

# Prioritization Process Overview and Application of Epidemiology Data Screen

Martha S. Sandy, Ph.D., Chief  
Cancer Toxicology and Epidemiology Section  
Reproductive and Cancer Hazard Assessment Branch  
Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment



# Prioritization Process Overview

*Process for Prioritizing Chemicals for  
Consideration Under Proposition 65  
by the State's Qualified Experts  
(OEHHA, December 2004)*

- Developed in consultation with the Carcinogen Identification Committee and the Developmental and Reproductive Toxicant Identification Committee



# Prioritization Process Overview (continued)

- **Purpose** – to identify chemicals for evaluation by the CIC
- **Goal** – to focus the efforts of the CIC on chemicals that may pose significant hazards to Californians

*Prioritization is a preliminary appraisal of the evidence of hazard*



# Prioritization Process

Tracking Database



Candidate Chemicals



**Screens: Focused Literature Review**

Chemicals Proposed for Committee Consideration\*



*Consultation with the Committee on Chemicals for Review \**



OEHHA Selection of Chemicals for  
Preparation of Hazard Identification Materials



# Hazard Identification by the CIC

Data Call-In on  
Selected Chemicals ← Public Data Submission



Hazard Identification Materials Prepared  
on Chemicals for Committee



Committee Review  
and Listing Decision ← Public Comments

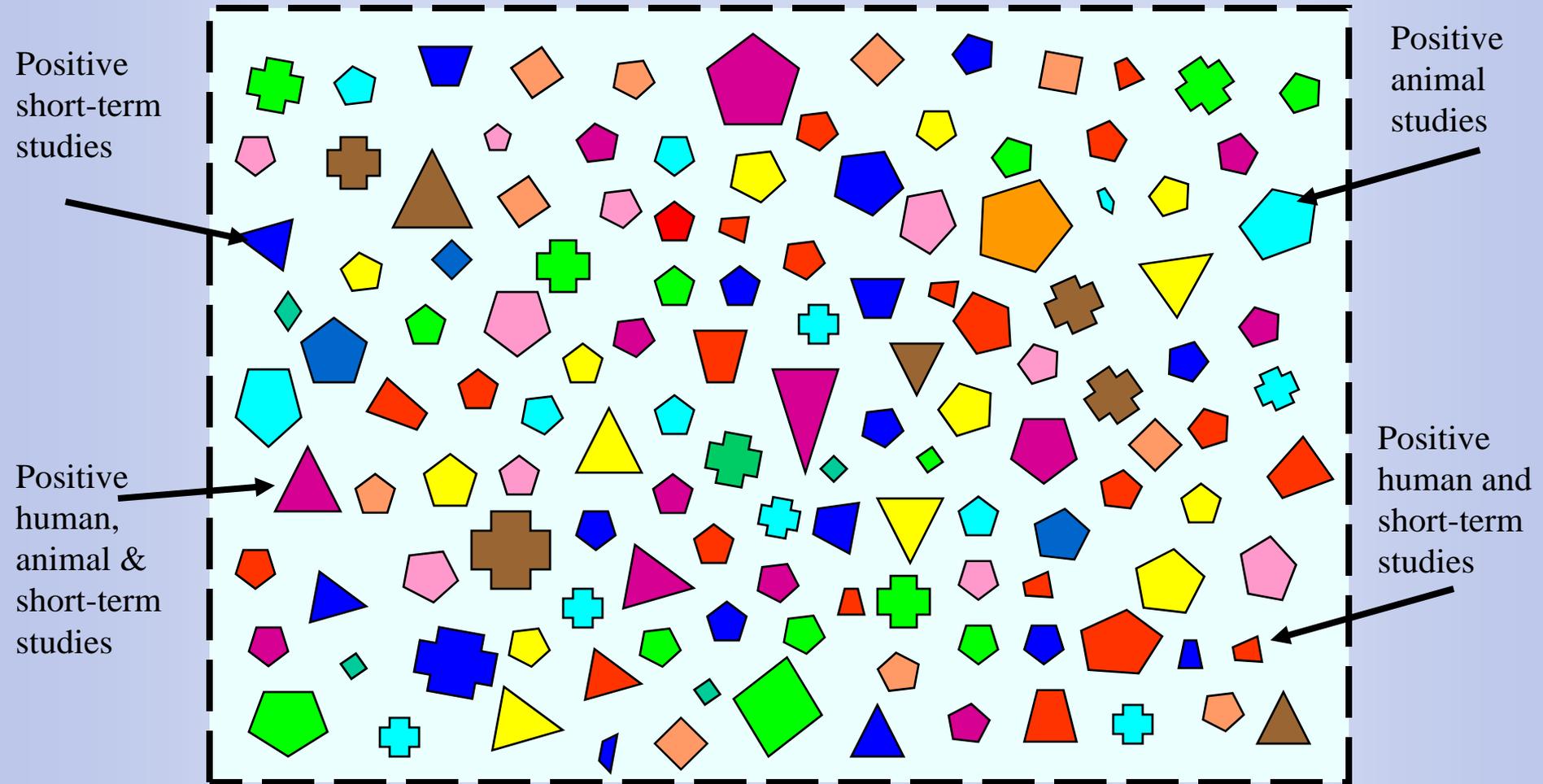


# Prioritization Process

- **Tracking Database**
  - Findings from literature searches, suggestions from the CIC, state agencies, the scientific community, and the general public
- **Candidate Chemicals**
  - Tracked chemicals with data suggesting the potential to cause cancer **and** the potential for exposure in California



# Candidate Chemicals in the Cancer Tracking Database



# Application of Epidemiology Data Screen to Candidate Chemicals (n = 235)

- Online literature database search (TOXLINE, PubMed)
- Identification of epidemiology studies reporting an association between exposure to the chemical and increased cancer risk
  - Analytical studies given more weight than descriptive studies or case reports
  - Single case reports not sufficient to satisfy the screen



# *Preliminary Toxicological Evaluation* of Chemicals Identified by the Epidemiology Data Screen

- Literature search to identify animal bioassays, studies on genotoxicity, mechanisms of action, metabolism and pharmacokinetics, *etc.*
- *Preliminary* toxicological evaluation of the *overall evidence* of carcinogenicity



# Chemicals Proposed for Committee Consideration

- Chemicals identified by the epidemiology data screen for which a *preliminary* evaluation of the *overall evidence* indicates that carcinogenicity may be a concern

Marijuana Smoke

Dimethylformamide

2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT)



# Chemicals Proposed for Committee Consideration (continued)

## For each of the proposed chemicals:

- Compiled key cancer epidemiology studies, animal cancer bioassays, and other relevant data identified during the preliminary toxicological evaluation
- Provided to the CIC and released to the public for 60 – day comment period
- Public comments received were provided to the CIC prior to today's meeting



# Consultation with the Committee on Chemicals for Review

- CIC advises OEHHA on the chemicals that should undergo the development of hazard identification materials
- Additional opportunity for public comment

