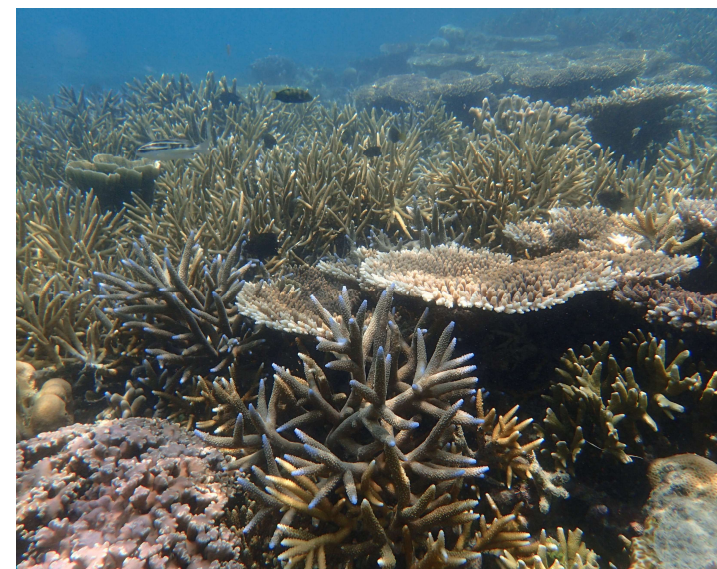


# Standardisation of Toxicity Tests on Corals to Meet Regulatory Requirements

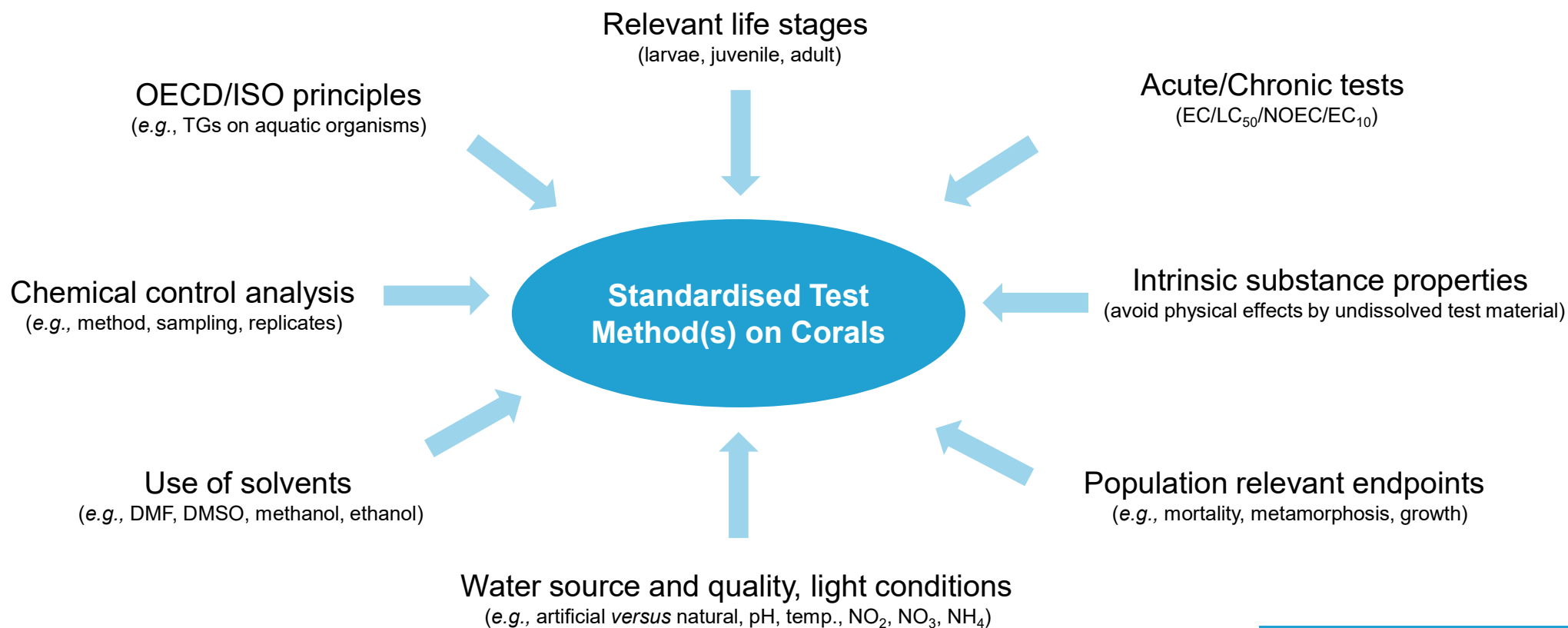
**Dr. Sascha Pawlowski & Laura H. Lütjens**

