





Department of Chemical Engineering School of Engineering Aristotle University of Thessaloniki



H2020-MSCA-ITN-2017 GA - 766251

Heraklion, Crete, May 2019

NEUROSOME Exploring The Neurological Exposome

Exposure Modeling And Exposure Reconstruction For Cadmium



NEUROSOME

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- 1. Cadmium Neurotoxicity
- 2. Human Exposure Concept Forward Modeling
- 3. Cadmium Toxicokinetics
- 4. Data for model evaluation
- 5. Results
- 6. Discussion





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1. Considered as a neurotoxin

2. Cd studies report associations between higher Cd concentrations and neurodevelopmental disorders (mental retardations, verbal IQ, learning disability)

- 3. Abnormal levels of Cd induce alterations in balance excitation/inhibition of the synaptic neurotransmission
- Excitatory neurotransmitters are decreased
- Inhibitory neurotransmitters are increased

4. Affects central nervous system (CNS), especially during fetal and neonatal development

- Cd is able to pass to the fetus via the placenta
- Cd is also detected in breast milk
- Blood-brain barrier is not fully mature in neonates.

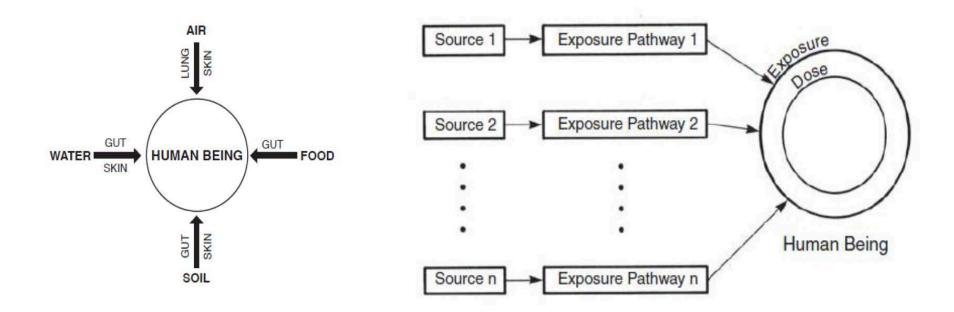




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Seeks to provide the exposure contribution of each pathway to the total exposure by creating an exposure profile



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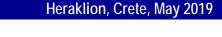
Key objective – To evaluate exposure models and

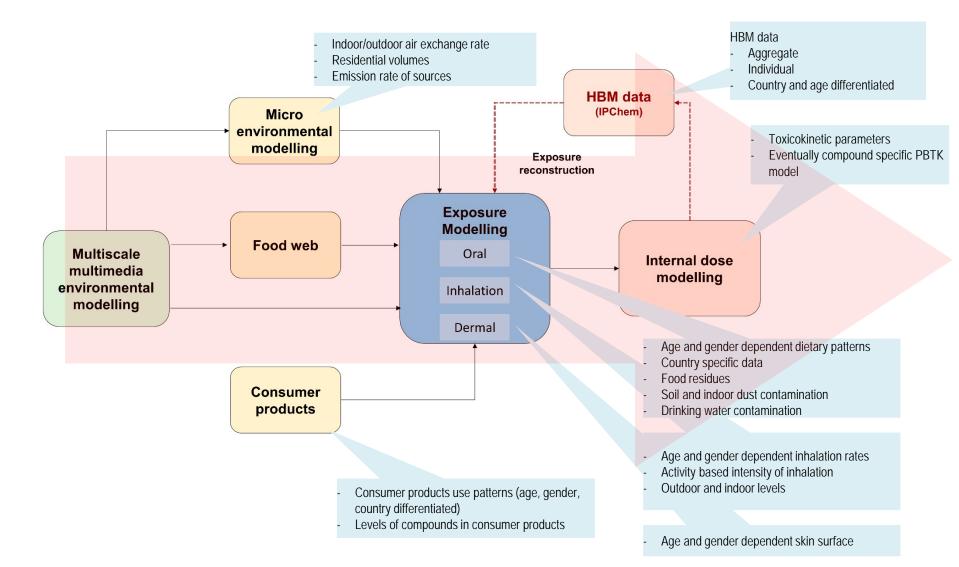
reconstruct exposure for Cadmium



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1. Cadmium absorption routes

