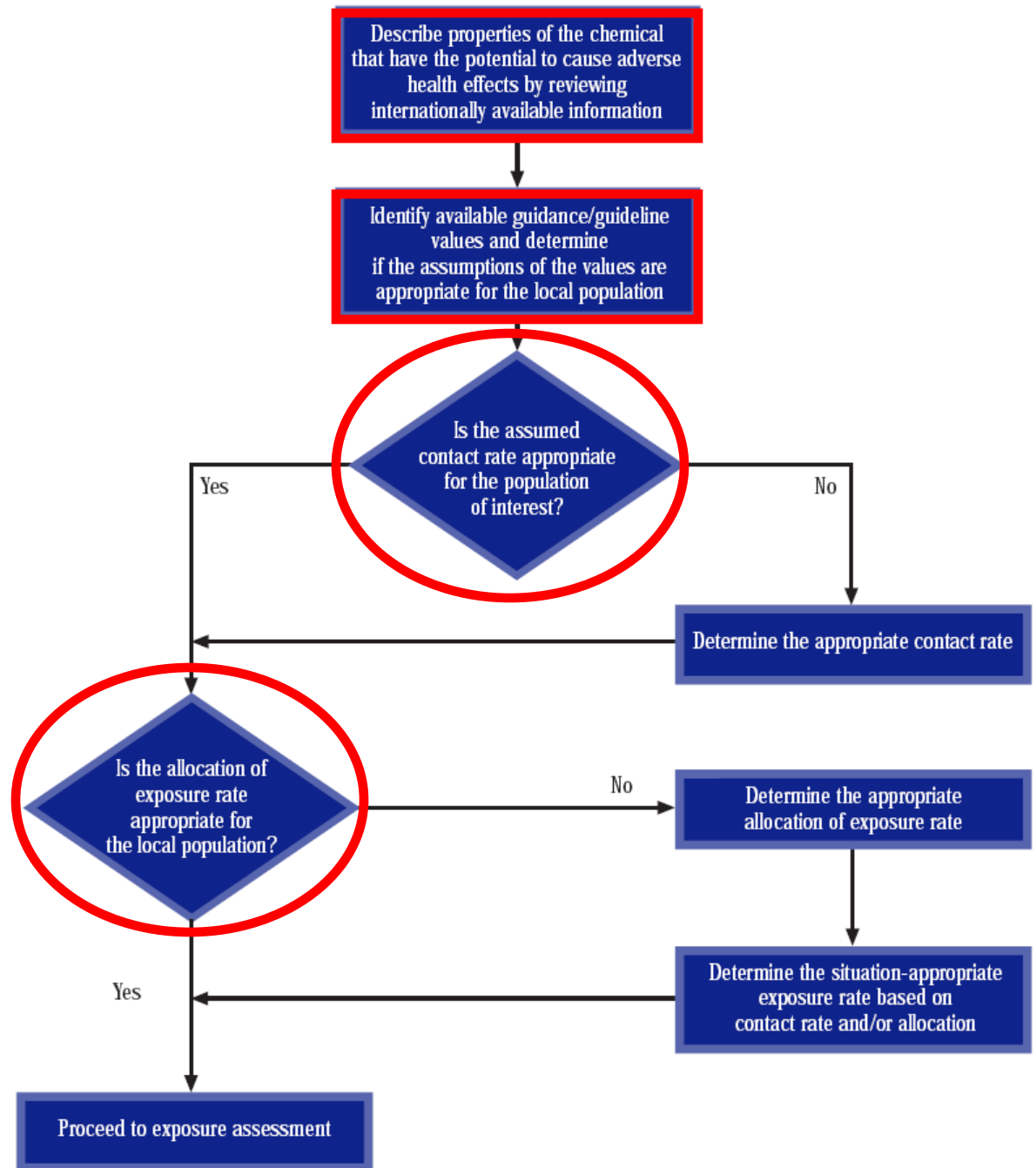


**Air quality  
guideline value  
not published  
for Cadmium**





# Roadmap for hazard characterization/ guidance and guideline value identification



# Assumptions embedded in WHO Drinking-water Guideline Value (DWGV) for Cadmium

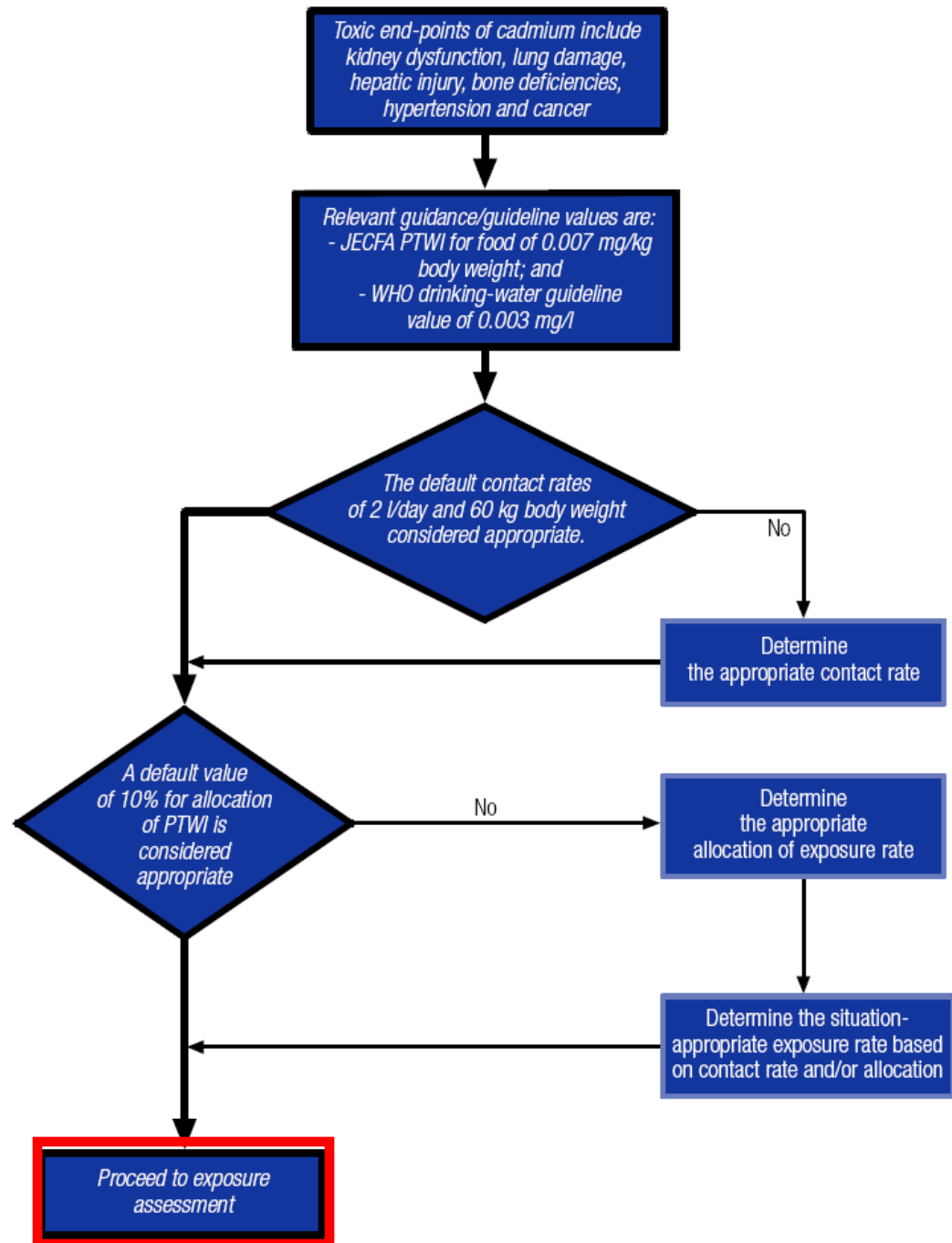
---

- DWGV Values based on Provisional Acceptable Weekly Intake (PTWI) developed by JECFA.
- PTWI for Cadmium is 0.007 mg/kg body weight.
- 10% of PTWI is allocated to DWGV (0.0007 mg/kg body weight).
- Default water consumption rate is 2 litres per day (14 litres per week).
- Default body weight is 60 kg.
- $DWGV = PTWI/10 \times 60 \text{ kg body weight} \times 1/14 \text{ litres per week}$   
 $= 0.003 \text{ mg/l}$