NASEM Workshop to Advance Research on  
Understanding Environmental Effects of UV  
Filters in Sunscreens  
Washington DC, USA  
January 23-24, 2023



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# Key Aspects to be Considered for Standardised Tests on Corals



## Our Work (in collaboration with University of Oldenburg, Germany)

- Acute toxicity test on adult coral fragments (lower Tier) ✓
- Toxicity test on coral larvae (higher Tier) ✓
- Effects of solvents\* on corals ✓
- Further chronic toxicity test on coral fragments – in progress
- Bioaccumulation in corals - **planned**



Standardized test methods on corals following ISO/OECD TG principles



It's a long way to go.....(5 – 10 years)

### Acute coral fragment test

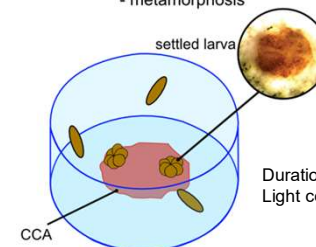


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### Coral larvae toxicity test

#### Settlement experiment

Endpoints: - mortality  
- metamorphosis



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\*DMF, DMSO, ethanol, methanol,

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# Current Safety Assessment Approach for Corals

EU REACH requires PNECs for hazardous UV filters

PNEC<sub>marine water</sub> are based on standard freshwater organisms (A, D, F) and Assessment Factors

PNEC<sub>marine water</sub> *versus* effect values on corals (literature)

- All effect levels in corals (acute, marine water) refer to already classified UV filters
- All acute effect levels in corals were above the derived PNEC<sub>marine water</sub>
- ▶ **PNEC<sub>marine water</sub> as derived within EU REACH could be used as a surrogate to protect corals until standardized methods become available**

REACH – Registration  
PNEC – Predicted no-effect concentration  
A, D, F – algae, daphnids, fish

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## Special Series

### UV filters used in sunscreens—A lack in current coral protection?

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UV filter (INCI name (abbreviation))	CAS No.	Molecular weight (g/mol)	Water solubility (µg/L)	Log <i>P</i> <sub>ow</sub>	GHS classification environment	Freshwater Effect level Value (µg/L)	Marine water AF	PNEC <sub>marine water</sub> (µg/L) <sup>1</sup>	Minimum coral toxicity (mg/L)	Reference
4-Methyl-benzophenone camphor (MBSC)	36861-47-9	254.38	1.1 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	5.1	Aquatic acute 1, Aquatic chronic 1	NOEC 20	500	0.04	37 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	Dennekers et al. (2008)
Benzophenone-3 (BPB)	131-57-7	228.25	6 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	3.45	Aquatic acute 1, Aquatic chronic 2	EC50 670	10,000	0.067	17	Downs et al. (2016)
Benzophenone-4 (BP4)	4065-45-6	308.31	3 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	0.515	Not classified	NOEC 4897	500	9.79	>1000	He et al. (2019)
Bis-ethylhexyloxyphenyl methoxyphenyl triazine (BEMT)	187393-00-6	627.83	4.5 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	>5.7	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>1000 <sup>2</sup>	Steen et al. (2019)
Diethylhexyl butamido triazole (DBT)	154702-15-5	766.00	<0 <sup>1</sup>	4.12	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>1000	Steen et al. (2019)
Ethylhexyl triazone (EHT)	88122-99-0	823.10	<1	7	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>177 <sup>2</sup>	Fel et al. (2019)
Terephthalidene dicamphor sulfonic acid (TDSA)	92761-26-7	562.70	≥6 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	-1.84	Not classified	NOEC No hazard identified	N/A	No hazard identified	>5030	Fel et al. (2019)
Drometrizole trifluoromethane (DTF)	155633-54-8	501.85	No data	>4	No data	No data	No data	No data	>480	Fel et al. (2019)
Butyl methoxy dibenzoyl methane (BMDBM)	70356-09-1	310.40	27	6.1	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	516 <sup>1</sup>	Fel et al. (2019)
Ethylhexylmethoxy cinnamate (EHMC)	83834-59-7	290.41	51	>4	Aquatic chronic 2	NOEC 46.9	100	<0.469	10	He et al. (2019)
Ethylhexyl salicylate (EHS)	118-60-5	250.34	500	6.36	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>1000	Steen et al. (2019)
Homomenthyl salicylate (HMS)	118-56-9	262.35	400	6.34	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>1000	Steen et al. (2019)
Methylene bis- benzotriazyl tetramethyl butylphenol (MBBT)	102597-45-1	658.89	<5 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	12.7	Aquatic chronic 4	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>1000	Steen et al. (2019)
Octocrylene (OCR)	6197-30-4	361.49	40	6.1	Aquatic chronic 1	NOEC 2.7	100	0.027	1318 <sup>1</sup>	Fel et al. (2019)
Titanium dioxide (TiO <sub>2</sub> )	13143-47-7	79.87	100	N/A	Not classified	NOEC 2WS	N/A	No hazard identified	>6300	Corballe et al. (2018)
Zinc oxide (ZnO)	1314-13-2	81.39	2.9 × 10 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	Aquatic acute 1 Aquatic chronic 1	NOEC 7.8	1	6.1	94	Fel et al. (2019)

