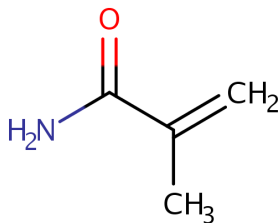# EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP) for Methacrylamide

Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure (CCTE)
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

December 2024

Contents

DISCLAIMER

This document is a draft for review by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Board of Scientific Counselors (BOSC) and public comment purposes only. This information is distributed solely for the purpose of pre-dissemination peer review and public comment under applicable information quality guidelines. It has not been formally disseminated by the EPA. It has not been formally disseminated by EPA. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any Agency determination or policy.

ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviations	Descriptions
BMD	Benchmark Dose
BMDL	Benchmark Dose Lower Confidence Limit
CASRN	Chemical Abstracts Service Registry Number
CCTE	Center for Computational Toxicology and Exposure
cPOD	Calibrated Point-of-Departure
CTV	Calibrated Toxicity Value
DCAP	Database-Calibrated Assessment Product
DRSV	Dose Response Summary Value
DSSTox	Distributed Structure-Searchable Toxicity Database
DTXSID	DSSTox Substance Identifier
eBMD	Estimated Benchmark Dose
$eBMD_{HED}$	Estimated Benchmark Dose, Human Equivalent Dose
ECUA	Effective Composite Uncertainty Adjustment
ECHA	European Chemicals Agency
EFSA	European Food Safety Agency
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
GSD	Geometric Standard Deviation
HED	Human Equivalent Dose
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
LEL	Lowest Effect Level
LOAEL	Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level
LOEL	Lowest Observed Effect Level
NEL	No Effect Level
NN Histo	Non-Neoplastic Histopathology
NOAEL	No Observed Adverse Effect Level
NOEL	No Observed Effect Level
ORD	Office of Research and Development
POD	Point of Departure
PPRTV	Provisional Peer-Reviewed Toxicity Values
QA	Quality Assurance
SMILES	Simplified Molecular-Input Line-Entry System
ToxRefDB	Toxicity Reference Database
ToxValDB	Toxicity Values Database
UF	Uncertainty Factor
UF_A	Animal-to-Human Interspecies Variability Uncertainty Factor
UF_D	Database Uncertainty Factor
UF_H	Intraspecies Variability Uncertainty Factor
UF_L	Extrapolation of a LOAEL-to-NOAEL Uncertainty Factor
UF_S	Subchronic-to-Chronic Duration Extrapolation Uncertainty Factor
WHO	World Health Organization

1 BACKGROUND

Database-Calibrated Assessment Products (DCAP) are developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Office of Research and Development (ORD) to provide database calibrated toxicity values (CTV). The objective of this human health assessment is to provide a CTV with the level of confidence and caveats outlined in the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024). The CTV is defined as an estimate of a daily oral dose to the human population that is likely to be without appreciable risk of adverse non-cancer health effects over a lifetime. The CTV is derived from a calibrated point-of-departure (cPOD) with uncertainties incorporated to reflect limitations of the data used. The cPOD is defined as the lower uncertainty limit of the value associated with the calibrated percentile in a distribution of chronic duration estimated human equivalent benchmark dose ($eBMD_{HED}$) values derived from multiple human health relevant studies. The percentile has been calibrated to PODs for critical effects from select authoritative sources. The cPOD is not necessarily associated with a specific hazard or adverse effect, nor has a formal confidence evaluation been performed on the studies underpinning the distribution of $eBMD_{HED}$ values. While a CTV is expressly presented as a chronic value in the DCAP, it may also be applicable across other exposure durations of interest including short-term and subchronic. In certain human health assessments such as Provisional Peer Reviewed Toxicity Values (PPRTVs), EPA has adopted a chronic non-cancer reference value as a conservative estimate for a subchronic non-cancer reference value when data quality and/or lack of duration-relevant hazard and dose response data preclude direct derivation.

The DCAP method is intended to be applied to substances with existing, publicly accessible repeat dose toxicity studies, but lacking expert derived human health assessments from select authoritative sources. The DCAP is not intended to represent a comprehensive treatise on the chemical. The DCAP is not a risk assessment because it does not include an exposure assessment nor an overall risk characterization. Further, the human health assessment does not address the legal, political, social, economic, or technical considerations involved in risk management. The DCAP can be used by EPA, states, Tribes, and local communities, along with specific exposure and other relevant information, to determine if, and when, it is necessary to take action to address potential risk associated with human exposures to a chemical. Individual DCAPs may be updated to incorporate new data that might impact the CTV, or retired if an expert developed human health assessment is published from an authoritative source. A description of the underlying database and the methods associated with deriving the CTV are provided in *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024).

