













BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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FOOD SAFETY AND HEALTHY LIVING FSHL – 2021

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Editors

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FOOD SAFETY AND HEALTHY LIVING

- FSHL 2021

		pag
C1	"FOOD SAFETY AND HEALTHY LIVING"- a challenge of our life	10
	Mihaela BADEA (1), Laura GAMAN (2)	
	(1) Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
	(2) Faculty of Medicine, "Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy,	
	Bucharest, Romania	
C2	Ethnopharmacology - science today	14
	Angela MĂRCULESCU, Liviu GACEU	
	Romanian Society of Etnopharmacology, Romania	
	Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C3	Bullying during the pandemic time. Actions to reduce it	17
	Liliana ROGOZEA	
	Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C4	Insulin-dependent Glucose uptake in mammalian projection sensory neurons -	19
	metabolic sensor or energy booster?	
	Tudor Constantin BADEA (1,2), Vladimir V. MUZYKA (1,3)	
	(1) Retinal Circuits Development and Genetics Unit, N-NRL/NEI/NIH, Bethesda,	
	MD, USA	
	(2) ICDT, Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
	(3) Institute of Cytology and Genetics, Novosibirsk State University, Noveosibirsk,	
	Russia	
C5	Legal problems and legal solutions for the regulation of water resources as a	23
	common good. Regulation vs privatization.	
	Lorenza VIOLINI	
	Dipartimento di Diritto Pubblico Italiano e Sovranazionale, Research Center	
	"Innovation for Well-Being and Environment" (I-WE), Università degli Studi di	
CC	Milano, Milano, Italy	25
C6	Big data analysis and land monitoring for one health approach . Caterina AM LA PORTA	25
	Dept. Environmental Science and Policy, Research Center "Innovation for Well-	
	Being and Environment" (I-WE), Università degli Studi di Milano, Milano, Italy	
C7	Atmospheric Nitrogen Wet-Depositions: monitoring of the infiltration and	27
C	redistribution processes in soils	21
	Stefania STEVENAZZI (1), Corrado CAMERA (1,2), Marco MASETTI (1,2), Roberto	
	S. AZZONI (1), Elena S. FERRARI (1), Massimo TIEPOLO (1)	
	(1) Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra "A. Desio", Università degli Studi di	
	Milano, Milan, Italy	
	(2) CRC "Innovation for well-being and environment", Università degli Studi di	
	Milano Milan Italy	

