

National Dose Assessment Working Group

Paper 4-03

Proposed changes to the NDAWG probabilistic sub-group.

The Steering group felt that it would be best to cancel the planned October meeting of the probabilistic sub-group as Zitouni leaving FSA has had an impact and EA were unable to send anyone to this meeting. There is also the issue of a possible overlap in terms of reference between the probabilistic sub-group and the proposed habit subgroup. We discussed the terms of reference of the probabilistic sub-group at a Steering Group meeting in September and, having consulted with the members of the sub-group, are proposing to revise these as shown below. We feel that the priority should be to produce a document summarising the techniques available and the important issues, giving examples of relevant studies. FSA do intend to bring back to NDAWG the issue of possible and probable dose but this will be done through a paper direct to NDAWG rather than through the sub-group. NDAWG are asked for their views on these revised terms of reference.

The question of changing the name of the sub-group has also been raised one possibility is:
'NDAWG Probabilistic Assessment Techniques and Applications Sub-group'.

Proposed change:

The aim of this sub-group is to consider issues relating to uncertainty and variability in dose assessments. In particular it will:

- Consider issues and studies relating to uncertainty and variability in dose assessments, including the availability of input data.
- Consider the extent to which assessments should be probabilistic, i.e. a range of doses is estimated rather than a single value.

At a later date the sub-group will also:

- Consider issues relating to compliance with dose limits and constraints when probabilistic assessments are carried out.
- Consider how probabilistic results can be presented to the public.

Original terms of reference:

The aim of this sub-group is to consider issues relating to prospective dose assessments. In particular it will:

- Review and comment on FSA's use of 'possible' and 'probable' dose.
- Consider the extent to which assessments should be probabilistic, i.e. a range of doses is estimated rather than a single value.
- Consider issues and studies relating to uncertainty and variability in dose assessments, including the availability of input data.
- Consider issues relating to compliance with dose limits and constraints when probabilistic assessments are carried out.
- Consider how probabilistic results can be presented to the public.