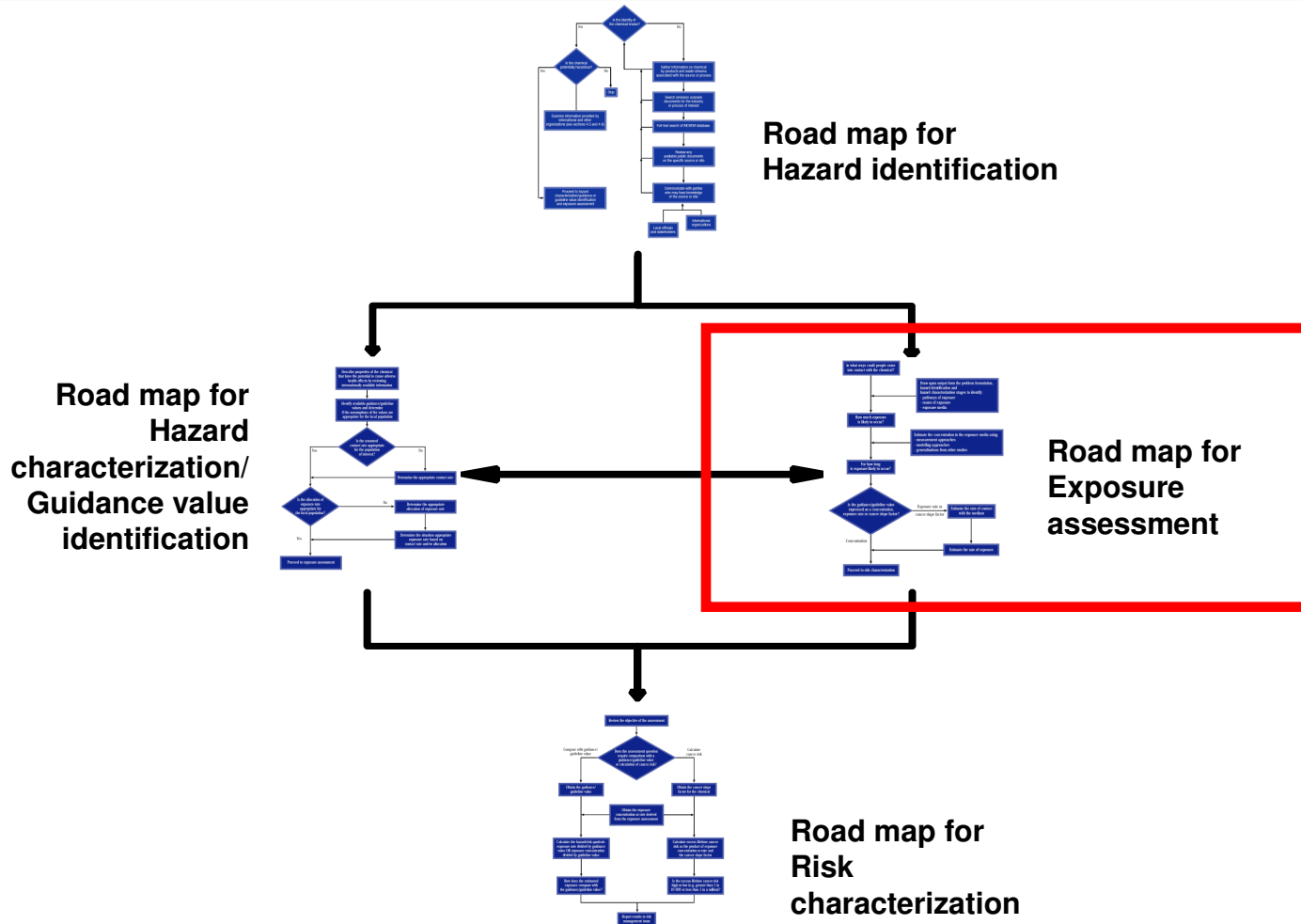


## Cadmium case study:

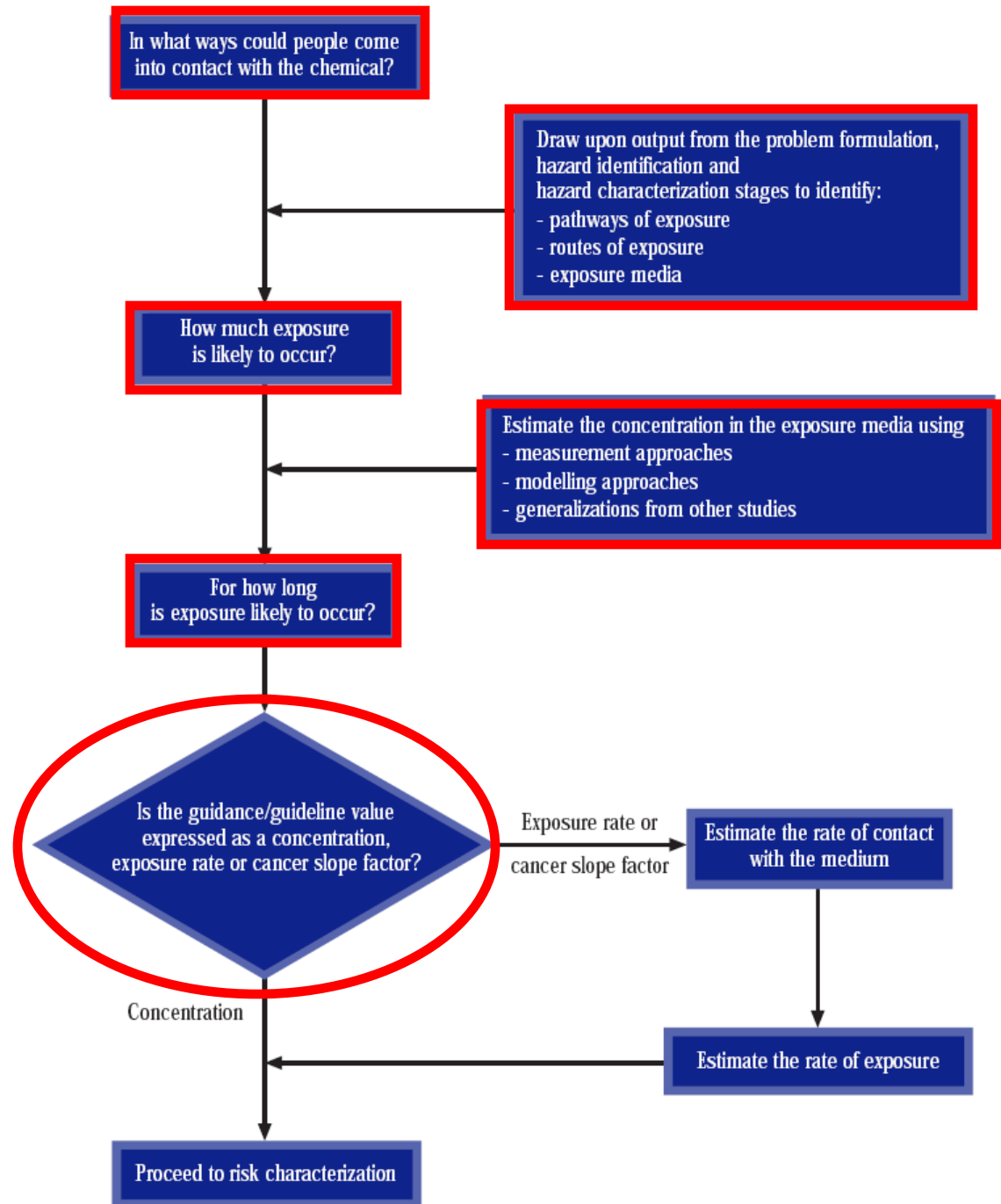
### Specific roadmap for hazard characterization/ guidance and guideline value identification



