Addressing Unassessed Chemicals: Selection and Adjustment of Inhalation Health Guidance Values

JOHN B. FAUST, PH.D.

HEATHER BOLSTAD, PH.D.

RACHEL HIRANI, PH.D.

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HAZARD ASSESSMENT

OCTOBER 9, 2020

PRESENTATION TO THE SCIENTIFIC REVIEW PANEL ON TOXIC AIR CONTAMINANTS



Today's presentation

Outline

- Background on HGVs
- Nature of the Problem
- Potential methodology for developing provisional HGVs
 - Adopt HGVs
 - Adapt HGVs
 - Other approaches (e.g., structural analogs)
- Items for discussion



Background: Health Guidance Values (HGVs)

- HGVs are the amount of a chemical, such as the concentration in air, which is likely to pose little or no appreciable risk to human health
 - Noncancer HGV: generally derived from a point of departure (POD) with uncertainty factors (UFs) applied
 - Cancer HGV: usually a potency reflecting increase in cancer risk with dose
 - ► HGVs are used in risk assessment to express a hazard quotient or lifetime cancer risk for a chemical
 - Hazard quotients (for similar endpoints) and lifetime cancer risks can be summed to give a cumulative risk for multiple chemicals



Unassessed Chemicals

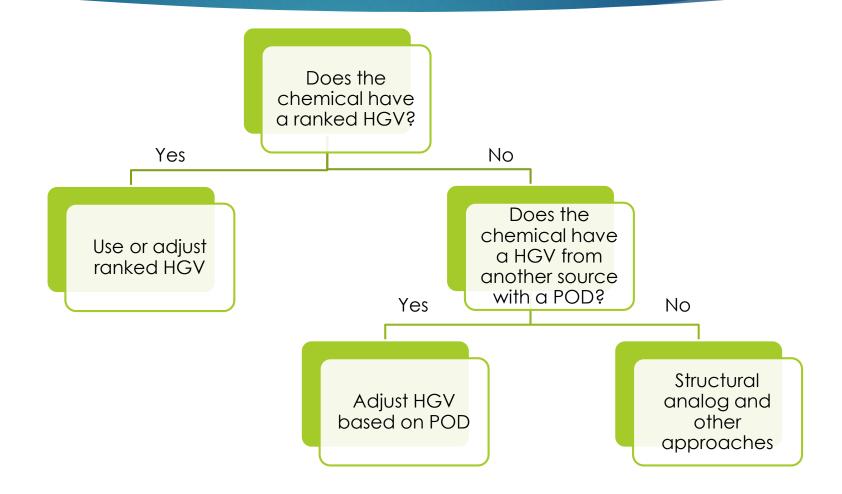
- Nature of the Problem:
 - OEHHA has established HGVs for a fraction of potential air contaminants
 - ▶ Establishing health guidance values (e.g., RELs, Unit Risk Factors) by traditional approaches can be time- and resource-intensive
- Possible Solution:
 - A mechanism to provide information in a more expedited manner on the potential for health risks from exposure to toxic chemicals
 - Likely to carry greater uncertainty than traditional procedures



Potential Approaches for Developing Provisional HGVs

- Use work from other entities when it exists
 - Adopt others' existing HGVs, such as values from US EPA's IRIS program
 - Adapt others' existing HGVs, to make more consistent with established California methodologies (e.g., adjustment of occupational values)
- Use alternative approaches when there are no values from existing authorities
 - Structural analog approach
 - Other methods (e.g., expedited derivation of HGVs, additional in silico approaches)







Ranked HGVs from Other Entities

- Potential HGV Evaluation Criteria
 - Peer-review of HGV
 - ► HGV for inhalation route of exposure
 - Source program is active
 - Protection of general population including sensitive subgroups
 - Established guidance for derivation of HGV
 - Developed by OEHHA to meet California risk standards



Example of HGV Evaluation

	External review	Public comment	Active source program	Intended for inhalation/derived from inhalation study	Intended for gen. pop. and includes sensitive subgroups	Established guidelines for HGV development	Developed by OEHHA to meet California risk standards
OEHHA RELS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
OEHHA PHGs	✓	✓	✓	√/-	✓	-	✓
US EPA IRIS RfCs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
ATSDR MRLs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
US EPA PPRTV p-RfCs	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
OEHHA chRDs	✓	✓	✓	√/-	√/-	-	✓
US EPA HEAST RfCs	-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	-
OEHHA MADLS	✓	✓	✓	√/-	√/-	✓	✓
TCEQ ReVs	√/-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
ACGIH TLVs/STELs	√/-	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-

