



Cumulative Risk Community of Practice

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RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Building a scientific foundation for sound environmental decisions

Why a Cum Risk CoP

- Consistent definition of cumulative risk has not been adopted across the Agency
- Multiple activities to identify and develop approaches and tools for characterizing cumulative risks are ongoing in ORD and across the Agency
- Multifactorial, data-intensive nature of cumulative risk problems require application of advanced computational approaches



Goal

- Promote and harmonize development of necessary computational tools for cumulative risk assessment
- Foster communication across ORD, the Program Offices, and Regions
- Facilitate communication to the larger modeling and scientific community

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- Focus (initially) on issues associated with characterizing exposures as well as links back to source and forward to dose



Suggested Functions

- Facilitate communication among the ORD researchers
- Convene a scientist-to-scientist meeting to identify critical Agency needs
- Inventory current tools and approaches used or considered by different groups
- Comprehensive review, evaluation, and classification of applicable tools under development in the EPA Offices and Regions (and States).
- Assessment of applicable technologies from other disciplines and fields
- Link human-health and ecological computational scientists



Suggested Functions

- Identify important research needs to improve Agency computational resources
- Develop a consolidated EPA library of software, models, databases, and links to outside data and computational tools
- Clearinghouse for training materials and programs for risk assessors
- Make recommendations on use of 'omics information to enhance characterization of sensitive populations and cumulative risk
- Outreach and communication to the larger modeling and scientific community