2   ASSESSMENT REVIEW

The methods for developing the DCAP outlined in this document have been internally reviewed by ORD scientists and management. The workflow has undergone a Technical Systems Audit for Quality Assurance, under the direction of the project Quality Assurance (QA) Manager, consistent with the QA process detailed in the DCAP methods. The methods are being externally peer reviewed by the EPA BOSC and subject to public comment (EPA, 2024).

This DCAP has followed the methods outlined in the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024). Due to the extensive review of the standardized methods, this individual DCAP will not receive independent peer review.
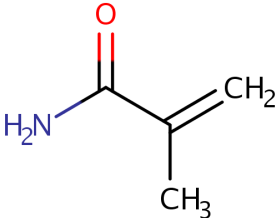
3   VERSION HISTORY

DCAP are developed using *in vivo* toxicology data from multiple selected sources included within the ToxVal Database (ToxValDB). ToxValDB may be updated to include newly available data. In addition, the calibration of the optimal percentile that defines selection of the cPOD may also be update periodically to ensure that the calibration step is using the most up-to-date available information. For these reasons, version identifiers for the underlying dataset, the calibration procedure that informed the development of the current report, and the version of the DCAP assessment are provided in Table 1.

Table 1: Database and documentation version numbers underlying the DCAP

Item	Version Number	Date of Release (Month, Year)
ToxValDB	Version 9.6.0	December, 2024
DCAP Calibration Procedure	Version calib.1.2024	December, 2024
DCAP Assessment for DTXSID8029600	Version dcap.1.2024	December, 2024

4 CHEMICAL IDENTITY AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Table 2: Chemical identity and physicochemical properties of Methacrylamide.

Property	Value	Type
Structure		
Name	Methacrylamide	
DTXSID	DTXSID8029600	
CASRN	79-39-0	
IUPAC name	2-Methylprop-2-enamide	
Synonyms	-	
Molecular Weight	C_4H_7NO	
SMILES	CC(=C)C(N)=O	
Molecular weight (g/mol)	85.11	
Density	0.98	TEST Predicted
Boiling point (°C) (at 0.01 mm Hg)	215	Experimental
Melting point (°C)	109.9	Experimental
LogP: octanol-water	-1.11	Experimental
Henry's law constant	2.19e-08	OPERA Predicted
Water solubility (mg/L)	7.48e+00	OPERA Predicted
Vapor pressure (mm Hg)	8.49e-02	Experimental

5 DATA SOURCES AND TOXICITY STUDIES

5.1 DATA SOURCES

The DCAP was developed using the Toxicity Values database (ToxValDB)[1] Version 9.6.0.

5.2 TOXICITY STUDY RECORDS

Determination of eligible dose-response summary values (DRSVs) and their corresponding consolidated study groups were defined according to the filtering logic and selection hierarchies outlined within *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024). A total of 20 consolidated study groups were identified across eligible *in vivo* oral toxicity studies for Methacrylamide. A list of DCAP records for the consolidated groups is included in Appendix I.

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[1]The current, as well as prior, versions of EPA's ToxValDB is available at: https://www.epa.gov/comptox-tools/downloadable-computational-toxicology-data
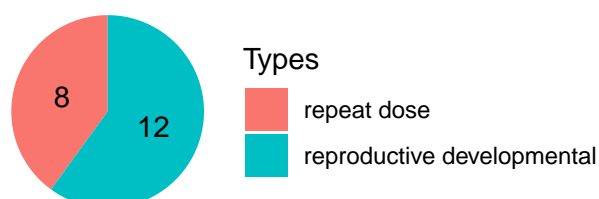
6 STUDY CHARACTERISTICS

Across the 20 consolidated study groups, study characteristics are provided in the pie charts below (Figure 1).
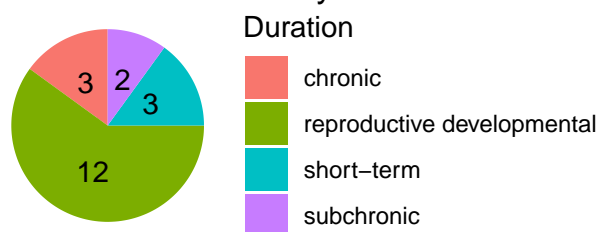
A. Data Sources
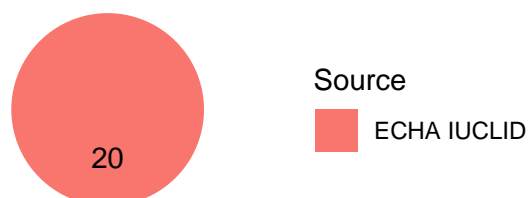
B. Standardized Study Types

