



National Institutes of Health
National Institute of
Environmental Health Sciences
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Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
Website: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov>

February 12, 2024

Email: mister.julien.perrin@gmail.com

Dear Mr. Perrin:

Thank you for your emails to Xavier Becerra, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and Monica M. Bertagnolli, M.D., Director of the National Institutes of Health, regarding your concerns and perspectives on the deficiencies of conventional medicine in addressing the toxicology of heavy metals in the treatment and diagnosis of chronic diseases. Your email was forwarded to me as Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Science (NIEHS) and National Toxicology Program (NTP).

I appreciate your emphasis on the value of understanding the role of environment in the causes of disease. [NIEHS](#), a component of the National Institutes of Health, and the [NTP](#), an interagency program headquartered at NIEHS, have a long history of supporting research aimed at contributing to the scientific knowledge on human health and the environment and to the well-being of people everywhere. A summary of health-related topics and resources for [mercury](#), [arsenic](#), and [lead](#) are available on our website. Through the [Superfund Research Program](#), the NIEHS funds research aimed at finding real and practical solutions to protect the public from hazardous substances such as mercury, arsenic, and lead found in contaminated water, soil, and air at hazardous waste sites in the United States.

The NTP has conducted extensive [toxicology studies](#) on a broad range of environmental substances and prepares the [Report on Carcinogens](#), a science-based, public-health document that identifies chemical, physical, and biological substances, including some heavy metals, that pose a cancer hazard for people in the United States. In addition, the NTP conducts systematic reviews on public health issues and in 2012 published a monograph on the health effects of [low-level lead exposure](#) in children and adults.

I appreciate your work on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Richard Woychik, Ph.D.
Director
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
and National Toxicology Program