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► To cite this version:

Mounia Eygue, Florence Richard-Forget, Jean-Michel Cappelier, Laetitia Pinson-Gadais, Jeanne-Marie Membré. Development of a risk-ranking framework to evaluate simultaneously biological and chemical hazards related to food safety: Application to emerging dietary practices in France. *Food Control*, 2020, 115, pp.1-14. 10.1016/j.foodcont.2020.107279 . hal-02793400

HAL Id: hal-02793400

<https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02793400>

Submitted on 20 May 2022

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Development of a risk-ranking framework to evaluate simultaneously biological and chemical hazards related to food safety: Application to emerging dietary practices in France

Mounia Eygue¹, Florence Richard-Forget², Jean-Michel Cappelier¹, Laetitia Pinson-Gadais²,
Jeanne-Marie Membré^{1*}

1. INRAE, Oniris, Secalim, 44307 Nantes, France
2. INRAE, MycSA, 33883 VILLENAVE D'ORNON, France

* Corresponding author: Jeanne-Marie Membré, INRAE, Secalim, Oniris – Site de la Chantrerie, CS 40706, 44307 Nantes Cédex 3, France. Email : jeanne-marie.membre@oniris-nantes.fr, Tel : +33 (0)2 40 68 40 58

Running title: Development of a risk-ranking framework related to food safety

Keywords: MCDA; public health; PROMETHEE; toxicological risk assessment; microbiological risk assessment

1 **Abstract**

2 The objective of this study was to develop a structured and transparent framework to rank
3 emerging dietary practices. The first challenge was to rank simultaneously biological and
4 chemical hazards using the same criteria whatever the nature of the hazard. For a list of dietary
5 practices selected based on the results of a survey, hazard identification and health effect
6 characterization was carried out. Taking only the top five practices led to the identification of 41
7 triplets “emerging dietary practice – hazard – health effect”, which highlights the complexity of
8 scoring risk in food safety. A wide variety of hazards, including microbes, parasites, mycotoxins,
9 allergens and other chemical compounds were considered together with a range of health
10 effects such as foodborne pathogen disease, anaphylaxis, cancer, immunosuppression,
11 endocrine disturbance, etc. The second challenge was to develop a framework easy to populate
12 and run. The risk-ranking framework included eight criteria: five to describe the severity, three
13 to describe the likelihood. All of them were informed by literature data and food safety
14 agencies’ reports, plus experts’ opinion. The PROMETHEE outranking MCDA technique, available
15 in R package, was implemented. This risk-ranking framework applied to the results of our small-
16 scale survey revealed that consuming nuts on a regular basis could be the emerging dietary
17 habit presenting the highest-risk score, due to the aflatoxin B1 hazard and its associated health
18 effect (liver cancer). This risk-ranking framework requires however to be applied furthermore in
19 other contexts to evaluate its robustness and identify opportunities for improvement. Once
20 consolidated, this framework will be highly relevant for food safety authorities and policy
21 makers to move forward transparent and evidence-informed decisions.

22

23 **1 -Introduction**

24 The issue of dietary practices has become an increased subject of interest and concern for
25 European citizens as well as for public authorities for several decades (Balanza et al., 2007;
26 Recours & Hebel, 2007; Varela-Moreiras et al., 2010). In fact, this evolution of consumer's
27 behaviour could lead to ambivalent situations such as those pointed out by the French survey
28 INCA 2 (Gazan et al., 2016). The authors noticed that the so-called "health-conscious
29 consumers" seeking for high nutritional value food and with food preferences including
30 wholemeal flour or multigrain bread, fruits and vegetables, soup and also uncooked fish, were
31 potentially more at risk for exposure to some chemical substances than the average French
32 population (Gazan et al., 2016). Likewise, the consumption of raw fruits and vegetables could
33 lead to an over exposure to microbiological risk (European Commission, 2002). In the same
34 manner, eating raw fish - a type of consumption that has doubled within the last ten years in
35 France (Anses, 2017) - could contribute to increase biological risk including risk due to zoonotic
36 parasites. Furthermore, food safety risks could also result from the trendy and increasingly
37 popular dietary practices such as daily intake of nuts and seeds or soy milk drinking (Eneroth,
38 Wallin, Leander, Nilsson Sommar, & Akesson, 2017; Sataque Ono, Hirooka, Rossi, & Ono, 2011;
39 Setchell, 2001).