C. Standardized Study Durations
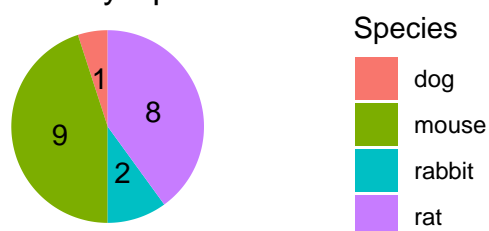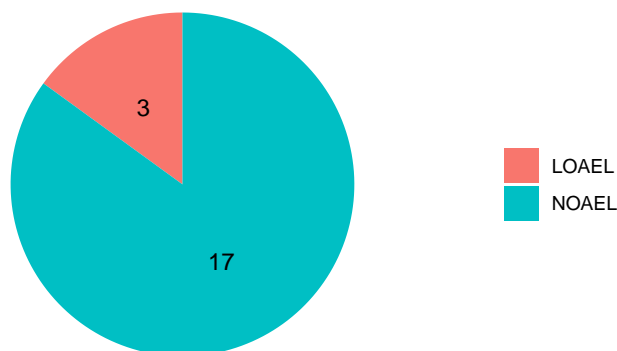
D. Study Species

Figure 1: Consolidated study group characteristics reported for Methacrylamide including (A) data sources; (B) standardized study types; (C) study durations; and (D) study species.

7 DOSE RESPONSE SUMMARY VALUE CHARACTERISTICS

Across the 20 consolidated study groups, the characteristics of the reported dose-response summary values (DRSVs) are provided in the pie charts below (Figure 2).

A. Standardized DRSV types

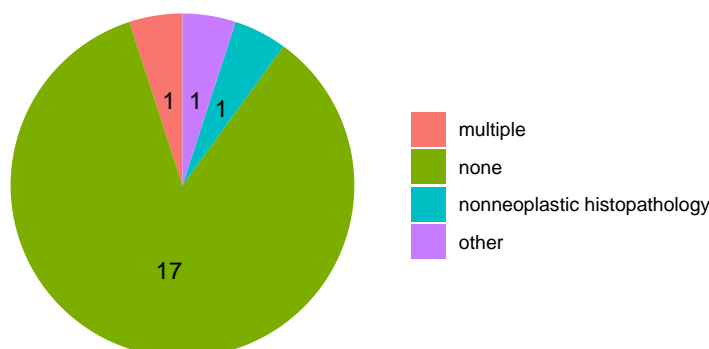## B. Standardized toxicological effect categories

Figure 2: DRSV characteristics reported for Methacrylamide including (A) standardized DRSV types; and (B) standardized toxicological effect categories. All NOAEL/NEL values are assigned a standardized toxicological effect category of 'none' since, by definition, no adverse effects are observed at the dose specified.

