

Dr. Amy Heffernan joins Eurofins



Eurofins is delighted to welcome Dr. Amy Heffernan to the Environment Testing Team. Amy will work with Dr. Bob Symons and Dr. Julia Jaeger to help strengthen its emerging contaminants Team and support our laboratories in Australia & New Zealand. Amy holds a PhD in environmental chemistry and specialises in mass spectrometry method development for a range of applications including environmental monitoring, human biomonitoring and environmental forensics. She has a special interest in high resolution mass spectrometry for unknown compound identification in omics applications, and is an Honorary Research Fellow at the Queensland Alliance for Environmental Health Sciences, University of Queensland.

Her early research focused on environmental and health monitoring of common chemicals including pesticides, plasticisers and flame retardants in the Australian population, and much of this research has been used to inform national policy. Amy is a strong advocate of evidence-based policy and public engagement with science, and champions equity and diversity initiatives for women in science and business.

Sefton McGraw, Managing Director, Regional Divisional Leader, Eurofins Environment Testing Australia & New Zealand said:

“We are very happy to have Amy join our growing Team and support future leading edge technologies such as Q-ToF-MS and LDIR. Our emerging contaminants group

has been pushing boundaries in this challenging area and Amy’s appointment will keep this momentum heading in the right direction with world leading skills. Amy will be involved in further developments of existing LC-MS/MS PFAS capabilities in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney & Auckland and taking them to the next level.”

Selected Publications

Age as a determinant of phosphate flame retardant exposure of the Australian population and identification of novel urinary PFR metabolites, N Van den Eede & AL Heffernan, LL Aylward, P Hobson, H Neels, Environment International 74, 1-8, 171, 2015

Rapid, automated online SPE-LC-QTRAP-MS/MS method for the simultaneous analysis of 14 phthalate metabolites and 5 bisphenol analogues in human urine, AL Heffernan, K Thompson, G Eaglesham, S Vijayarath, JF Mueller, Talanta 151, 224-233, 82, 2016.

Towards development of a rapid and effective non-destructive testing strategy to identify brominated flame retardants in the plastics of consumer products, C Gallen, A Banks, S Brandsma, C Baduel, P Thai, G Eaglesham, Science of the Total Environment 491, 255-265, 71, 2014

Urinary metabolites of organophosphate esters: Concentrations and age trends in Australian children, C He, LML Toms, P Thai, N Van den Eede, X Wang, Y Li, C Baduel, Environment international 111, 124-130, 59, 2018

Pooled biological specimens for human biomonitoring of environmental chemicals: opportunities and limitations, AL Heffernan, LL Aylward, LML Toms, PD Sly, M Macleod, JF Mueller, Journal of exposure science & environmental epidemiology 24 (3), 225-232, 59, 2014

Fate and redistribution of perfluoroalkyl acids through AFFF-impacted groundwater, J Bräunig, C Baduel, A Heffernan, A Rotander, E Donaldson, JF Mueller, Science of the Total Environment 596, 360-368, 56, 2017

Age-related trends in urinary excretion of bisphenol A in Australian children and adults: evidence from a pooled sample study using samples of convenience, AL Heffernan, LL Aylward, LML Toms, G Eaglesham, P Hobson, PD Sly, Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health, Part A 76 (18), 1039-1055, 38, 2013

Urinary bisphenol A concentrations in pregnant women, AC Callan, AL Hinwood, A Heffernan, G Eaglesham, J Mueller, JØ Odland, International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health 216 (6), 641-644, 36, 2013.

Non-targeted, high resolution mass spectrometry strategy for simultaneous monitoring of xenobiotics and endogenous compounds in green sea turtles on the Great Barrier Reef, AL Heffernan, MM Gómez-Ramos, C Gaus, S Vijayarath, I Bell, C Hof, Science of The Total Environment 599, 1251-1262

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