

The only text on the subject!

DIOXINS AND HEALTH

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This pioneering volume presents a comprehensive summary of the current state of scientific knowledge of dioxins and dioxinlike substances such as dibenzofurans, PCBs, and other related toxic chemicals. The *only* book which combines human health data with findings from laboratory animals and wildlife, *Dioxins and Health* provides concise coverage of new and cutting-edge dioxin research.

International experts chronicle the rapid growth of the field, offering valuable insights into how the most recent studies relate to real-world issues of human and environmental health, as well as facilitating cross-disciplinary communication among various health and science specialties. The text's outstanding features include:

- Extensive data on dioxin and other toxic and highly persistent synthetic chemicals, documenting their presence in food, human tissue, nursing mothers' breast milk, and the environment
- Assessment of three major incidents of dioxin exposure in humans by scientists involved in their study, including findings that reveal cognitive and behavioral pathology in children born to mothers exposed to the chemicals
- Research into the mechanisms for dioxin activity, its relation to human health, and the possibilities of developing molecular biomarkers of susceptibility and exposure

Other contributions address some major current dioxin controversies, environmental sources of dioxins — noting that the source of much (or most) dioxin production and discharge is presently unknown; the analysis of dioxin presence in food and the interpretation of existing studies; the threshold level of dioxins, below which there may be no serious health effects; dioxin studies on rats revealing behavioral, reproductive, and endocrine alterations in male offspring resulting from maternal exposure during pregnancy; and the difficulties in measuring dioxins and related chemicals in human tissue.

Dioxins and Health is accessible to the broadest range of both health and non-health professionals, including toxicologists, chemists, and specialists in wildlife and environmental science, immunology, neuroscience, public health, epidemiology, medicine, sociology, journalism, government, and the law. The up-to-date discussions of such critical issues as the presence of toxic agents in food and the incidence of dioxin-induced cancer in the United States and other countries are also of importance to policymakers and other educated readers.