- Inhalation (In cigarette smoke Cd has higher absorption efficiency)
- Oral (Increased absorption for individuals with poor iron status)
- Dermal

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- 2. Cadmium metal and salts are not well absorbed
- About 25%, 1-10% and <1% of the dose respectively for each route
- 3. After absorption, Cadmium widely distributes throughout the body

4. Cadmium does not undergo any direct metabolic reaction, such as oxidation, reduction or alkylation

5. Absorbed Cadmium is excreted very slowly with urinary and fecal excretion

- Approximately 0.007% and 0.009% of the body burden per day

6. Kidneys are the main site of Cadmium's accumulation





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1. Data related to Cadmium

- contamination levels in several environmental matrices such as ambient air, indoor air, water, soil, dust
- food residues in various food items
- concentration in consumer products

The data were collected and stored disaggregated by geographical location within Europe.

- 2. Data that are not chemical specific: This includes data related to consumer behaviour
- food and drinking water consumption
- inhalation rates
- time activity patterns
- dust ingestion rates, soil ingestion rates
- frequency of use of consumer products
- hand to mouth and object to mouth behaviour data

Data of this type were also disaggregated by gender and age class.

3. Exposure modifier data were included along with their respective geographical location such as country and city and stratified by population, age and gender.



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- 1. Data Paucity Quality
- Lack of data supporting integrated exposure models or measured data (environmental matrices, food residues, exposure factors) with poor quality might result in overestimation or underestimation of exposure pathways (e.g. ingestion of dust for infants) over other important pathways (e.g. dietary exposure)

2. Insufficient information about exposure mechanisms

- Conservatism of exposure factors (e.g. consumer products' coefficients that describe the migration of the product through mouthing or contact) leads to inaccurate exposure estimation
 - Overestimation due to bottom up approaches
 - Underestimation in case of completely ignoring exposure mechanisms because of insufficient data

3. Model integration is best described with HBM data of certain quality and relevance.

4. HBM data includes the contribution from all sources, pathways and routes.





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Contribution of exposure pathways for the general EU

population



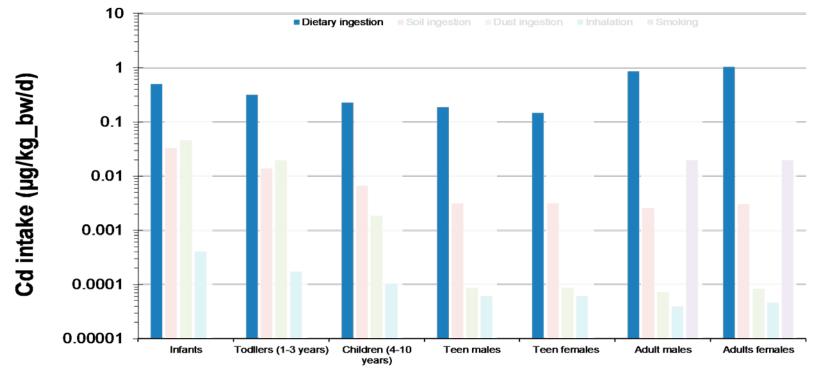
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Observations

- 1. Daily intake ranges between 0.2 and 1 µg/kg_bw/d
- 2. Diet is the main source of exposure
- 3. Smoking is the second source of exposure for adults



