

WHAT IS THE FREIA PROJECT?

The FREIA Project is an EU-funded project dedicated to advance test methods to identify **ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS** that are toxic to female reproduction.

The FREIA Project will:

1

...gain new understandings and insights into adverse effects of endocrine disruption on women's health.

2

...develop new test methods and improve existing ones to detect EDCs toxic to female reproduction and support protective regulation.

3

...promote sustainable options for a healthy society and improve women's health.

WHY DO ENDOCRINE DISRUPTING CHEMICALS MATTER?



EDCs ARE EVERYWHERE

EDCs are mostly man-made chemicals that we encounter in our daily life. EDCs interfere with the normal function of our hormones and as a result cause health problems.



VERY LOW DOSES CAN CAUSE HARM

Amounts which are usually considered "safe" for consumers are based on traditional risk assessment methods that often do not capture effects on hormones.



POTENTIAL DELAYED EFFECTS

Effects can occur years after exposure. Moreover, adverse health effects may affect multiple generations.



IRREVERSIBLE HEALTH DAMAGE

During windows of high vulnerability, a woman's health can be damaged beyond repair.



EFFECTS LARGELY OVERLOOKED

Current regulatory testing strategies lack adequate test methods to identify EDCs.

EXAMPLES OF KNOWN AND SUSPECTED EDCS



BISPHENOL A



SOME PESTICIDES AND BIOCIDES



SOME PHTHALATES SUCH AS DEHP



SOME PERFLUORINATED CHEMICALS SUCH AS PFOA AND PFOS

HOW CAN EDCs AFFECT FEMALE REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH?

Reproductive health issues in women are often related to hormonal imbalance. In addition to risk factors such as obesity or smoking, EDCs can affect reproductive health. EDCs can disrupt hormones at any life stage, from conception to adulthood, which can lead to a range of health problems.



EARLY MENOPAUSE
1 in 250 women
by age 35 years



BREAST CANCER
1 in 8 women



POLYCYSTIC OVARY SYNDROME (PCOS)
5-15% of women



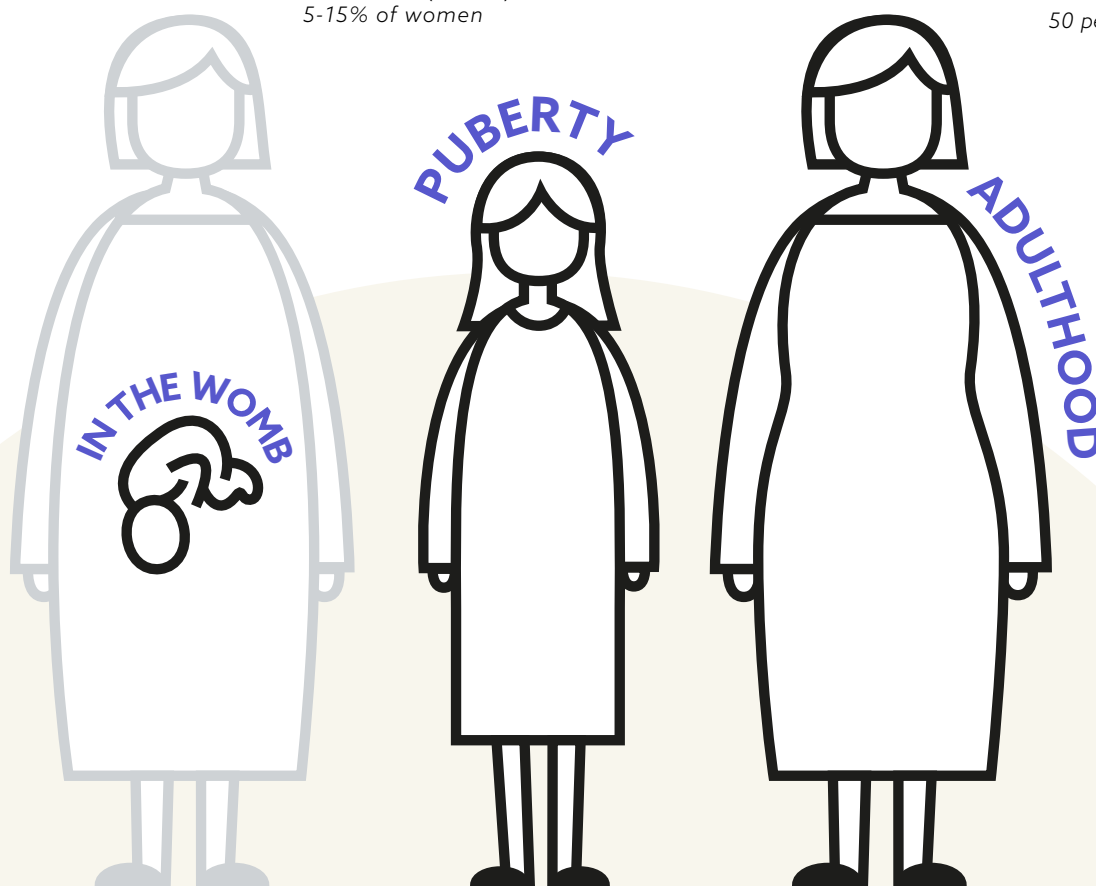
ENDOMETRIOSIS
10% reproductive-age women



INFERTILITY
1 in 6 couples



IRREGULAR MENSTRUAL CYCLES
50 per 1000 women



TACKLING THE ISSUES OF EDCs



It is important for FREIA to share our scientific findings and inform society about the potential health risks of EDCs.



ADVANCING EDC TESTING FOR MORE PROTECTIVE CHEMICALS REGULATIONS

BETTER INFORMATION ABOUT EDCs FOR HEALTHIER LIFESTYLE CHOICES

Find out more at WWW.FREIAPROJECT.EU



FUNDER ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 825100 (FREIA). This output reflects the views only of the author(s), and the European Union cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.