

# COT 2021 meeting notes

- [COT Meeting: 2nd February 2021](#)

At their **February** meeting the Committee discussed items including the allergenicity of [chitin and chitosan based BBFCMs](#), the potential risks from [mycotoxins](#), and the prioritisation of dietary components and [xenobiotics](#) to be considered for their effects on maternal health. In addition, the committee discussed the [PBPK for Regulators Workshop](#) Report (currently reserved) as well as [variable lifetime exposure](#) and the potential effects that [excess vitamin D](#) intake could have during preconception, pregnancy and lactation.

The committee commented on the draft [EFSA Scientific Committee Opinion](#) on biological plausibility of non-monotonic dose responses and their impact on the risk assessment. The Committee also considered the draft [Annual Report](#), [actions taken](#) subsequent to COT advice and undertook some [horizon scanning](#).

- [COT Meeting: 23rd March 2021](#)

At their **March** meeting the Committee discussed items including the potential effects of excess iodine intake during preconception, pregnancy and lactation, as well as development of human biomonitoring guidance values in the [HBM4EU](#) biomonitoring project.

The Committee also reviewed the draft [SETE](#) report on the synthesis and integration of epidemiological and toxicological evidence in risk assessments and commented the first draft [non-technical](#) COC statement on how the Committees evaluate the relevance and reliability of data when assessing a chemical of concern.

The Committee discussed an update to the COT Position paper on the potential risk of [CBD in CBD food products](#) to include dermal and inhalation exposure.

- [COT Meeting: 4th May 2021](#)

At their **May** meeting the Committee discussed several items of their work on the maternal diet and health: these included the potential effects of ginger and ginger supplements and of [excess vitamin D](#) intake in pregnancy, and the

prioritisation of further [dietary components](#) and xenobiotics including [alcohol](#) and [ginger](#).

The committee also reviewed the proposed addendum to their statement on the potential toxicological risks from [nicotine and non-nicotine e-cigarettes](#) to include the pharmacokinetics of nicotine salts. And a summary of data on the bioavailability of nicotine and other ingredients from the use of [oral nicotine pouches](#) and assessment of risk to users.

The committee continued to work on the draft COT principles for assessing risks from less than [lifetime exposure or variable exposure](#) over a lifetime.

- [COT Meeting: 6th July 2021](#)

At their **July** meeting the Committee discussed items including the alternatives to [conventional plastics](#) for food & drinks packaging, including the potential human health risks of [bamboo bio-composites](#) in food contact materials. They also reviewed the recent EFSA opinion on [titanium dioxide](#).

The Committee also reviewed the Draft EFSA Scientific Committee Opinion on the scientific criteria for [grouping chemicals](#) into assessment groups for the human risk assessment of combined exposure to multiple chemicals. In addition they looked at UK new approach [methodologies roadmap](#).

The committee continued to work on the second draft statement on [PFAS](#), the draft [SETE](#) report on the synthesis and integration of epidemiological and toxicological evidence in risk assessments and the substatement on the potential risks from exposure to [microplastics](#) (oral route).

- [COT Meeting: 7th September 2021](#)

At their **September** meeting the Committee discussed items including the sub-statement on the potential risks from oral exposure to [microplastics](#) (this paper was postponed from the July meeting) and a [Public Consultation](#) on Code of Practice for Scientific Advisory Committees and Councils.

They also reviewed a discussion paper on the potential effects of excess [vitamin A](#) on maternal health and continued to work on the draft statement addressing the potential effects of excess [vitamin D](#) intake may have during preconception, pregnancy and lactation.

The Committee finalised their interim position paper discussing the recent EFSA opinion on [titanium dioxide](#).

- [COT Meeting: 26th October 2021](#)

At their **October** meeting the Committee discussed items including an update on the safety of [ginger supplement](#) use in pregnancy, further information on the potential health risks of [bamboo](#) food contact materials and part 1 of a discussion paper on the risk assessment of [cow's milk](#) in children aged 1 to 5 years, in the context of the previous evaluation of plant based drinks. The Committee also finalised the draft statement on [vitamin D](#) and the potential effects that excess vitamin D intake may have during preconception, pregnancy and lactation and the sub-statement on the potential risk(s) from exposure to [microplastics](#) via the oral route.

- [COT Meeting: 7th December 2021](#)

At their **December** meeting the Committee discussed items including topic proposals for a [COT workshop](#) in March 2022, part 2 of a discussion paper on the risk assessment of [cow's milk](#) in children aged 1 to 5 years, in the context of the previous evaluation of plant based drinks. And two Reserved items: Smoke flavourings reauthorisations and a discussion paper on vitamin D exposure levels in formula fed infants.

The Committee continued their work on maternal health, reviewing the first draft of a statement on the effects of excess [vitamin A](#) on maternal health and a discussion paper on the potential risks from [cadmium](#) in the maternal diet.

Also the Committee reviewed an interim paper on the potential health risks of [bamboo](#) food contact materials and the EFSA draft opinion and exposure protocol open for public consultation on [Phthalates](#).