

Reviewer's report

Title: Feeding mice with diets containing mercury-contaminated fish flesh from French Guiana: a model for the mercurial intoxication of the Wayana Amerindians

Version: 1 **Date:** 31 March 2008

Reviewer: Luigi Manzo

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Major Compulsory Revisions

The goal of the paper has been to ascertain the role of MeHg, absorbed through a fish diet, in the neurological alterations that had previously been reported by the same authors in a cohort of Ameridians Children.

To address this topic, a series of experiments have been conducted in mice using a "realistic exposure" scenario and a range of relevant toxicological endpoints.

A major problem in the work was the study design that did not properly considered timing of exposure (e.g. adult or offspring). This is particularly imporant to assess age-related effects, namely neurodevelopmental toxicity of MeHg.

On this basis, the authors should re-structure the manuscript to present their data more consistently with current approaches to risk assessment for MeHg.

Level of interest: An article whose findings are important to those with closely related research interests

Quality of written English: Not suitable for publication unless extensively edited