40 Evaluating and ranking food safety risks associated with emerging dietary habits is required to
41 move forward to comprehensive recommendations to consumers who may be inclined to
42 neglect food safety in favour of healthy nutritional messages. Risk-ranking is a coherent,
43 comprehensive, transparent and evidence-based process that permits to identify and prioritize
44 risks (Anderson, Jaykus, Beaulieu, & Dennis, 2011; EFSA, 2015; FAO, 2017; National Academies
45 of Sciences, 2010). It has been used for years in food safety monitoring programs and its
46 interest has been highlighted in numerous reports (Van der Fels-Klerx et al., 2018). In the
47 context of dietary practices, it is particularly important that the risk-ranking methodology
48 combines all relevant biological and chemical hazards that might be related to these practices.
49 Thus, it is necessary to deliver a realistic, comprehensive and accurate rank of the practices
50 whatever the nature of the hazards. However, it should be mentioned that ranking risks related
51 to both biological and chemical hazards is highly complex since these two kinds of hazards

52 significantly differ in their characteristics which makes it hard to compare them using the same
53 metrics (Langerholc, Lindqvist, & Sand, 2018). That is why, to date, only few developments
54 aiming at comparing and ranking risks related to these two types of hazards associated with
55 foods have been initiated by national and international agencies, like FDA and FAO (FAO, 2017;
56 Newsome et al., 2009). One quantitative framework (FDA-iRISK) enabling users to assess,
57 compare, and rank the risks posed by microbiological and chemical hazards in each of the food
58 system stages (primary production; processing; distribution etc.) has been developed by the
59 FDA in cooperation with the Institute of Food Technologists (IFT). FDA-iRISK uses input data
60 related to exposure (consumption, prevalence, contamination levels), to dose-response
61 relationships and to anticipated health effects of the hazard (Chen et al., 2013). Unfortunately,
62 this whole set of data is not always available for all identified hazards and acquiring the lacking
63 data may require considerable time, which prevents the implementation of rapid corrective
64 actions. According to Van der Fels-Klerx et al. (2018), Multicriteria Decision Analysis (MCDA)
65 appears as one of the most suitable methods for ranking simultaneously risks related to
66 chemical and biological hazards, using both quantitative and qualitative data and criteria chosen
67 by the decision maker. MCDA has been applied to public health (Baltussen & Niessen, 2006;
68 Linkov et al., 2006); in food safety, a few MCDA frameworks have been suggested to include the
69 burden of diseases in the decision making process beside cost of intervention, acceptability or
70 sustainability (FAO, 2017; Fazil, Rajic, Sanchez, & McEwen, 2008; Ruzante, Grieger, Woodward,
71 Lambertini, & Kowalczyk, 2017). However, in these frameworks, the details of the scoring
72 method related to the biological and toxicological risk have not been provided.

73 The objective of the present study was to develop a structured and transparent framework to
74 rank dietary practices considering simultaneously biological and chemical hazards. Moreover,
75 the framework was design to i) be informed relatively rapidly (no need to generate data), ii) be
76 reproducible and verifiable, iii) have a user-friendly interface, and finally iv) enable further
77 improvement afterward. The MCDA PROMETHEE (Preference Ranking Organization Method for
78 Enrichment Evaluations) method was chosen; PROMETHEE is an outranking method particularly
79 efficient when quantitative and qualitative criteria have to be taken into consideration
80 (Wątróbski, Jankowski, Ziemia, Karczmarczyk, & Ziolo, 2019). Moreover, PROMETHEE method

81 has been used and advocated by FAO to classify risks related to food safety (FAO, 2017). The
82 developed framework was tested using a set of data collected in France through a small-scale
83 survey.

