



A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO
**TOXICOLOGY AND
HUMAN HEALTH
RISK ASSESSMENT**

LAURA ROBINSON

WILEY

**A Practical Guide to
Toxicology and Human Health
Risk Assessment**

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Laura Robinson

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Brighton, UK*

WILEY

This edition first published 2019
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John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 111 River Street, Hoboken, NJ 07030, USA

Editorial Office

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Robinson, Laura, 1965– author.

Title: A practical guide to toxicology and human health risk assessment /
Laura Robinson.

Description: First edition. | Hoboken, NJ : John Wiley & Sons, Inc, 2018. |
Includes bibliographical references and index. | Description based on
print version record and CIP data provided by publisher; resource not
viewed.

Identifiers: LCCN 2018019553 (print) | LCCN 2018044443 (ebook) | ISBN
9781118882078 (Adobe PDF) | ISBN 9781118881903 (ePub) | ISBN 9781118882023
(pbk.)

Subjects: LCSH: Toxicology. | Hazardous substances–Risk assessment. | Health
risk assessment. | Environmental risk assessment.

Classification: LCC RA1211 (ebook) | LCC RA1211 .R634 2018 (print) | DDC
363.17/63–dc23

LC record available at <https://lccn.loc.gov/2018019553>

Cover design by Wiley

Cover image: © ALFRED PASIEKA/SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY/Getty Images

Set in 10/12pt Warnock by SPi Global, Pondicherry, India

Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

To my husband Andrew T. Austin and Nai-Ling

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Foreword

In 2015 a patient told me of how his life was saved in 1969 by the prompt action of his site foreman, following a mining accident when he was accidentally exposed to cyanide gas. Still here to tell the dramatic tale, 46 years later, of nitrates, oxygen, and then hospitalization, it really emphasized the need for an understanding of how we could reduce the harmful impact of chemicals.

As Laura writes in her first chapter, “we live in a chemical environment, and therefore, we need to be aware of the ways in which chemicals can cause harm.” This book allows us to do just that. Having distilled the spirit of each topic into readily comprehensible principles, which can then be used to address wider matters, the chapters are well organized and broken down into clear parts. At the back of each chapter, there are references that are useful for further study.

Anyone for whom toxicology has any relevance, e.g. nurses, doctors, paramedics, allied health professionals, pharmacists, environmentalists, chemists, pathologists, industrialists, and also toxicologists, in training and in practice, will find this book invaluable.

Dr Susan Elton, MBBS, MRCGP, DOccMed, Postgraduate Certificate in Law

Preface

Toxicology is the cornerstone to all aspects of chemical safety. Knowledge of the subject is needed in a wide variety of disciplines, not just the chemical industry but also other areas, including medicine, the emergency services, and forensics.

Many problems arise from the understanding of toxicology and its application in hazard communication and chemical safety. This has been highlighted by the numerous online webinars and face-to-face toxicology training sessions that have been delivered by Toxicology Consulting Ltd over the past five years.

The overall goal of this book is therefore to provide a very practical and easy-to-use guide that will enable the reader to quickly build up his or her knowledge and understanding (in terms of its application) of toxicology.