Abbreviations: AF, Assessment factor; EC50, 50% effect concentration; INCI, international nomenclature of cosmetic ingredients; log *P*<sub>ow</sub>, logarithmic partition coefficient octanol/water; N/A, not applicable; NOEC, no observed effect concentration; PNEC, predicted no effect concentration; REACH, Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals.


<sup>1</sup>According to ECHA REACH registration dossiers (ECHA, www.echa.eu).

<sup>2</sup>Value recalculated based on 15.2 µg/L and a specific density of 1.108 g/cm<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>3</sup>Solvent used, value above known water solubility (WS).

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## Safety Assessment Approach for other Environmental Organisms

- Comparing EU REACH derived PNECs for all environmental compartments\* with effect values on other non-standard test species\*\* (literature)
  - PNECs were usually based on standard test organisms (freshwater, freshwater sediment, terrestrial) and Assessment Factors
- 
- Majority of literature data refer to fresh- and marine water species
  - All comparable effect values (e.g., LC<sub>50</sub>) from non-standard organisms were above the derived PNECs
- 
- ▶ **Derived PNECs for all environmental compartments were protective for other non-standard test organisms**

**Cosmetic UV filters in the environment - state of the art in EU regulations, science and possible knowledge gaps**

Sascha Pawlowski, Laura Henriette Lütjens, Alina Preibisch, Stephanie Acker, Mechtild

Petersen-Thiery

Int. J. Cosm. Sci. Special series Sun Protection (submitted)

[illegible]

\*Sewage treatment plant (STP), fresh- and marine water, fresh- and marine sediment, terrestrial

\*\*included taxonomic groups: bacteria, algae, corals, annelids, mollusks, crustacea, arthropods, echinodermata, fish

## Summary

- Short term toxicity tests on adult corals (acute) and larvae (chronic) are ready for pre-validation under ISO/OECD
- Further long-term (chronic toxicity) tests on adult corals are in progress
- Bioaccumulation tests in corals are planned
- However, standardization of coral toxicity tests is a long way to go
- $PNEC_{\text{marine water}}$  as derived within EU REACH could be used as a surrogate to protect corals until standardized methods become available
- Furthermore, EU REACH derived PNECs for all environmental compartments were protective for other non-standard test organisms



# The Team

## University of Oldenburg (UOL)



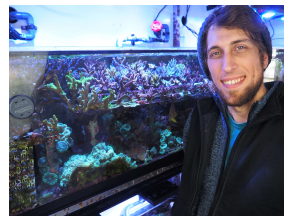
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Dr. Matthias Y. Kellermann



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Former UOL members: Dr. Elham Kamyab, Ingo B. Miller

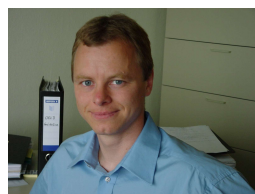
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