Following the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024), the consolidated study groups were assigned a dose response model based on the standardized study type and standardized toxicological effect category. The source DRSVs were converted to $eBMD_{HED}$ using WHO/IPCS guidance (2018). The resulting $eBMD_{HED}$ values and reported DRSVs were distributed according to the box and whiskers plots provided below (Figure 3). The median, minimum, and maximum $eBMD_{HED}$ values were 18, 1, and 222 mg/kg-day, respectively.
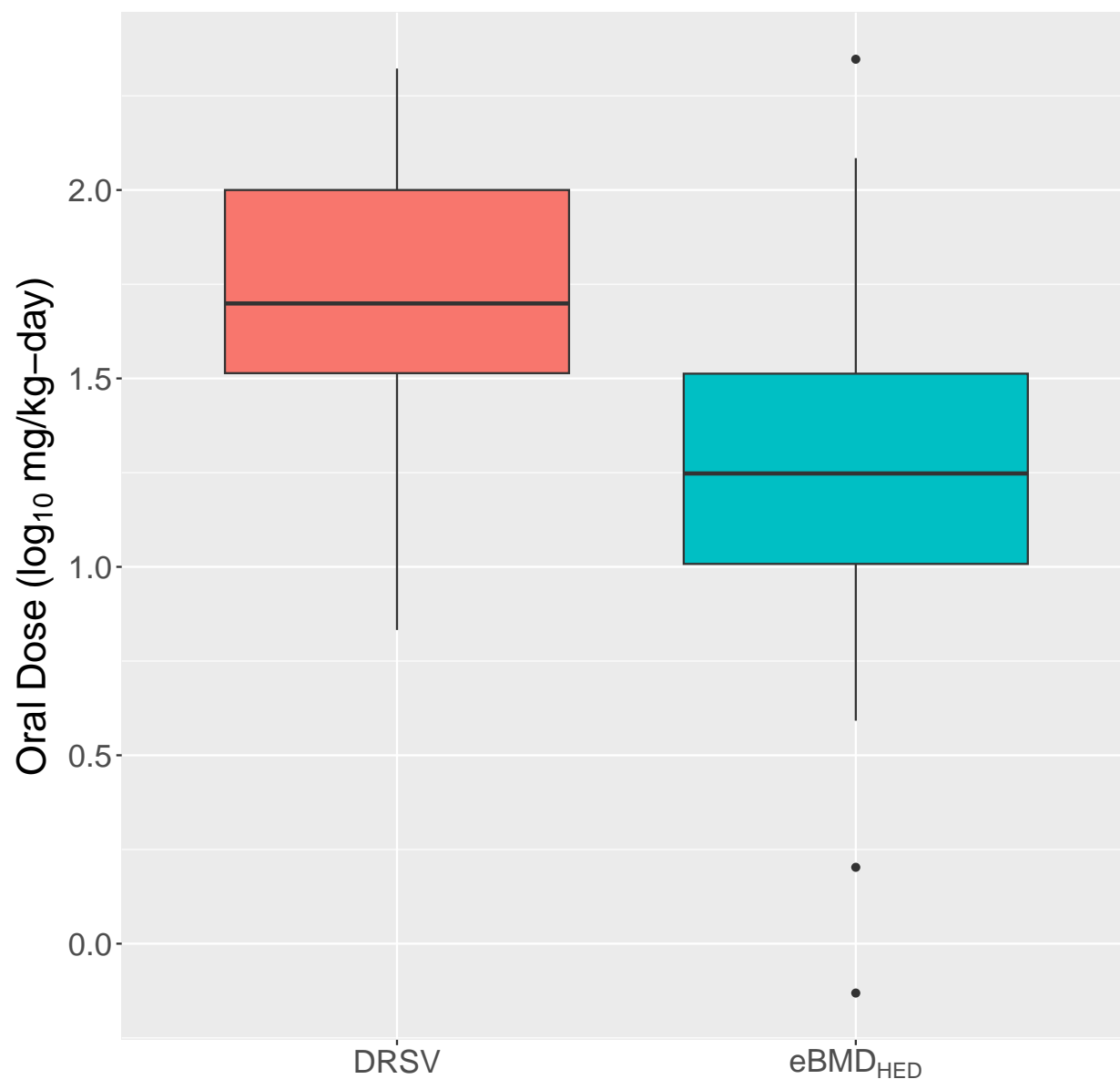
Figure 3: Box and whisker plots of the reported DRSVs (red) and chronic eBMD$_{HED}$ values (blue) for Methacrylamide. The box represents the inter-quartile range between the 25th and 75th percentiles, while the horizontal line inside the box denotes the median. The whiskers represent the largest (or smallest) observation that is within 1.5 times the interquartile range above Q3 (or below Q1). Observations that fall outside the whiskers are shown individually as dots.

8   CALCULATION OF THE CALIBRATED POINT OF DEPARTURE

The distribution of chronic $eBMD_{HED}$ values is fit to a lognormal distribution. The 18th percentile of the fitted distribution is most frequently associated with the POD for expert selected critical effects in human health assessments from select authoritative sources (EPA, 2024). For Methacrylamide, the 18th percentile of the $eBMD_{HED}$ distribution ($p_{calib}eBMD_{HED}$) is 5 mg/kg-day (0.7 $\log_{10}$ mg/kg-day) (Figure 4).