# Roadmaps by stage of the risk assessment



# Roadmap for exposure assessment



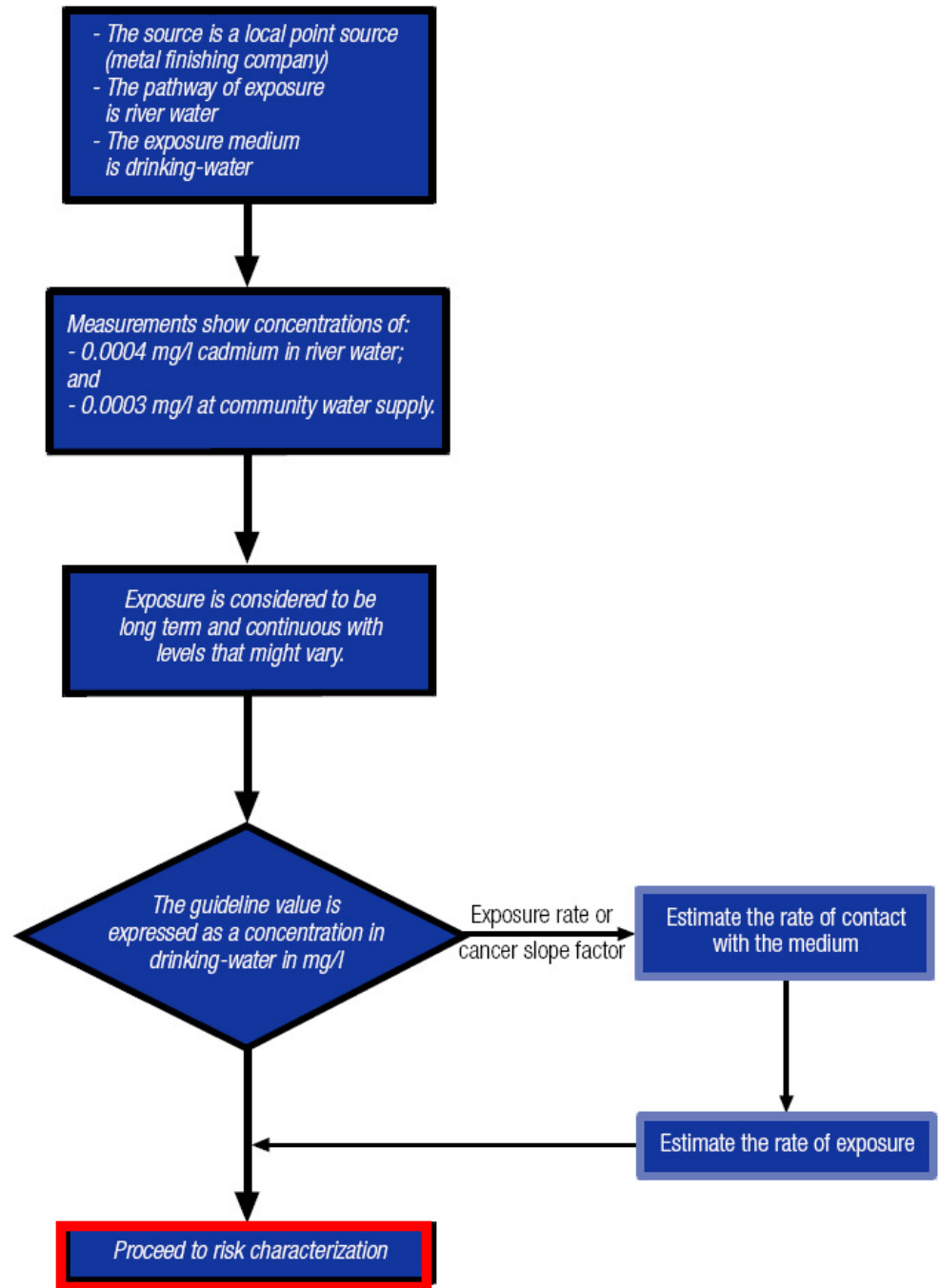
## Cadmium concentrations in five samples of water obtained from each of three locations in the vicinity of Rivertown.