Cadmium intake for different age groups



Contribution of exposure pathways for the general EU

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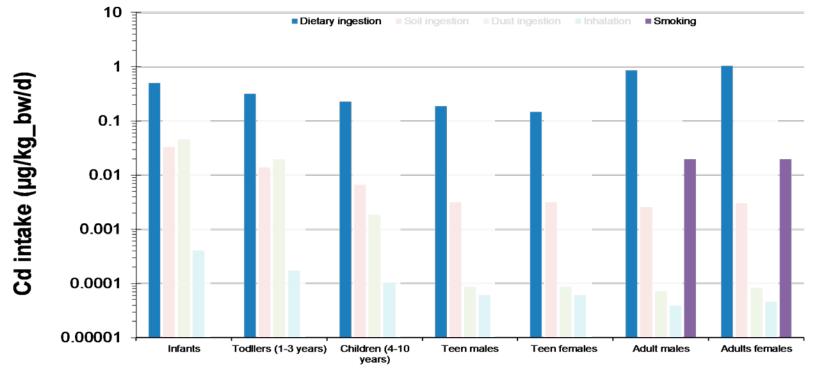
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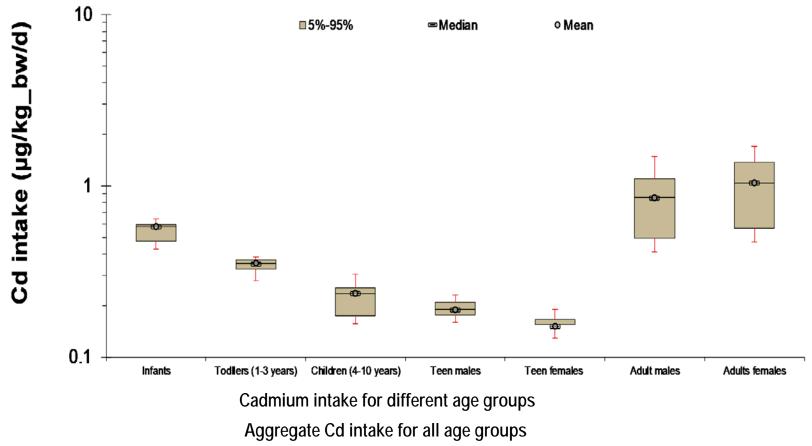
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Levels of Cd in urine and blood used for

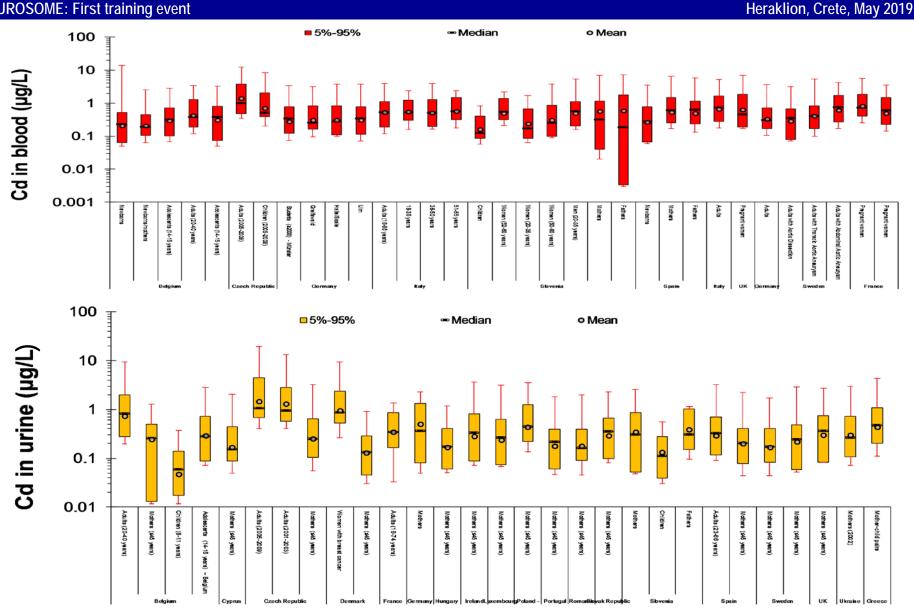
exposure reconstruction



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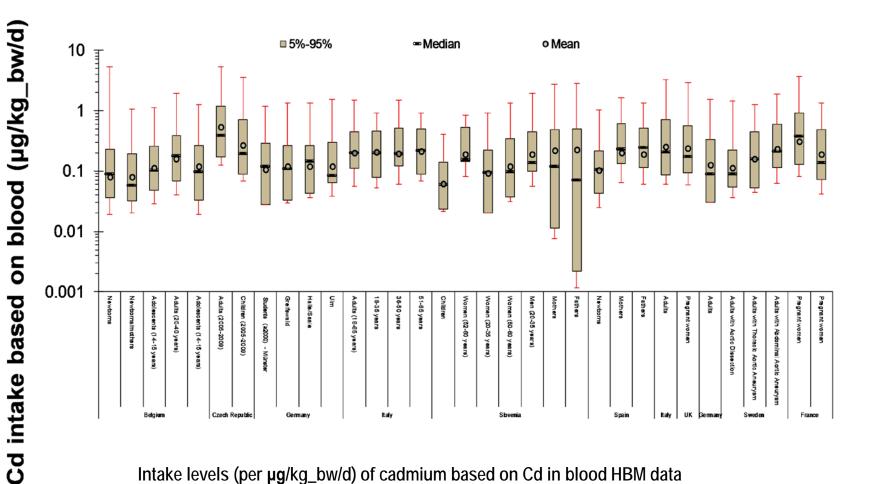