Ranked Hierarchy of Chronic Non-Cancer Inhalation HGVs

Rank	Source	Description	Adjustment
1	ОЕННА	Chronic/8-hr RELs	N/A
2	ОЕННА	PHGs (based on inhalation study)	Remove drinking water adjustments
3	US EPA	IRIS RfCs	N/A
4	ATSDR	Chronic MRLs	N/A
5	US EPA	Chronic PPRTV p-RfCs	N/A
6	ATSDR	Intermediate MRLs	Subchronic to chronic
7	US EPA	Subchronic PPRTV p- RfCs	Subchronic to chronic
8	ОЕННА	PHGs (not based on inhalation study)	Route-to-route extrapolation

Rank	Source	Description	Adjustment
9	ОЕННА	chRDs	Route-to-route extrapolation
10	US EPA	HEAST Chronic RfCs	N/A
11	US EPA	HEAST Subchronic RfCs	Subchronic to chronic
12	TCEQ	Chronic ReVs	N/A
13	US EPA	IRIS RfDs	Route-to-route extrapolation
14	ОЕННА	MADLs (reproductive endpoints)	Route-to-route extrapolation
15	ACGIH	TLVs (8-hr TWA)	Time extrapolation, UFs

Ranked Hierarchy of Acute Non-Cancer Inhalation HGVs

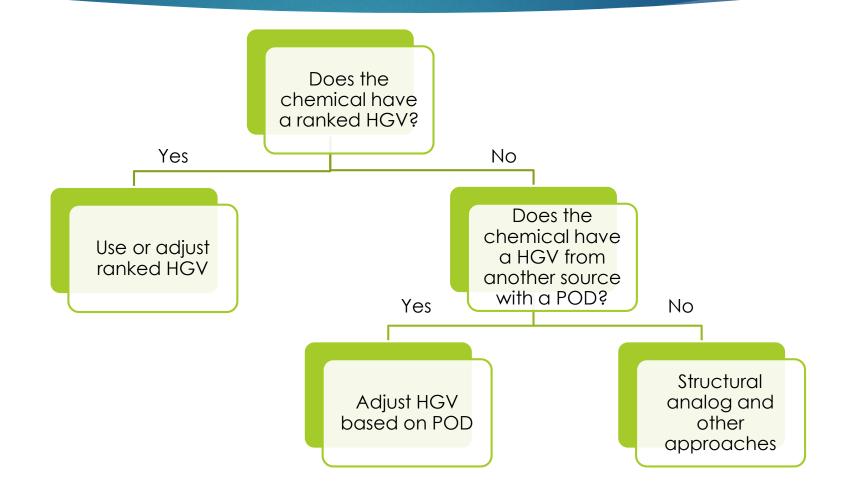
Rank	Source	Description	Adjustment		
1	ОЕННА	Acute RELs	N/A		
2	ATSDR	Acute MRLs	Time extrapolation		
3	TCEQ	Acute ReVs	N/A		
4	ОЕННА	MADLs (developmental endpoints)	Route-to-route extrapolation		
5	ACGIH	STELs	Time extrapolation, UFs		



Occupational HGV Adjustments

- Adjustment of ACGIH HGVs
 - ► Adjust for exposure duration
 - Adjust with UFs
 - ▶ UF = 300 if the underlying POD was based on a human study
 - ▶ UF = 3,000 if the underlying POD was based on an animal study