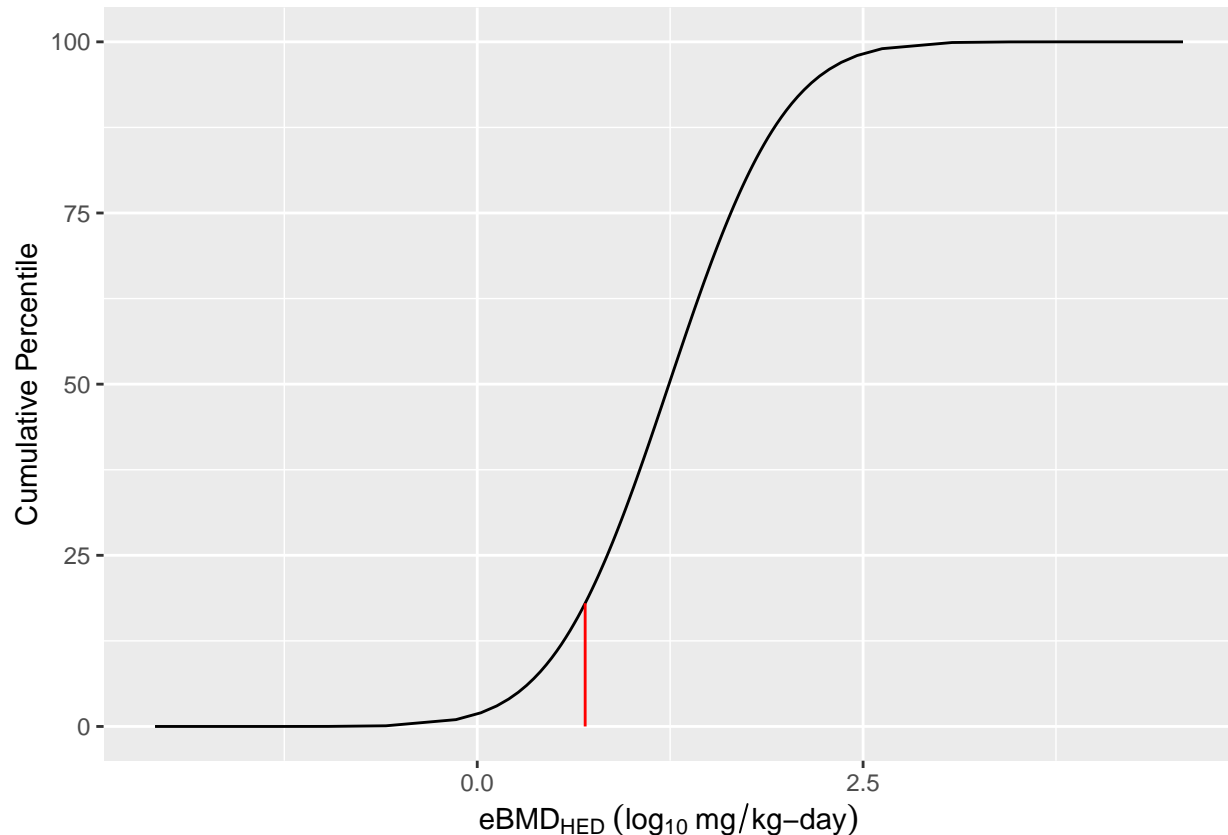Figure 4:   Cumulative distribution of $eBMD_{HED}$ values for Methacrylamide.   The 18th percentile in the distribution ($p_{calib}eBMD_{HED}$) is highlighted with the red line.

8.1   UNCERTAINTY IN $eBMD_{HED}$ DISTRIBUTION

The uncertainty in the estimation of $p_{calib}eBMD_{HED}$ flows from both the uncertainty in the conversion of the DRSVs to chronic $eBMD_{HED}$ values and the uncertainty in the inter-study variability. The geometric standard deviation[2] (GSD) associated with the estimation of μ (GSD_{μ}) incorporates uncertainty from three traditional sources typically covered by uncertainty factors (UF) including UF_S (*i.e.,* uncertainty in extrapolating from shorter-duration studies to chronic duration), UF_L (*i.e.,* uncertainty in extrapolating from a LOAEL to a NOAEL), and UF_A (*i.e.,* uncertainty in extrapolating from an animal to a human), as well as other uncertainties that are unique to DCAP. The GSD_{σ} incorporates uncertainty in the estimation of the inter-study variability. For more information on how these uncertainties are included, please refer to the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated*

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[2]GSDs are unitless factors that can be used to derive the lower and upper confidence bounds on a geometric mean by dividing and multiplying the geometric mean by the GSD, respectively. For the DCAP, GSDs are used in $\log_{10}$-form rather than natural log.

