DIE AKADEMIE FRESENIUS

Where Experts Meet!

International Akademie Fresenius Conference

Read-Across

Recent developments and regulatory implications

+++ ONLINE CONFERENCE +++

11 and 12 February 2026

Highlights

Regulatory framework & developments

- EFSA guidance on read-across in food and feed safety
- ECHA perspectives on grouping and read-across
- Advances in Generalised Read-Across (GenRA)
- Update of OECD Guidance Document 194 on Grouping of Chemicals

Tools & harmonised workflows for read-across

- OECD Toolbox workflow and guideline
- Genotoxicity profilers in the OEDC Toolbox
- Match Molecular Pair (MMP) approach for analogue selection
- AI and big data applications in read-across

Case studies and projects

- ViCoG DB: A cross-company control repository
- NAMs and metabolites in EFSA and EU projects

Advanced methods & practical case studies

- Regulatory compliance with NAMs: A read-across case study
- Metabollic similarity and surrogate testing
- In silico protocols for read-across

The Experts

Arianna Bassan Innovatune | **Susanne Hougaard Bennekou** Danish Patient Safety Authority | **Frank Bringezu** Merck | **Ester Carregal Romero** OECD | **Mark Cronin** Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) | **Steven J. Enoch** Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU) | **Sylvia Escher** Fraunhofer Institute for Toxicology and Experimental Medicine (ITEM) | **Monika Kemény** BASF | **Cathy C. Lester** Procter & Gamble | **Juan Parra Morte** European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) | **Grace Patlewicz** (formerly) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) | **Katarzyna Przybylak** Unilever | **Andrea Richarz** European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) | **Mark Viant** University of Birmingham | **Martin Wilks** University of Basel

INSTITUT FRESENIUS

SGS

Wednesday, 11 February 2026

Timings are in
Central European Time CET.

Afternoon Session | 12:30 – 17:45 CET

Welcome address by Akademie Fresenius and the Chairs

Monika Kemény, BASF, Germany
Martin Wilks, University of Basel, Switzerland

The presentation slots include sufficient time for questions and answers.

Regulatory framework and current developments

EFSA Scientific Committee: EFSA guidance on the use of read-across for the chemical safety assessment in food and feed

Susanne Hougaard Bennekou, Danish Patient Safety Authority, Denmark

ECHA's activities and guidance related to grouping and read-across

- ECHA perspectives from REACH and CLP

Andrea Richarz, European Chemicals Agency (ECHA), Finland

Recent developments of Generalised Read-Across (GenRA)

- New GenRA versions with expanded functionality and data sources
- Analyses of GenRA's performance compared to published read-across examples
- Methods for characterising metabolic similarity
- Evaluation of different combinations of chemical fingerprints

Grace Patlewicz, formerly U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, USA

Approaches to deal with uncertainty in read-across

- Concept of tolerable uncertainty
- Types of uncertainty
- Quantifying uncertainty

Mark Cronin, Liverpool John Moores University, UK

Tools and harmonised workflows for read-across

OECD Toolbox Workflow and Read-Across Guideline

Juan Parra Morte, European Food Safety Authority (EFSA), Italy

Validation of OECD QSAR Toolbox profilers for genotoxicity assessment of pesticides using the MultiCase genotoxicity database

- Testing OECD QSAR Toolbox profilers against the MultiCase genotoxicity database
- Strengths and limitations of profilers in supporting read-across
- Building confidence in genotoxicity predictions for pesticide safety assessment

Monika Kemény, BASF, Germany

A Match Molecular Pair (MMP) approach for analogue selection in read-across supported with similarities of attributes important for toxicity

- MMP's differ a single structural change
- Analogue selection results in transparent and interpretable choices
- Similarities for metabolism, reactivity, and physicochemical properties support analogue choices

Cathy C. Lester, Procter & Gamble, USA

Using omics data for biological-activity based chemical grouping

- A 5-step workflow for omics-based chemical grouping and bioactivity profiling
- MTox700+: A knowledgebase for metabolite-effect associations to support toxicological interpretation
- Case studies applying these approaches
- OECD reporting standards for transparent, reproducible omics-based grouping studies

Mark Viant, University of Birmingham, UK

Thursday, 12 February 2026

Timings are in
Central European Time CET.

