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## ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

*	<i>P</i> level < 0.05
**	<i>P</i> level < 0.01
***	<i>P</i> level < 0.001
ADI	acceptable daily intake
AR	arithmetic mean
BMI	body mass index
$\beta$	beta
$\beta$ -HCH	beta-hexachlorocyclohexane
°C	degree celsius
C <sub>18</sub>	octadecyl
cm	centimeter (s)
CV	coefficient of variation
DDT	dichlorodiphenyl trichloroethane
dl	deciliter (s)
DMSO	dimethylsulfoxide
E <sub>2</sub>	17 $\beta$ -estradiol
EA	ethyl acetate
EDCs	endocrine disrupting chemicals
ELRA	enzyme-linked receptor assay
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FSH	follicle stimulating hormone

FT <sub>4</sub>	free thyroxine
γ-HCH	gamma-hexachlorocyclohexane
g	gram (s)
GC-ECD	gas chromatograph-electron capture detector
GC-MS	gas chromatograph-mass spectrometer
GM	geometric mean
HCB	hexachlorobenzene
i.d.	inner diameter
i.e.	that is
IS	internal standard
kg	kilogram (s)
l	liter (s)
LH	luteinizing hormone
LOD	limit of detection
LOQ	limit of quantification
m <sup>2</sup>	square meter (s)
Max	maximum
mg	milligram (s)
Min	minimum
ml	milliliter (s)
nd	not detected
n/r	not reported
ng	nanogram (s)
<i>o,p'</i> -DDE	1,1-dichloro-2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethylene

<i>o,p'</i> -DDT	1,1,1-trichloro-2-(2-chlorophenyl)-2-(4-chlorophenyl)ethane
OCPs	organochlorine pesticides
<i>P</i>	level of significance
<i>p,p'</i> -DDD	1,1-dichloro-2,2-di(4-chlorophenyl)ethane
<i>p,p'</i> -DDE	1,1-dichloro-2,2-di(4-chlorophenyl)ethylene
<i>p,p'</i> -DDT	1,1,1-trichloro-2,2-di(4-chlorophenyl)ethane
Partial <i>r</i>	partial correlation coefficient
PCBs	polychlorinated biphenyls
POP(s)	persistent organic pollutant (s)
<i>r</i>	correlation coefficient
RIA	radioimmunoassay
rpm	rounds per minute
Std.	standard
SD	standard deviation
SE	standard error
TSH	thyroid stimulating hormone
TT <sub>4</sub>	total thyroxine
UDPGT	uridine diphosphate glucuronosyltransferase
μl	microliter (s)
μm	micrometer (s)
WHO	World Health Organization