Assessment Product (DCAP) (EPA, 2024) report. The uncertainties GSD_μ and GSD_σ are combined to provide an estimate of the total uncertainty in $p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}$. (Eq. 1).

$$\text{GSD}^2_{p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}} = 10^{\sqrt{(\log_{10}(\text{GSD}^2_\mu))^2 + (\log_{10}(\text{GSD}^2_\sigma))^2}} \tag{1}$$

8.2 UNCERTAINTY IN CALIBRATION PROCESS

In addition to the uncertainty in $p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}$, the error associated with the calibration to the POD associated with critical effects from expert derived human health assessments was calculated as a GSD discordance (GSD_{disc}) of 5.02 (EPA, 2024). GSD_{comp} denotes the compounded GSD that combines the uncertainties associated with the eBMD_{HED} distribution and calibration process using Eq. 2.

$$\log_{10}(\text{GSD}_{\text{comp}}) = \sqrt{\left[\log_{10}(\text{GSD}_{p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}})\right]^2 + \left[\log_{10}(\text{GSD}_{\text{disc}})\right]^2} \tag{2}$$

Using the estimate of the total uncertainty, the lower 95th confidence bound on the $p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}$ was calculated as the cPOD (Eq. 3).

$$\text{cPOD} = \left(\frac{p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}}{\text{GSD}^{z_{0.95}}_{\text{comp}}}\right) \tag{3}$$

where $z_{0.95}$ denotes the z-score associated with 95th percentile of the standard normal distribution.

Table 3: Summary of estimates of the uncertainties for $p_{\text{calib}}\ \text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}$ and the calibration process used to calculate the cPOD for Methacrylamide

$\text{GSD}_\mu{}^*$	GSD_σ	$\text{GSD}_{p_{\text{calib}}\ \text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}}$	GSD_{disc}	GSD_{comp}
1.6	1.3	1.6	5	5.4

[*] The GSD_μ includes three traditional sources of uncertainty normally associated with UF_{S}, UF_{L} and UF_{A}.

9 DERIVATION OF THE CALIBRATED TOXICITY VALUE

9.1 CALIBRATED POINT OF DEPARTURE

The lower uncertainty limit on the $p_{calib}eBMD_{HED}$ of 0.31 mg/kg-day was determined to be the cPOD for Methacrylamide. The cPOD is defined as the lower uncertainty limit of the value associated with the calibrated percentile of a distribution of chronic duration $eBMD_{HED}$ values derived from multiple human health relevant studies. The percentile has been calibrated to PODs for critical effects from select authoritative sources (EPA, 2024). The cPOD is not necessarily associated with a specific hazard or adverse effect, nor has a formal confidence evaluation been performed on the studies underpinning the distribution of $eBMD_{HED}$ values.

9.2 CALIBRATED TOXICITY VALUE (CTV)

The application of UF follows the procedure described in the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024). Uncertainty associated with animal-to-human extrapolation (UF_A), extrapolation from a LOAEL to a NOAEL when a NOAEL is not available (UF_L), and extrapolation from shorter-duration studies to chronic duration (UF_S) are all integrated into the calculation of a cPOD. Additional quantitative application of a UF for intraspecies variability (UF_H) and the toxicity database (UF_D) are considered in the derivation of the CTV, as these specific UF are not accounted for in the calculation of the cPOD (Table 4). DCAP universally applies an UF_H of 10 for all chemicals to account for interindividual variability in the susceptibility of the human population due to both intrinsic and extrinsic factors that can influence the response to exposure dose. A UF_D of 10 is applied in the derivation of the CTV to account for a lack of qualitative confidence characterization of the hazard data and potential data gaps in the underlying toxicity database.

Table 4: Uncertainty factors used in the calculation of the CTV for Methacrylamide

UF	Value	Description
UF_A	*	The UF_A is incorporated into the calculation of the cPOD.
UF_S	*	The UF_S is incorporated into the calculation of the cPOD.
UF_L	*	The UF_L is incorporated into the calculation of the cPOD.
UF_H	10	A UF_H is applied to account for interindividual variability in the susceptibility of the human population.
UF_D	10	A UF_D is applied to account for lack of qualitative confidence characterization of the hazard data, and potential data gaps in the underlying toxicity database.

* The asterisk associated with UF_A, UF_S, and UF_L signifies that these specific uncertainties were quantitatively accounted for in the calculation of the cPOD. The remaining factors of 10 are associated with the UF_H and UF_D, respectively.