C8	Xenobiotics in water: their effect on animal and human wellbeing	30
	Patrizia RESTANI (1,2), Francesca COLOMBO (1), Simone BIELLA (1), Corrine BANI	
	(1), Chiara DI LORENZO (1)	
	(1) Università degli Studi di Milano, Department of Pharmacological and	
	Biomolecular Sciences, Milan, Italy	
	(2) CRC "Innovation for Well-being and Environment", Università degli Studi di	
	Milano, Milan, Italy	
C9	Water as a habitat: effects of global warming on animal behavior	35
	Simona NONNIS (1,2), Elisa MAFFIOLI (1,4), Francesca GRASSI SCALVINI (1),	
	Mattia TONI (3), Gabriella TEDESCHI (1,2,4)	
	(1) Department of Veterinary Medicine, Università degli Studi di Milano, Lodi,	
	Italy;	
	(2) CRC "Innovation for well-being and environment", Università degli Studi di	
	Milano, Milan, Italy; (3) Department of Biology and Biotechnology "Charles Darwin", Sapienza	
	University, Rome, Italy;	
	(4) CIMAINA, Università degli Studi di Milano, Milano, Italy	
C10	lodine food fortification: technological approaches, nutritional effects and	38
CIO	safety aspects	
	Cristina POPOVICI	
	Technical University of Moldova, Faculty of Food Technology, Department of	
	Food and Nutrition, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova	
C11	Insect biomass quality and safety: present and future challenges	41
	Luciano PINOTTI, L. FERRARI, F. CHELI, M. OTTOBONI	
	(1) Department of Health, Animal Science and Food Safety, University of Milan,	
	Italy	
	(2) CRC I-WE (Coordinating Research Centre: Innovation for Well-Being and	
	Environment), University of Milan, Milan, Italy	
C12	Potential of algae substances in active cosmetics	45
	Polonca TREBŠE	
643	Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia	40
C13	Ancient and modern cereals and their safety for celiac consumers Francesca COLOMBO, Chiara DI LORENZO, Simone BIELLA, Corinne BANI, Patrizia	49
	RESTANI	
	Dept. of Pharmacological and Biomolecular Sciences, Università degli Studi di	
	Milano, Milano, Italy	
C14	Dietary fibers: classification, sources and impact on human health	53
	Chiara DI LORENZO (1), Francesca COLOMBO (1), Simone BIELLA (1), Corinne	
	BANI (1), Patrizia RESTANI (1,2)	
	(1) Università degli Studi di Milano, Department of Pharmacological and	
	Biomolecular Sciences, Milan, Italy	
	(2) CRC "Innovation for well-being and environment", Università degli Studi di	
	Milano, Italy	
C15	International Guidelines for pregnancy and lactation during COVID Pandemia	56
i	Patrizia RESTANI (1,2), Francesca. COLOMBO (1), Simone BIELLA (1), Corinne	
	BANI (1), Mihaela BADEA (3), Chiara DI LORENZO (1)	

	(1) Università degli Studi di Milano, Department of Pharmacological and	
	Biomolecular Sciences, Italy	
	(2) CRC "Innovation for Well-being and Environment", Università degli Studi di Milano, Italy	
	(3) Fundamental, Prophylactic and Clinical Specialties Department, Faculty of	
	Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C16	Principles of alimentation in pre-school children - between theory and reality	57
	Bianca Elena POPOVICI	
	Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C17	The importance of maternal genetics and epigenetics in predicting food intakes	59
	in toddlers. A new layer of complexity in nutrition?	
	Mihai NICULESCU (1,2)	
	(1) Advanced Nutrigenomics, Durham, NC, USA	
	(2) SPHERES, Timisoara, Romania	
C18	Nutritional guidance during COVID-19 pandemic- review of evidence-based	63
	resources	
	Andrea NECULAU, Anca LACATUS	
	Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C19	Malnutrition diagnosis tools and nutritional intervention	66
	Monica TARCEA, Roxana MARTIN-HADMAŞ, Irina MATRAN	
	Department of Community Nutrition and Food Safety, Faculty of Medicine, University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science and Technology from Targu Mures,	
	Romania	
C20		73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2)	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy,	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal	73
C20	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia	73
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of	
	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy,	
C21	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal	76
C21	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal Beneficial effects of resveratrol intake against endometriosis	76
C21	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal Beneficial effects of resveratrol intake against endometriosis Marius Alexandru MOGA (1), Nicuṣor Florin BîGIU (1), Andreea BĂLAN (1), Carmen Constantina MARTINESCU (1), Dana FEȘTILĂ (2), Lorena DIMA (1) (1) Faculty of Medicine, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	76
C21	Dietary polyphenols in human health. Role in neurodegenerative diseases and safety usage Rui FM SILVA (1), Lea POGAČNIK (2) (1) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal (2) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia Bioavailability and biological activity of natural polyphenols from different sources Lea POGAČNIK (1), Rui FM SILVA (2) (1) Department of Food Science and Technology, Biotechnical Faculty, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia (2) Research Institute for Medicines (iMed.ULisboa) and Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Medicines (DCFM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universidade de Lisboa, Lisbon, Portugal Beneficial effects of resveratrol intake against endometriosis Marius Alexandru MOGA (1), Nicuṣor Florin BîGIU (1), Andreea BĂLAN (1), Carmen Constantina MARTINESCU (1), Dana FEȘTILĂ (2), Lorena DIMA (1)	76

