

The *Committee to Review of EPA's 2022 Draft Formaldehyde Assessment* is seeking written answers to the questions below. In addition, an opportunity for discussion with EPA staff at an open session to be organized during January 2023 is requested.

1. Are there specific systematic review protocols that were used for the assessment methods depicted in the overview of the IRIS approach as presented by EPA (slide 12 of EPA's presentation, below)?
 - a. Specifically, can EPA provide protocols for the multiple reviews of the various non-cancer outcomes and cancer types, encompassing the human and animal evidence and covering the eight steps outlined in the figure?
 - b. Can EPA provide more detailed information about how the study quality determinations were made, for example, that harmonizes the general and the endpoint-specific study quality information provided in Appendix A.5?
 - c. How was consistency in approach assured across multiple working groups, particularly within each endpoint?
2. Can EPA describe the general guidance that was behind the systematic review protocols over time, from 2011 forward? How did they respond to guidance (*i.e.*, from prior peer reviews)?
3. Beyond the updating of the human and animal evidence, was the search for mechanistic evidence updated from 2017 forward? If so, how were impactful mechanistic studies identified?
4. EPA noted that study authors were contacted for "key study details". Did EPA ask for data on all medium/high confidence studies that would enable them to derive POD? For example, Liu *et al.* 1991 was identified as medium confidence but the study was not included in the POD derivation because of "incomplete reporting of modeling results" (Table 2-1).