Using the cPOD of 0.31 mg/kg-day, the CTV was calculated based on Equation 4:

$$\text{CTV} = \frac{\text{cPOD}}{UF_A^* \times UF_S^* \times UF_L^* \times UF_H \times UF_D} = \frac{0.31 \text{ mg/kg-day}}{10 \times 10} = 0.0031 \text{ mg/kg-day} \qquad (4)$$

The CTV for Methacrylamide is 0.0031 mg/kg-day and is an estimate of the daily oral dose to the human population that is likely to be without appreciable risk of adverse non-cancer health effects over a lifetime. The CTV is derived from a cPOD with additional uncertainty factors applied to reflect limitations of the data used.

REFERENCES

EPA. 2024. Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP). DRAFT. Research Triangle Park, NC:U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

WHO. 2018. Guidance document on evaluating and expressing uncertainty in hazard characterization. Harmonization Project Document 11 – 2nd edition. Geneva, Switzerland:World Health Organization, International Programme on Chemical Safety.

APPENDIX I

The following table includes the source documents from which each dose response summary value (DRSV) for the chemical under assessment was derived. Selection of DRSVs for use in the assessment from the underlying source documents was accomplished using the data filtering and selection hierarchies as described in the *Scientific Support and Standard Methods for the Development and Implementation of the EPA Database-Calibrated Assessment Product (DCAP)* (EPA, 2024).

Table 5: Data source information of DRSVs for Methacrylamide extracted from ToxValDB.

Standardized DRSV Type	DRSV (mg/kg-day)	Standardized Study Duration	Study Species	Standardized Toxicological Effect Category	Information Source	Source Record Location
NOAEL	49.0	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	100.0	reproductive developmental	Rabbit	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	49.0	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	60.0	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	50.0	reproductive developmental	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	49.0	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	12.5	reproductive developmental	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	69.0	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	71.3	reproductive developmental	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
LOAEL	6.8	reproductive developmental	Mouse	multiple	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	150.0	reproductive developmental	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	50.0	reproductive developmental	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	33.6	chronic	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	210.0	subchronic	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	20.0	chronic	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	30.0	short-term	Rat	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	125.0	short-term	Mouse	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
LOAEL	30.0	short-term	Rat	nonneoplastic histopathology	ECHA IUCLID	url
NOAEL	100.0	chronic	Dog	none	ECHA IUCLID	url
LOAEL	100.0	subchronic	Rabbit	other	ECHA IUCLID	url

Records in Table 5 may appear as duplicates, however the records will differ based on study group characteristics not shown in the table. These differences include, but are not limited to, life stage or sex represented by the study group or independent studies with similar characteristics resulting in the same DRSV.

APPENDIX II

RELATIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE EFFECTIVE COMPOSITE UNCERTAINTY ADJUSTMENT

The DCAP process incorporates adjustments to account for uncertainties and interindividual human variability. These adjustments apply to the derivation of the cPOD and the derivation of the CTV. The effective composite uncertainty adjustment (ECUA) in the CTV, defined as the ratio of $p_{calib}eBMD_{HED}$ and the CTV, can be partitioned into three components: GSD_{comp}, UF_H, and UF_D, as

$$\text{ECUA} = \frac{p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}}{\text{CTV}} = \frac{p_{\text{calib}}\text{eBMD}_{\text{HED}}}{\text{GSD}_{\text{comp}}^{z_{0.95}} \times \text{UF}_{\text{H}} \times \text{UF}_{\text{D}}} \tag{5}$$

The ECUA for Methacrylamide is 1610.

Their relative contribution to the overall uncertainty adjustment can be described using their respective log-reductions. For example, $UF_H = 10$ and $UF_D = 10$ indicate that they each reduce the CTV by $\log_{10}(10) = 1$ order of magnitude, and therefore their relative contribution can be calculated as

$$\frac{\log_{10}(\cdot)}{\log_{10}(\text{GSD}_{\text{comp}}^{z_{0.95}} \times \text{UF}_{\text{H}} \times \text{UF}_{\text{D}})} \tag{6}$$

where $\log_{10}(\cdot)$ is either $\log_{10}(\text{GSD}_{\text{comp}}^{z_{0.95}})$, $\log_{10}(\text{UF}_{\text{H}})$, or $\log_{10}(\text{UF}_{\text{D}})$. Similarly, the relative contribution from all uncertainty components that constitute GSD_{comp} can be obtained by setting the respective GSDs to be one (i.e., $\log_{10}(1) = 0$) and comparing the composite uncertainty adjustment values with and without these factors.