C23	Supplementation with resveratrol, piperine and alpha-tocopherol decreases chronic inflammation in a cluster of older adults with metabolic syndrome Raúl Francisco PASTOR (1), Marisa Gabriela REPETTO (2), Fabiana LAIRION (2), Alberto LAZAROWSKI (3), Amalia MERELLI (3), Zulma Manfredi CARABETTI (1), Isabel PASTOR (1), Elena PASTOR (1), Laura Valeria IERMOLI (1), Carlos Amadeo BAVASSO (1), Roberto Héctor IERMOLI (1) (1) Unidad Polifenoles, Vino y Salud, Cuarta Cátedra de Medicina, Hospital de Clínicas "José de San Martín" Facultad de Medicina, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. (2) Departamento de Físicoquímica y Química Analítica, Facultad de Farmacia y Bioquímica, Universidad de Buenos Aires; Instituto de Bioquímica y Medicina Molecular (IBIMOL) Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (UBA-CONICET), City of Buenos Aires, Argentina. (3) Departamento de Bioquímica Clínica, Facultad de Farmacia y Bioquímica, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Instituto de Fisiopatología y Bioquímica Clínica	87
C24	(INFIBIOC), Buenos Aires, Argentina The role of bioactive dietary components in cancer prevention	90
C24	Laura Ioana GAVRILAŞ, Lorena FILIP, Ana Maria COZMA, Oana STANCIU, Roxana BANC, Daniela CIOBÂRCĂ, Doina MIERE Department of Bromatology, Hygiene, Nutrition, Iuliu Haţieganu University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania	90
C25	Supplements in obesity muscle dysfunction	93
	Bogdana VIRGOLICI (1), Adriana DINU (1), Daniela MIRICESCU (1), Alexandra TOTAN (1), Elvira GAGNIUC (2), Horia VIRGOLICI (1), Mihaela BALABAN (1), Maria GREABU (1), Maria MOHORA (1) (1) University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila", Bucharest, Romania (2) University of Agricultural Sciences and Veterinary Medicine, Bucharest, Romania	
C26	Dietary choline / betaine and cardio-metabolic subclinical and clinical events in two large US cohorts Aurelian BIDULESCU, Cuiqiong HUO Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health, Bloomington, IN, USA	96
C27	Planar chromatography and its application in medicinal plants authentication Simona Codruta Aurora COBZAC Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, "Babes-Bolyai" University, Cluj Napoca, Romania	101
C28	Advances and technological innovations in glucose monitoring system Graziella Liana TURDEAN "Babes Bolyai" University, Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Department of Chemical Engineering, Center of Electrochemistry and Non- Conventional Materials, Cluj-Napoca, Romania	104
C29	Mycotoxin analysis: an overview on the novel detection constructs	107
	Jean-Louis MARTY 1-Sensbiotech, France 2-Université de Perpignan Via Domitia, France	

