

Aulerich and Ringer, 1977

Guidelines/Criteria	
	Reference: Aulerich RJ, Ringer RK. 1977. Current status of PCB toxicity to mink, and effect on their reproduction. Arch Environ Contam Toxicol 6(2-3):279-292.
In vivo Study Type Route of Administration Species & age of animals	Long-term feeding study including reproduction Diet Male and female adult mink
Study Duration	6 months
Type of Mixture Binary >2 components Similar acting or dissimilar What Mode of Action was investigated?	No Fish from the Great Lakes or ocean fish (used as the control) were included in the diet Both Nothing specific
Parameters/End points Measured Target organs/Critical effects Pharmacological changes or adverse effects	Adult mortality and kits born Adverse
Individual Components Characterisation of individual compounds Name, exact chemical name, CAS no. Were dose responses established for individual components? Were no effect levels established? Were doses below the NO(A)ELs investigated?	None N/A No No N/A
Mixtures Investigated Number of dose levels How does the mixture make-up compare to individual components? (e.g. low dose) equivalents used? No. of technical replicates per exposure condition (<i>in vitro</i>) No. of animals per dose group (<i>in vivo</i>)	One There was 30% fish inclusion in the diet, either ocean fish (control), coho salmon, or ocean fish plus 30ppm PCBs 12 females and 3 males
Observations/Findings	There was adult mortality in the coho salmon group. There were similar clinical signs and lesions in the groups fed ocean fish plus PCBs, and the dead mink from these two groups contained similar PCB concentrations.
Overall opinion (e.g. sufficient numbers of groups investigated, group sizes adequate, observations reproducible, low dose levels used investigated)	A good study. Effects are consistent with being due to PCBs alone.