Figure 5 provides the relative percent contribution to the ECUA in the CTV derivation for Methacrylamide. These percentages may not add up to 100% due to the compounding of uncertainties in the DCAP process.
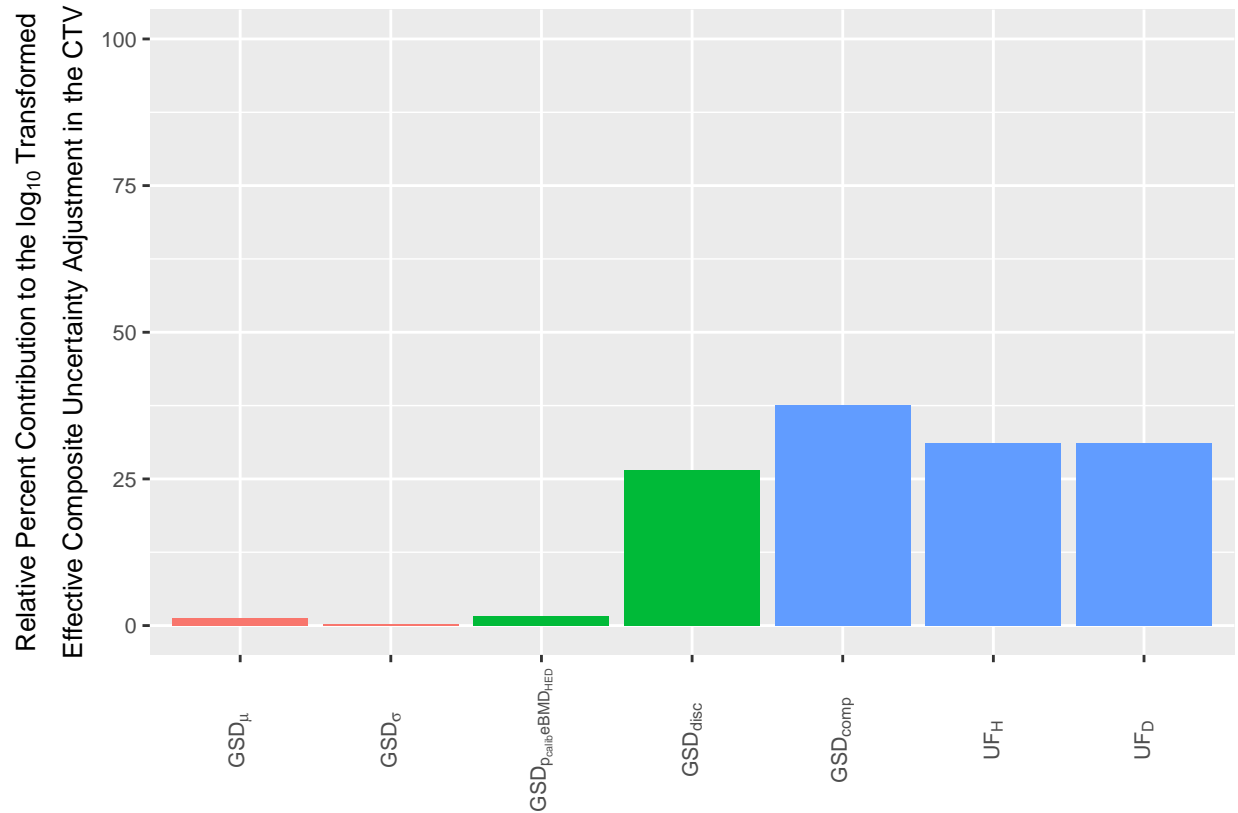
Figure 5: Relative percent contribution to the effective composite uncertainty adjustment in the CTV for Methacrylamide. Orange bars are the uncertainties surrounding the conversion of the DRSVs to eBMD_{HED} (GSD_{μ}) and the inter-study variability (GSD_{σ}). The first green bar (p_{calib} eBMD_{HED}) is the combined uncertainty from GSD_{μ} and GSD_{σ}. The second green bar (GSD_{disc}) is the uncertainty from the calibration process. The first blue bar (GSD_{comp}) is the combined uncertainty from the two green bars. The blue bars representing UF_{H} and UF_{D} are the uncertainty factors used to account for variation in the susceptibility within the human population and lack of a complete database, respectively.