

# Collaboration on Ototoxicity Risk Assessment (CORA)



## Our Mission

The collaborative mission of the committee is to better understand the impacts on the inner ear, resulting from co-exposures to noise and known and suspected ototoxic substances, in the pursuit of identifying safe exposure levels which minimize or eliminate the risk of ototoxicity to the consumer or worker.

## Chairs

### Public Chair

Dr. Rick Neitzel (University of Michigan)

### Private Chair

Dr. Laura Maurer (ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc.)

## HESI Staff

Ms. Jennifer B. Pierson, MPH  
([jpierson@hesiglobal.org](mailto:jpierson@hesiglobal.org))

Ms. Raechel Puglisi, MPH ([rpuglisi@hesiglobal.org](mailto:rpuglisi@hesiglobal.org))

## Webpage

<https://hesiglobal.org/collaboration-on-ototoxicity-risk-assessment/>

## 2021 Committee Highlights



### Participating Organizations

7 government/regulatory agencies, 6 academic/research institutes, 7 industry, and 1 other



### Outreach

2 oral presentations

- Dr. Rick Neitzel presented at the HESI Annual Meeting and described ototoxicity and how the CORA team plans to tackle the gaps in understanding and risk assessment (June 2021, virtual)
- Raechel Puglisi, MPH, presented to the American Petroleum Institute (API) during a webinar and shared details about the CORA initiative and project progress (November 2021, virtual)



### Geographic Representation

Canada, France, Japan, United Kingdom, and United States

## Working Groups



**Collaboration on Ototoxicity Risk Assessment (CORA).** CORA was officially convened in March 2021 as the newest HESI Emerging Issues 2019-20 Call for Proposals, HESI's traditional new project adoption process. CORA's initial focus is on identifying gaps through a contemporary targeted review of the literature. Through the literature search, the committee aims to understand and identify gaps in hazard assessment of co-exposure to noise and chemical solvents. The results will be published in a manuscript.

## Areas of Focus for 2022

- Use results from the literature search, compare clinical metrics and new methods, and determine what existing methods are used in animal studies.
- Develop a study plan to address gaps identified using fit-for-purpose animal studies.

## Strategic Impact Areas

### Enhanced Efficiency and Accuracy in Safety Assessment Practice

The group aims to provide a better understanding of the risk assessment of co-exposures to noise and chemical solvents.



### Catalysis of New Science

Following a literature search, the group is planning to conduct a new laboratory study generating de novo data to address identified gaps in the field.



 **Participating Organizations****Government/Regulatory Agencies**

National Institute of Health Sciences (Japan)  
Public Health England  
US Air Force  
US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
US Environmental Protection Agency  
US Food and Drug Administration  
US Navy

**Academic/Research Institutes**

French National Research and Safety Institute for the Prevention of Occupational Accidents and Diseases (INRS)  
Newcastle University  
SUNY Plattsburgh  
University of Connecticut  
University of Michigan  
University of Montreal

**Industry**

Angus Chemical Company  
Charles River Laboratories  
Chevron  
CITGO Petroleum  
ExxonMobil Biomedical Sciences, Inc.  
FMC Corporation  
Shell Chemicals, Ltd.

**Other**

American Chemistry Council