

Joint research projects providing information on occupational carcinogen exposure in Europe

European Human Biomonitoring Initiative (HBM4EU)

The Horizon 2020 project [HBM4EU](#) (2017–2022) was coordinating and advancing human biomonitoring in Europe. The main aim was to generate policy-relevant data on the exposure to hazardous chemicals. In relation to occupational carcinogen exposure, two occupational surveys, the HBM4EU chromates study and the HBM4EU E-waste study provided new data on exposure to carcinogenic metals at workplace. In addition, statistical analyses of existing data and systematic reviews were published, e.g., for hexavalent chromium and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Partnership for the Assessment of Risk from Chemicals (PARC)

The Horizon Europe project [PARC](#) (2022–2029) aims to provide new data, methods and innovative tools for chemical risk assessment, and to strengthen related the scientific skills, knowledge sharing and networks. PARC will partly build on the work undertaken in the HBM4EU project. Although environmental and consumer exposure is highly emphasised in PARC, occupational exposures are also considered.

Altogether four different occupational surveys, providing data on occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals are planned. Two of these have already been agreed, the first one continuing the work done within the HBM4EU E-waste study with the focus in waste management sector, and the second one focusing on exposure to hazardous medicines in health care sector.

Exposome Project for Health and Occupational Research (EPHOR)

The Horizon 2020 project [EPHOR](#) (2020–2024) aims to develop a working-life exposome toolbox that can be utilised by scientists, occupational health practitioners, and policy makers. The project will develop a set of harmonised job-exposure matrices (EuroJEM), yield improved knowledge on how multiple exposures within the working-life exposome are related to the occurrence of common diseases, and provide innovative methods for collection, storage and interpretation of these data.

EPHOR will provide information on the prevalence of occupational exposure to the carcinogens included in the EuroJEM, including crystalline silica, wood dust, nickel compounds and diesel engine exhaust.

Worker Survey on Exposure to Cancer Risk Factors (WES)

The EU-OSHA-driven [WES survey](#) (2021–2023) aims to provide information the number and characteristics of the workers exposed to a range of cancer risk factors, including

The logo features the word "ROADMAP" in a large, bold, blue sans-serif font. The letter "O" is replaced by a stylized blue circle with a small white dot at the top and a thin blue line extending from the bottom right. To the right of "ROADMAP" is the number "2.0" in a similar blue font. Below "ROADMAP 2.0" is the phrase "ON CARCINOGENS" in a smaller, blue, all-caps sans-serif font.

asbestos, benzene, hexavalent chromium, diesel engine exhaust, nickel compounds, crystalline silica, wood dust, and UV radiation. Information on workers' multiple exposures will be collected.

WES will provide information on the current occupational carcinogen exposure in Europe, including comparable information on both intentionally used and process-generated carcinogens.

For further information on the expected outcome of these projects, please see [Challenge 1.1 conclusion report](#).