---

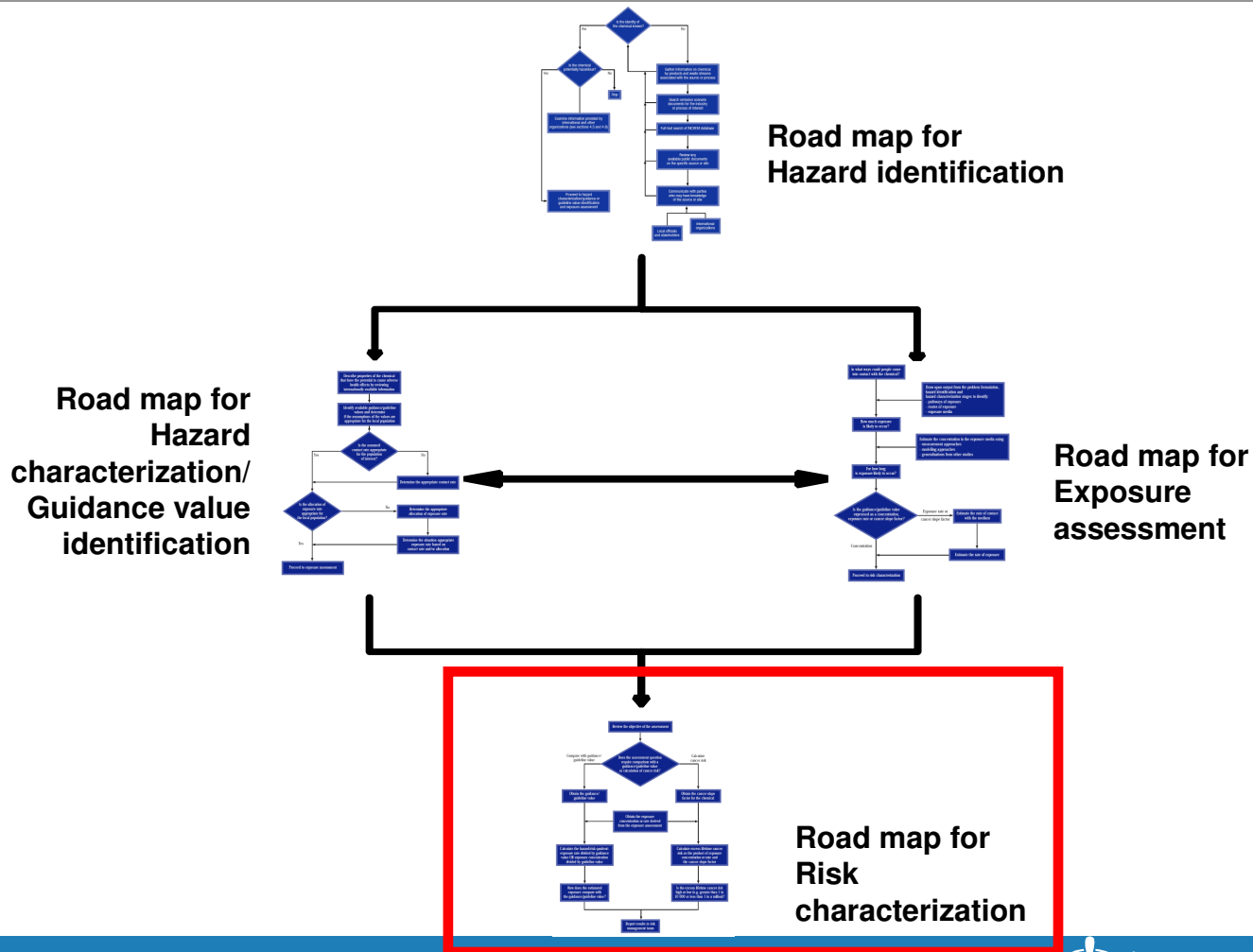
<i>Location</i>	<i>Average concentration (µg/l)</i>	<i>Concentration range (µg/l)</i>
Upstream of facility	<LOD	<LOD–0.2
Downstream of facility	0.4	0.1–1.0
Town hall water	0.3	0.2–0.8