Morning Session | 08:30 – 12:40 CET

Regulatory framework and current developments

3rd Edition Update of the OECD Guidance Document (GD194) on Grouping of Chemicals

- Read-across strategies and analogue selection
- Integration of omics, QSARs, and high-throughput data
- Guidance for nanomaterials and complex chemicals

Ester Carregal Romero, OECD, France

Case studies and projects

The IHI VICT3R Project: Towards qualification and regulatory acceptance of Virtual Control Group

- Creation of a standardised database of >100,000 historical control animals
- Development and validation of Virtual Control Groups (VCGs) and read-across approaches to support 3Rs principles
- EMA scientific advice process for regulatory acceptance

Frank Bringezu, Merck, Germany

NAMs and metabolites in read-across

- Recent EFSA project
- EU project on NAMs and metabolites in read-across

Sylvia Escher, Fraunhofer Institute for Toxicology and Experimental Medicine (ITEM), Germany

Advanced methods and case studies

Advancing regulatory compliance with NAMs: A read-across case study for mixture to address short-term repeated dose toxicity

- A real-world read-across case study
- Practical use of NAMs in safety testing
- Applying science to regulatory compliance

Katarzyna Przybylak, Unilever, UK

Metabolic similarity and surrogate testing

Steven J. Enoch, Liverpool John Moores University, UK

Context matters: Integrating evidence for robust, fit-for-purpose read-across

- Read-across strategy: Tailored to context (e.g., endpoint, similarity, data availability) and supported by in silico methods
- Lessons learned: No one-size-fits-all solution
- Best practices: Integrated weight-of-evidence providing a transparent basis for decisions

Arianna Bassan, Innovatune, Italy

Registration

By web **www.akademie-fresenius.com/3849**
By email **registration@akademie-fresenius.com**

Hotline **+49 231 75896-50**
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Alter Hellweg 46, 44379 Dortmund

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Participation Fee:
€ 995.00 plus VAT

Representatives of an authority or a public university are eligible for a reduced fee of **€ 595.00 plus VAT** per person (please provide evidence). The reduced fee cannot be combined with other rebates.

If you are unable to attend the online event, you can order the event documentation for **€ 295.00 plus VAT.** It will be available after the online event through the download area of our website where you will find the latest versions of the presentations as pdf files.

www.akademie-fresenius.com/3849

Book now

Do you have any questions?

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The Organisers

For 30 years, Akademie Fresenius has been your partner for practice-orientated training on all the latest topics surrounding the safety and quality of food, consumer goods and chemical products along the whole production chain. Our portfolio not only includes international conferences but also offers national trade meetings, intensive practical seminars and training in small work groups.
Our events are designed to promote an active exchange amongst our participants and offer the perfect platform for bringing the industry, the scientific sector, the authorities and the consulting field together. Excellent service, all-inclusive. Our wide-ranging advanced training opportunities contribute to giving our customers the competitive edge in all quality assurance, risk assessment, legal, production and technical questions.
Akademie Fresenius is a joint venture between Carl Remigius Fresenius Education Group, one of the largest private and independent education groups in Germany, and SGS Institut Fresenius, one of the leading German providers of chemical laboratory analysis.

You can find details on upcoming and new events at
www.akademie-fresenius.com

Who will benefit from this conference?

Professionals working in the fields of:

- Toxicology
- Human health risk assessment
- Registration & regulatory affairs
- Research and development
- Legal and general councelling

Sectors that should take part:

- Agrochemical, chemical, biocide, cosmetic, food and feed industry
- Research institutes
- Competent authorities and regulatory bodies
- Testing laboratories and contract research organisations (CROs)
- Consultancies
- Professional associations

How will this online conference work?

Our online conference will be live – with interactive participation – and will be held in the English language. The conference will be conducted using the meeting tool Zoom. Prior to the conference, we will provide you with your login details, which will allow you to participate and ask questions from your preferred location. Simply log in on the day of the conference – and away you go!

Terms of Participation and Purchase: The registration fee includes the participation in the online event and the event documentation for download. You will receive written confirmation of your registration. Upon receiving our invoice, please transfer the amount due without further deductions before the event begins. The price of the event documentation includes the login details for the secure download section of our webpage where you will find the presentations in a pdf format. The login details will be sent to you via email after the event.

Group Reductions: For joint bookings received from one company we grant a 15% discount from the third participant onwards.

Terms of Cancellation: Cancellations or rebookings to another event are possible in writing without giving reasons and free of charge up to one week before the start of the online event. In the event of later cancellations or non-login to the online event, no participation fees can be refunded. In this case, however, you will receive access to the documentation download after the event. Please note that you can name a substitute participant free of charge at any time.

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