



NAVIGATING ENDOCRINE-DISRUPTING CHEMICALS: WHAT YOU AND YOUR PATIENTS NEED TO KNOW

We know that clinicians and their patients have questions about endocrine-disrupting chemicals (EDCs). Compelling scientific evidence in recent decades has established strong links between chemical exposures and endocrine diseases, and patients may want to know about the evidence relating EDCs to specific diseases, or how they can control their exposures and reduce risks for themselves and their families.

In 2019, the Society's EDC Advisory Group gathered a Task Force to develop resources that would help endocrinologists answer questions about EDCs and facilitate evidence-based discussions with their patients. The Task Force led the creation of a series of short videos, which build on the science presented in the Endocrine Society's scientific statements on EDCs. We hope that you find these videos useful and encourage you to check back as more videos will be released in the coming months. If you have any questions or subjects that you would like to see in future installments in this series, please contact Joe Laakso, PhD, Director of Science Policy at jlaakso@endocrine.org.

ENVIRONMENTAL ENDOCRINE DISRUPTORS AND METABOLIC DISORDERS

A VIDEO DISCUSSION WITH ROBERT SARGIS, MD, PHD

What is the link between chemical exposures and metabolic disease? In this video, at endocrine.org/topics/edc/talking-edcs, you will learn about how chemical exposures contribute to diseases such as obesity and diabetes, and why action is needed to reduce health disparities associated with EDC exposures.

Diabetes and obesity are two of the world's most pressing health care issues, affecting hundreds of millions of individuals and responsible for millions of deaths yearly. The last 15 years have seen major advancements in the science linking these and other metabolic disorders with EDCs. These chemicals have sometimes been called "obesogens" and/or "diabetogens". In the second video of this series, Robert Sargis, MD, PhD, addresses questions about how these chemicals influence metabolic disorders.

Q: Has science shown that chemicals influence human metabolism?

A: Studies have linked a variety of environmental toxicants with metabolic dysfunction through diverse molecular mechanisms.

Q: Are people commonly exposed these chemicals?

A: Humans are exposed to numerous chemicals with the capacity to alter metabolism, and chemical exposures likely contribute to the growth in rates of obesity, non-alcoholic fatty liver disease, and diabetes.

Q: Do different communities have different risks related to EDCs?

A: Disproportionate exposures to endocrine disruptors likely contribute to health disparities.