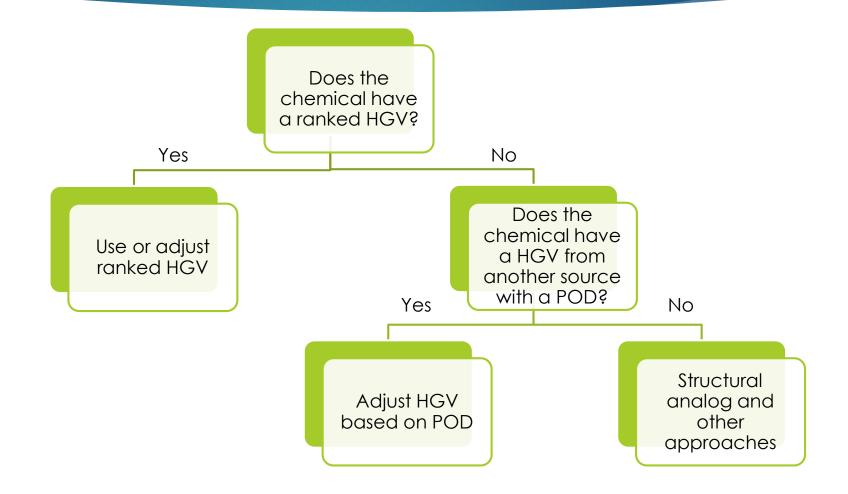






Adjust HGVs based on POD

- ► If HGV requires further refinement, use POD and adjust with UFs per OEHHA REL guidance
 - \triangleright Provisional $HGV = \frac{POD\ from\ existing\ HGV}{UFs}$
- ► Types of UFs
 - ▶ LOAEL (UF_L adjusts for lack of NOAEL in a study)
 - Subchronic (UF_S adjusts for exposure duration)
 - Animal to human (UF_{A-k}, UF_{A-d} toxicokinetic/toxicodynamic components of interspecies UF)
 - ► Human variability (UF_{H-k}, UF_{H-d} toxicokinetic/toxicodynamic components of intraspecies UF)
 - Database deficiency (UF_D)





Structural Analog Approach

Identify structural analog's ranked HGVs

Select analog and HGV

- Identify structural analogs using US EPA software (AIM, Chemicals Dashboard)
- Determine if analogs have ranked HGV
- Select analog with highest similarity score that has a ranked HGV
 - ▶ If multiple HGVs, selection/adjustment based on ranked hierarchy

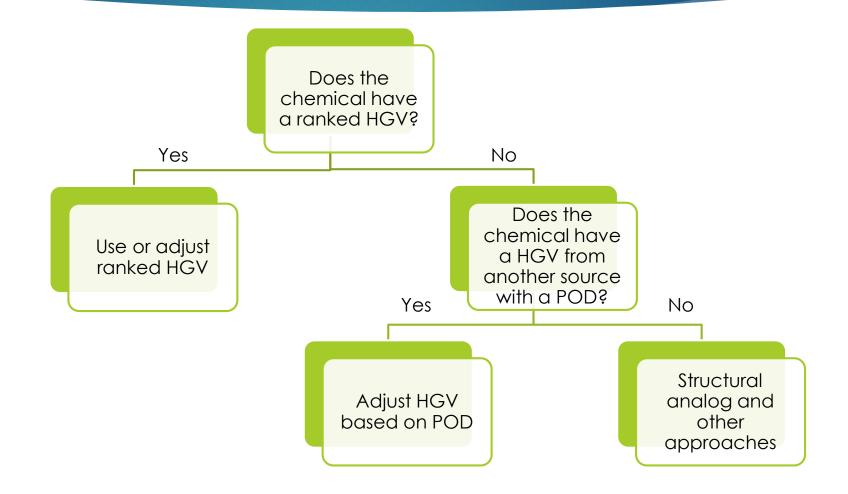


Example of Structural Analog Approach

 Structural analogs of m-diethylbenzene and corresponding existing ranked chronic HGVs

	Chemical	CAS	Structure	Similarity Score*	Analog Identification Software	Chronic HGV (mg/m³)	Source
)	<i>m</i> -Diethylbenzene	141-93-5	H ₃ C CH ₃	-	-		-
		100-41-4	H ₃ C	1.00	US EPA AIM, US EPA CompTox Chemistry Dashboard) 2	OEHHA chronic REL
1	Ethylbenzene					0.3 mg/L drinking water	OEHHA PHG
						1	US EPA IRIS RfC
						0.26	ATSDR chronic MRLs
							US EPA PPRTV subchronic p- RfC
						1.9	TCEQ chronic ReV
						0.1 mg/kg/day	US EPA IRIS RfD
	lsopropylbenzene (cumene)	98-82-8	H ₃ C	0.88	US EPA CompTox Chemistry Dashboard	0.4	US EPA IRIS RfC
						0.1 mg/kg/day	US EPA IRIS RfD







Items for Discussion

- Identification and Selection of Health Guidance Values:
 - Do the sources of potential HGVs for acute and chronic non-cancer endpoints appear complete?
 - Are the criteria described appropriate for selection of useful HGVs?
 - Is it reasonable to use these HGVs for risk screening purposes with the limited adjustments described?
 - Are there alternative approaches to adjusting HGVs that we should consider?
- Adjustment of Occupational HGVs:
 - We propose to adjust ACGIH HGVs with a factor of 300 when the underlying point-of-departure (POD) is from a human study and 3,000 when it is from an animal study. Is this reasonable?

- Surrogate HGVs from Structural Analogs:
 - What factors should we consider in using a surrogate approach in the context of a screening-level, multi-pollutant risk assessment?
 - Is it reasonable to identify analogs based on structural similarity?
 - Are there other platforms for analog identification that we should consider (other than AIM and the Comptox Dashboard)?
 - For this risk screening context, is it reasonable to select the highest ranked HGV for the analog with the highest similarity score?