C30	Emerging pollutants from pesticides to microplastics	111
	Mojca BAVCON KRALJ	
	University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Health Sciences, Ljubljana, Slovenia	
C31	Voltamperometric sensors based on conducting polymers used in food analysis	114
	Constantin APETREI	
	Department of Chemistry, Physics and Environment, Faculty of Sciences and	
	Environment, "Dunărea de Jos" University of Galati, Galati, Romania	
C32	Laboratory diagnostic of uncommon foodborne pathogens	117
	Maximilian TELESCU	
	Synevo Central Laboratory, Synevo Romania	
C33	Functionalized sensors as versatile tools for food analysis	119
	Cecilia CRISTEA, Oana HOSU, Mihaela TERTIS, Bogdan FEIER, Andreea CERNAT	
	Analytical Chemistry Department, Faculty of Pharmacy, Iuliu Hatieganu	
	University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania	
C34	Hygienic design for sustainable development	122
	Liviu GACEU	
	Faculty of Food and Tourism, Transilvania University of Brasov, Romania	
C35	The role and significance of food handler in food safety management system	125
	Andrej OVCA	
	Faculty of Health Sciences, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia	
C36	Food processing as a tool on reduction of pesticide residues	128
	Edlira SHAHINASI	
	Tirana Agricultural University, Faculty of Biotechnology and Food, Department of	
	Chemistry, Tirana, Albania	
C37	Human biomonitoring - a tool for exposure assessment to mycotoxins	131
	Oana Maria MÎRZA, Lorena FILIP, Anamaria COZMA-PETRUȚ, Roxana BANC,	
	Laura GAVRILAȘ, Daniela CIOBÂRCĂ, Doina MIERE	
	Department of Bromatology, Hygiene, Nutrition, Faculty of Pharmacy, "Iuliu	
	Hațieganu" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Cluj-Napoca, Romania	
C38	Role of heavy metals in wine quality and their impact on human health	134
	Ariola DEVOLLI	
	Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Biotechnology and Food, Tirana Agricultural	
	University, Albania	
C39	Parasitic fauna of fish and risks to public health	139
	Dijana BLAZHEKOVIKJ - DIMOVSKA	
	Faculty of Biotechnical Sciences, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bitola, N.	
	Macedonia	
C40	Application of hurdle technology, preservation and food safety	142
	Fatbardha LAMÇE	
	Faculty of Biotechnology and Food, Food Research Center, Tirana, Albania,	
	Agricultural University of Tirana	
C41	Traditional beekeeping technology and honey quality in Macedonia	144
	Vesna KARAPETKOVSKA - HRISTOVA	
	Faculty of Biotechnical Sciences, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", Bitola, N.	
	Macedonia	

C42	SUPPLEMENTATION OF AMINO ACIDS INTAKE IN LIVER DISEASE Elena VASILICA	147
	"Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania	
C43	Celiac disease –diagnosis and gluten free diet	149
	Ruxandra CIOARCA-NEDELCU	
	"Carol Davila" University of Medicine and Pharmacy, Bucharest, Romania	
	Projects of Transilvania University of Brasov – BE IN CENTER!!	
	 Distance education methods - skills, knowledge, research, health 	152
	assessment (MED-ACCES)	
	 Visual teaching methods for consolidating and assessing knowledge and 	154
	skills in life sciences" (VISUAL-LIFE)	

C8 XENOBIOTICS IN WATER: THEIR EFFECT ON ANIMAL AND HUMAN WELLBEING

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Water is an indispensable resource for the survival and well-being of living organisms. Water safety can be compromised due to several problems: from the pathogenic microorganisms to natural or industrial contaminants. The first problem concerns the microbiological contamination of water, be it drinkable or superficial. The presence of microorganisms in water is a very important risk for the population.

The presence of chemical contaminants in the water is in some cases difficult to avoid, as in the case of the presence in the soil of a high concentration of metals (arsenic, fluoride). In other cases of the presence of heavy metals can derive from both natural sources and industrial waste. In this case, the most significant metal is mercury.

Water contamination can occur in any part of the planet, but it is evident that the greatest consequences occur in underdeveloped areas, where environmental regulations are less restrictive and the ability to restore water quality is limited.

Many international centres study water contamination and seek solutions; first of all, they need analytical data, normally provided by governments.

From the analytical data, toxicologists draw conclusions on the risk that these contaminants can bring to animal and human health. In fact, contaminants can enter the food chain and lead to toxic events in both animals and humans.

In the presentation some real cases will be presented, with identification of the cause of a possible risk, which will be followed by an estimate of the possible negative consequences on animals and humans.

WHO. Chemical safety of drinking-water. Assessing priorities for risk assessment. https://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/handle/10665/43285/9789241546768_eng.pdf