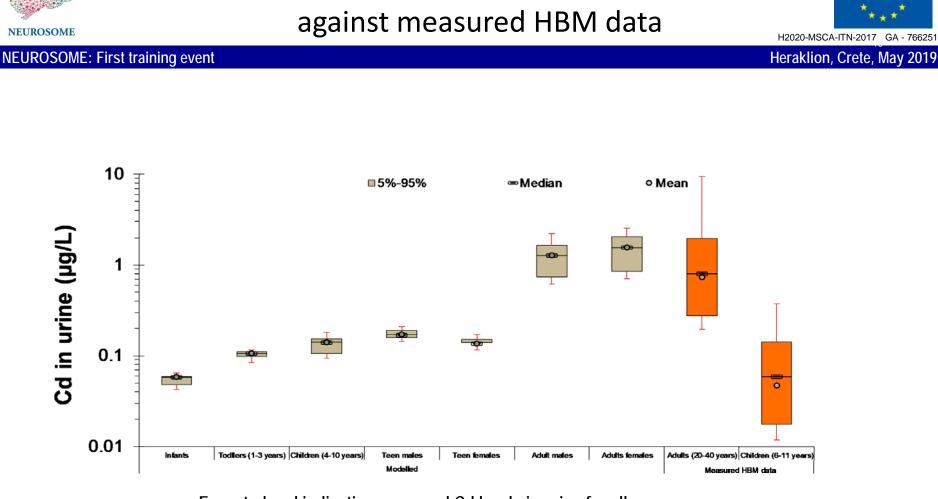


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Intake levels (per µg/kg_bw/d) of cadmium based on Cd in blood HBM data



Comparison of Cd urinary concentrations

Expected and indicative measured Cd levels in urine for all age groups





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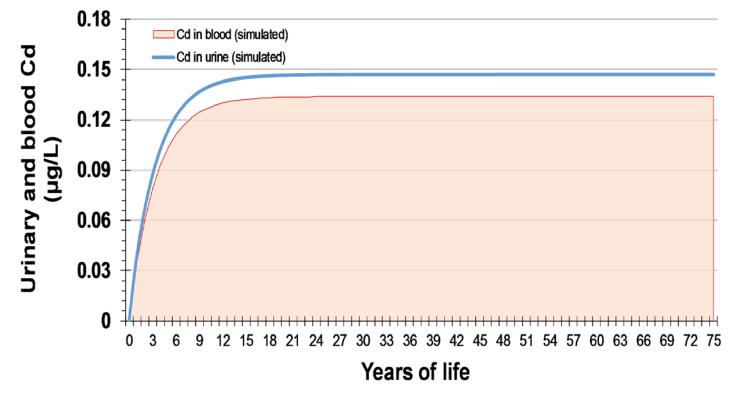
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Remarks

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- 1. Cadmium levels increase during lifetime
- 2. Steady state in about 20 years accumulation of cadmium in the body
- 3. Negligible intra-day variability



Urinary and blood cadmium lifetime course based on a typical dietary exposure





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- 1. Daily intake ranges between 0.2 and 1 µg/kg_bw/d
- 2. Diet is the main source of exposure for all age groups

Discussion

- Secondary sources
 - Smoking for adults
 - Soil ingestion for infant and toddlers (1-3 years)
 - Dust ingestion for children (4-10 years) and teens
- 3. Cadmium accumulates through life span
- Steady-state in about 20 years
- Slow elimination
- Negligible intra-day variability

4. Model evaluation

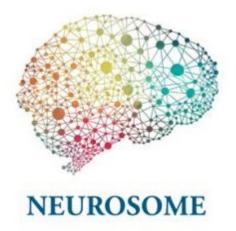
- Comparable levels of Cd in modelled and measured data