# Case study on cadmium: Specific roadmap for exposure assessment

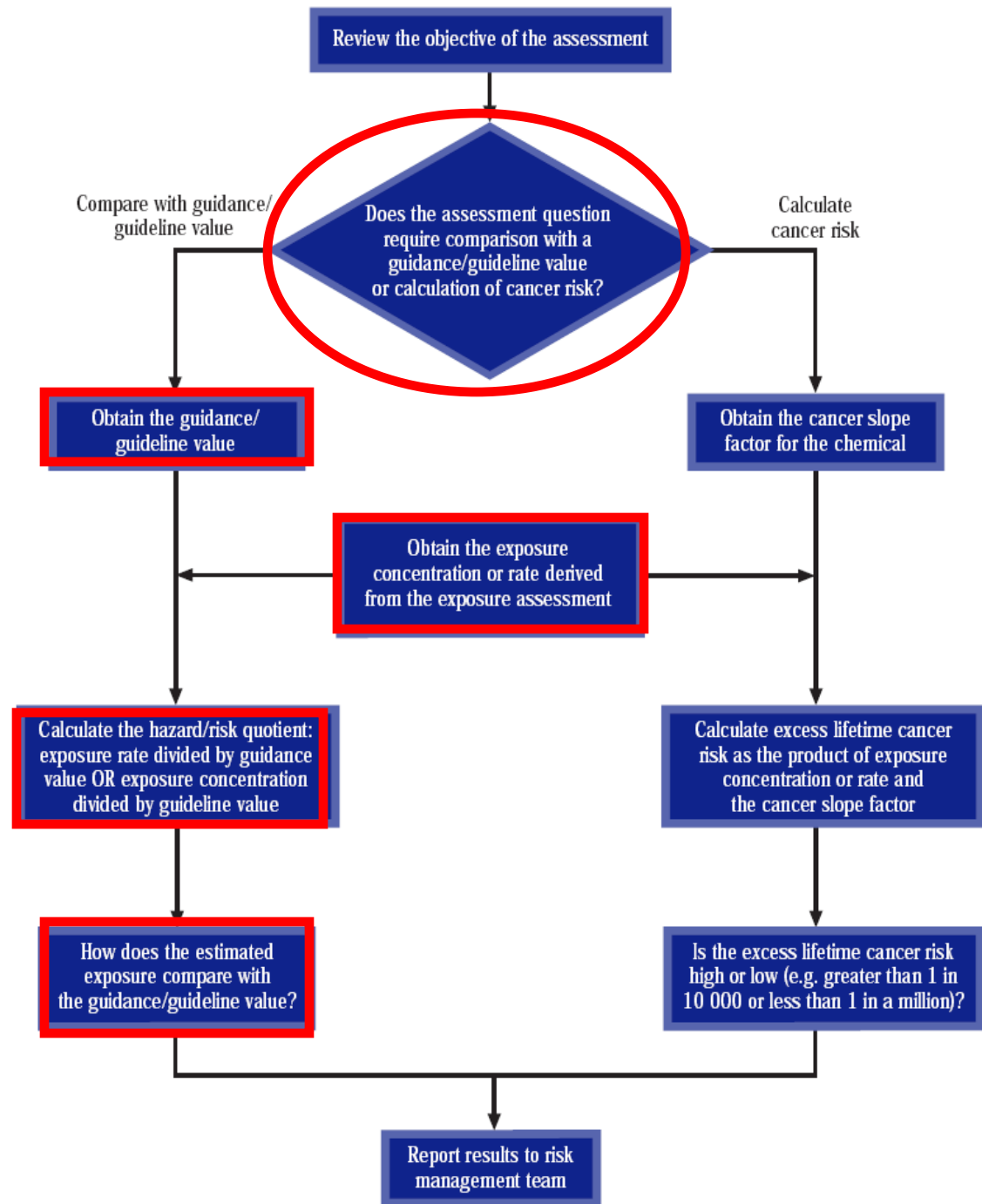


# Roadmaps by stage of the risk assessment

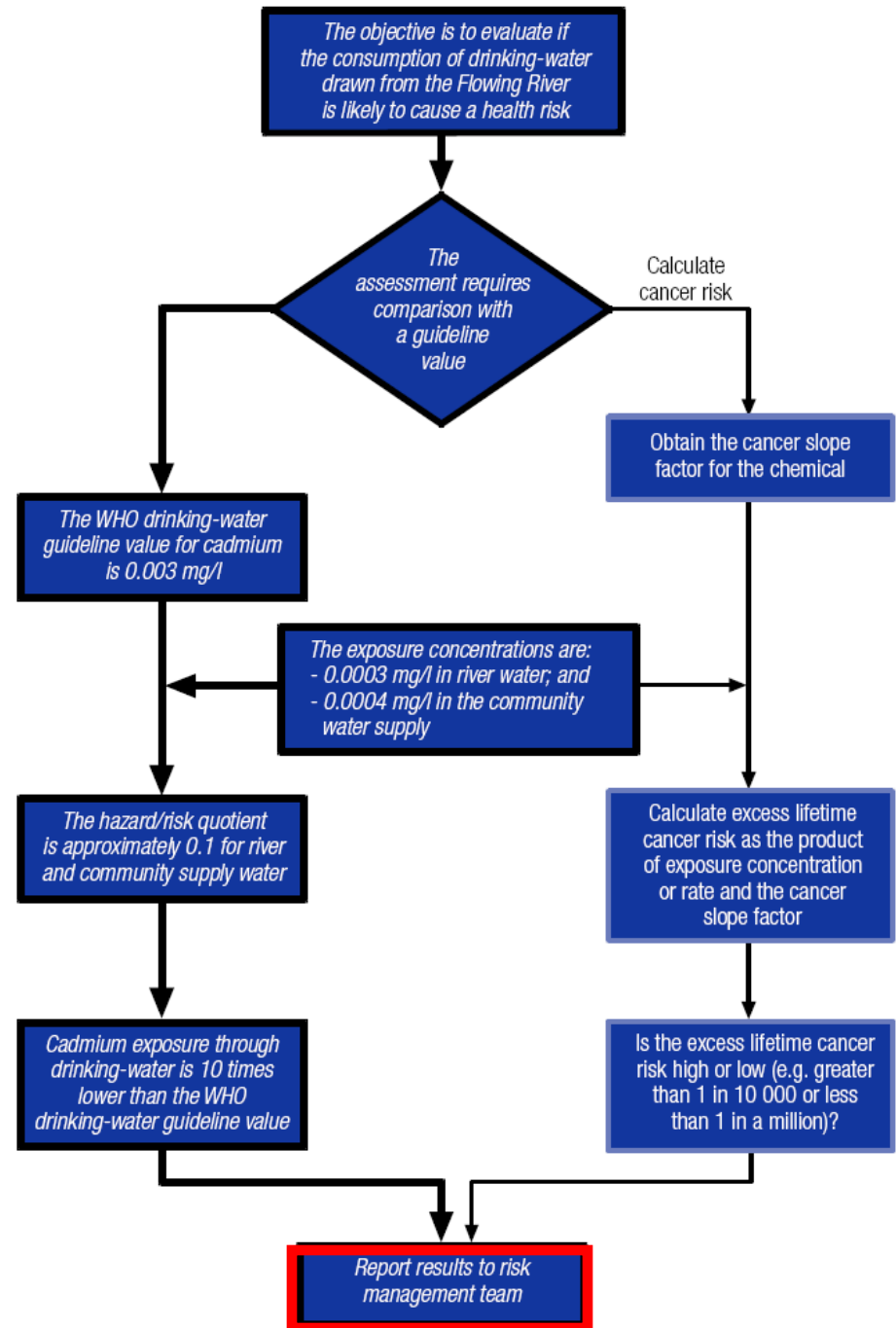




# Roadmap for risk characterization



# Case study on cadmium: Specific roadmap for risk characterization



---

Dr Kersten Gutschmidt

Department for Public Health and Environment (PHE)

World Health Organization, Geneva

[gutschmidt@who.int](mailto:gutschmidt@who.int)

[www.who.int/environmental\\_health\\_emergencies/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/environmental_health_emergencies/en/index.html)

[www.who.int/ipcs/emergencies/chemical\\_incidents/en/index.html](http://www.who.int/ipcs/emergencies/chemical_incidents/en/index.html)

