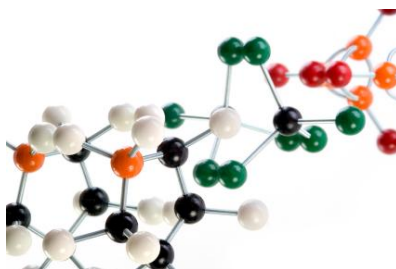




Beyond Science and Decisions: From Problem Formulation to Risk Assessment

October 26 & 27, 2026

VIRTUAL



Workshop Co-Chairs:
Pamela Williams and Tracie Phillips

Workshop Coordinators:
Christen Williams

Workshop Rapporteur:
Chijioke Onyema

Workshop XVI Agenda & Purpose:

To advance the recommendations in the NAS (2009) report concerning issue identification (problem formulation) and all aspects of risk assessment and management, through selection of illustrative research case studies for further development

Day 1: Monday, October 26th

(note: all times are US Eastern Daylight Savings Time (EDST), Which is UT-4,
to accommodate a diverse spread of time zones)

Chair: **Pamela Williams**

Welcome (9:00 to 9:15)

- **TBD**, Member of the *ARA* Steering Committee
- **Michael Dourson**, Member of the *ARA* Advisory Panel
- **Wally Hayes**, Member of the Science Panel

Keynote Talk: Talking about risk in a hazard-prone world (9:15 to 10:00)

- **Professor Katherine McComas**, Cornell University

Morning Break (10:00 to 10:30)

Case study 1: Benefits and risks of pasteurizing donor breast milk and bovine milk (10:30 to 12:30)

- **Rodney Dietert**, Emeritus Professor of Immunotoxicology, Cornell University: Evidence on benefits of breastmilk and cow milk and common mechanisms
- **Peg Coleman**, Coleman Scientific Consulting: Evidence of risks for breastmilk and cow milk
- **D. Warner North**, NorthWorks: Evidence and uncertainties informing decisions about benefits and risks of pasteurizing donor breastmilk and cow milk
- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers

Lunch break (12:30 to 1:30)

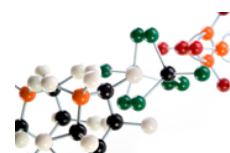
Case Study 2: Scientific sufficiency of causal claims: A practical approach (1:30 to 3:00)

- **Tony Cox**, Cox and Associates
- Discussion by the Science Panel

Afternoon Break (3:00 to 3:30)

Case Study 2: Continued (3:30 to 5:00)

- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers



Day 2: Tuesday, October 27th

Chair: **Pamela Williams**

Case Study 3: Scientific Rigor in the Era of New Assessment Methods (NAMs): Key Characteristics Approach and Evidence-Based Weight of Evidence Frameworks (8:30 to 10:00)

- **Carr J. Smith / Christopher J. Borgert:** Conceptual and Methodological Flaws of the Key Characteristics Approach and Solutions from Weight of Evidence (WoE) Frameworks
- **Michael Dourson:** Evidence-Based MoA Framework for Carcinogens Should Be Favored for Identification of Carcinogens
- **Ellen M. Mihaich / Christopher J. Borgert:** Hypothesis-Based Weight of Evidence Framework Should Be Favored for Identification of Endocrine Disruptors
- Discussion by the Science Panel

Morning Break (10:00 to 10:30)

Case Study 3: Continued (10:30 to noon)

- Discussion by the Science Panel
- Comments from Observers
- Chair's Summary

Lunch Break (noon to 1:00)

Ongoing Activities (1:00 to 2:30)

Retire the Linear No-Threshold (LNT) Model?

- **Dennis Paustenbach**, TRC Companies

The Human-Relevant Potency Threshold: Reliable, Replicated, and Consistent with 100 years of Mechanistic Pharmacology

- **Christopher Borgert**, Applied Pharmacology and Toxicology, Inc.

Afternoon Break (2:30 to 3:00)

Ongoing Activities continued (3:00 to 4:30)

The Tungsten reference dose (RfD)

- **Ranulfo Lemus**, International Tungsten Industry Association

Perchlorate: A Final Number Please

- **Susan Goldhaber**, SBG Consulting Inc.

Implications of the advancement of knowledge on mutagenic MOA for default linear extrapolation

- **Bette Meek**, University of Ottawa

Summary of the Workshop (4:30 to 5:00)

- **Pamela Williams**

