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New challenges for health risk governance in a changing world

ABSTRACT BREAK OUT SESSION - TUESDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2021

10 - Pesticides regulation and health and the environement challenges: Strengths and weaknesses of regulatory sciences facing uncomfortable knowledge and societal demand

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Because they are toxic by design, pesticides have long been regulated so as to control their dangers. Yet, over the past decades, scientific data coming mostly from the field of epidemiology have shown that some populations, particularly the agricultural workforce, is statistically at risk of having chronic diseases such as Parkinson's disease or blood cancers because of their exposure to pesticides. The integration of these data in the regulatory framework of risk assessment and premarket authorization for pesticides appears to raise particularly strong challenges, both in terms of articulating science and policy, and in terms of communication about risks related to occupational and environmental exposure to pesticides. The aim of this panel is to cast a light on these challenges and on the way they can be faced both by science and by public authorities.