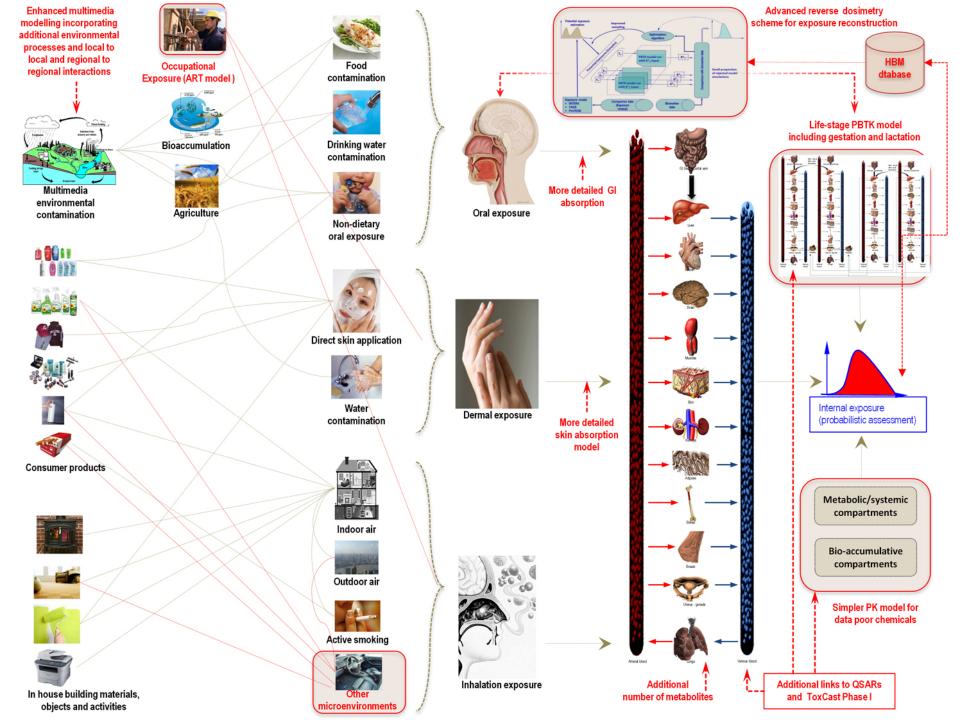
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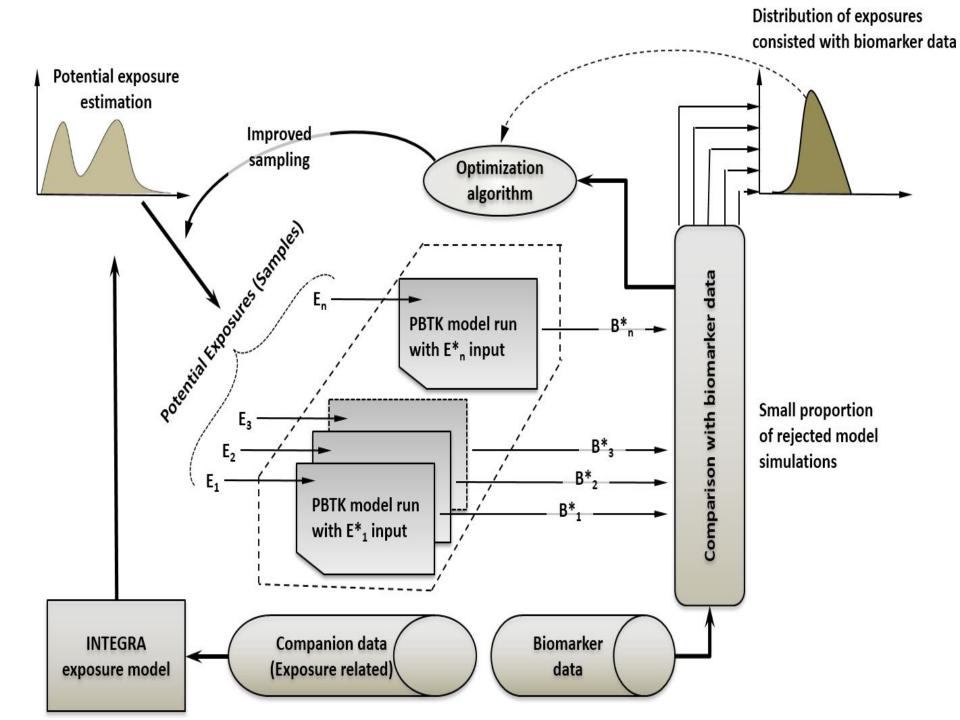
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION



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The program offers a number of generally applicable models ranging from multimedia environmental model to indoor air quality model and from exposure models for the different exposure routes (inhalation, oral and dermal) to a generic PBPK model to evaluate internal doses in target tissues and a database containing several types of data ranging from human physiological parameters to emission data from consumer products, from human biomonitoring (HBM) data to physical/chemical properties and from indoor and outdoor concentration levels to building characteristics. Data are stored along with their geographical information in order to allow users to build realistic exposure scenarios to represent typical exposure conditions for specific countries and/or cities in Europe. Together, the database and models provide the tools to assess exposure for a wide range of scenarios, whereby only additional information on exposure determinants.





An exposure assessment in INTEGRA is a tiered process, starting with the basic information on physical/chemical properties of chemicals, products and the exposed population. Subsequently, suitable models are selected per exposure route, according to the product usage scenario. INTEGRA offers a number of well described exposure and uptake models to estimate inhalation, dermal and oral exposure to compounds. Three different levels of exposure assessment are implemented in the platform, starting from the occupational one (i.e. Tier 0), to the comprehensive environmental one (i.e. Tier 1) to a reverse dosimetry to determine the external exposure consistent with HBM data input data. INETGRA offers a number of well described multimedia and exposure and uptake models to estimate inhalation, dermal and oral exposure to chemicals. Furthermore, the software also accepts stochastic distributions as input to a wide range of exposure parameters assessed via Monte Carlo methods (probabilistic exposure assessment).





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The modelling environment comprises several components, as follows:

- 1. Multimedia environmental modelling module to estimate the concentration of chemicals in different environmental matrixes (i.e. air, water, soil and food) taking into consideration the exchange between the different environmental media.
- 2. Emissions-concentrations module, linking sources to indoor concentrations, taking into account the physicochemical processes in indoor settings: dispersion, ventilation, gasparticle-dust partitioning, etc.
- 3. Exposure module including several models for the dermal, inhalation and oral routes, taking into account time-microenvironment-activity patterns and inhalation rates based on activity, gender and body weight.
- 4. Internal dosimetry module, which computes aggregate exposure by absorption factors for each route, links temporal patterns to internal dose through a generic Physiology Based ToxicoKinetic (PBTK) model. It estimates the internal doses of contaminants and their metabolites at the target tissue.
- 5. An exposure reconstruction module to assess backward the exposure which is responsible for the human biomarker values measured.
- 6. Uncertainty and variability of exposure and risk determinants are assessed along the full chain assessment through hierarchical modelling using Markov Chain Monte Carlo.





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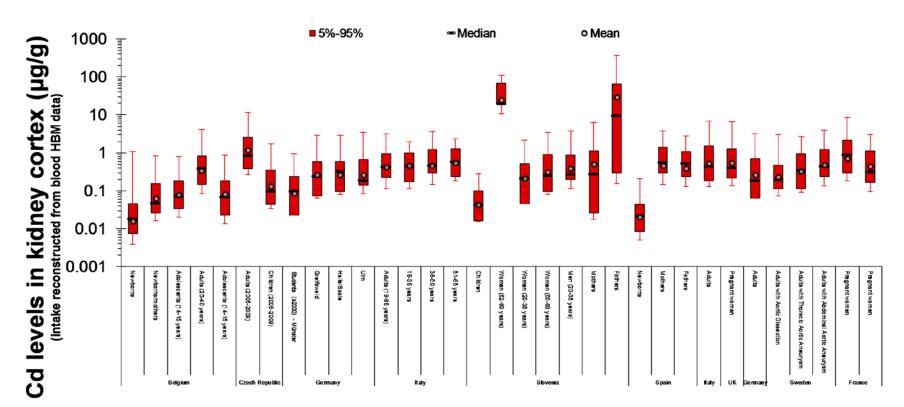


Reconstructed internal dose

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Internal dose based on intake estimates calculated from available HBM data of cadmium in blood