84 **2-Materials and methods**

85 **2-1- Designing the risk-ranking framework for dietary practices**

86 The framework developed here had the risk assessment definition (FAO/WHO Codex
87 Alimentarius Commission, 2003) as reference, with severity and likelihood characterizing the
88 risk. For each dietary practice, the list of hazards was established. For each hazard, the list of
89 health effects was completed. These “dietary practice-hazard-health effect” constituted the
90 triplets to be ranked. Next, for each triplet, eight criteria describing either the severity or the
91 likelihood were scored according to a pre-established scoring rule (see columns in Table 1). The
92 details of collected data to populate Table 1 is provided in the next section. Finally, different
93 weights were given to each criterion (five criteria for severity and three for likelihood) with the
94 aim to give the same importance to both severity and likelihood.

95 **2-2-Generating the data to populate the framework**

96 **2-2-1-Identifying new dietary practices**

97 An online survey was conducted using the SurveyMonkey tool: <https://fr.surveymonkey.com/>.
98 SurveyMonkey has been operating in the EU for a number of years; the international
99 headquarters are based in Dublin, Ireland. SurveyMonkey process respects the General Data
100 Protection Regulation (GDPR) in force in Europe. It is reasonably cheap, the questionnaire is
101 easy to set up and the survey is an on-line one. These four criteria led us to select this company.
102 The survey was intended to the adult French population over 25 years old. It was published on
103 French consumer’s online forums such as “60 Millions de Consommateurs”. Questions were
104 closed-ended with single or multiple choice. The questions were oriented towards potentially
105 risky practices based on INCA3 conclusions (Anses, 2017) and co-author’s opinion. Moreover,
106 two experts from public research institutes working in food safety domain were consulted:

107 Gaud Dervilly (Oniris, Nantes) for practices related to chemical contaminants, Jean-Pierre
108 Cravedi (INRAE, Toulouse) for practices related to all other hazards. The two experts were
109 consulted by individual interviews.

110 After one month on-line, the questionnaire was closed. Results were transferred to Excel for a
111 first analysis. It was considered that a practice was “emerging” when a person responding to the
112 survey said that he/she had currently adopted this practice AND he/she did not (or only
113 sporadically) have this practice 10 years ago. To develop the risk-ranking framework, the top
114 five emerging practices were kept in the study.

115 **2-2-2-Identifying the hazards and the health effects related to each practice**

116 ***a-Identifying the hazards***

117 The list of hazards to be considered for each practice was established using the Food and Feed
118 Safety Alerts – RASFF. The notifications associated with the food included in the practice (e.g.
119 raw fish, nuts...) were checked for the period between March 2009 to March 2019. Next, the list
120 of hazards was completed using the EFSA reports: “Trends and sources of zoonoses and
121 zoonotic agents in foodstuffs, animals and feeding stuffs” during the 2000 to 2017 period and
122 “The European Union summary report on trends and sources of zoonoses, zoonotic agents and
123 food-borne outbreaks in 2017” (EFSA and ECDC, 2018). Finally, besides all the co-authors, the
124 expert Jean-Pierre Cravedi, specialist in food toxicology was interviewed to refine the list.

125 ***b- Identifying the health effects***

126 For each hazard, the health effects were established using the ANSES food-borne biohazard
127 description factsheets (Anses, Updated 2019a) and “Les Etudes de l'Alimentation Totale – EAT”
128 (Anses, Updated 2019b), for biological hazards and chemical hazards, respectively. The
129 established list was completed by literature search and fine-tuned by food toxicologists and
130 microbiologists (all co-authors plus Jean-Pierre Cravedi cited above).

131 **2-2-3-Scoring the criteria**

132 For the severity, five criteria were informed: Fatality Rate, Proportion of hospitalized people
133 among diagnosed people, Duration of symptoms, Probability of sequelae, Target population

134 (Table 1). For each triplet “practice-hazard-health effect”, the criteria were scored as detailed
135 below.

136 For mortality and hospitalization statistics related to biological hazards, the report « Morbidité
137 et mortalité dues aux maladies infectieuses d’origine alimentaires en France” (Vaillant, de Valk,
138 & Baron, 2003) was considered. For mortality statistics related to carcinogenic chemicals, the
139 report « Survie des personnes atteintes de cancer en France métropolitaine 1989-2013 »
140 (Cowppli-Bony et al., 2016) was the primary source of information. The percentage of mortality
141 obtained from the previous reports was scored in a semi-quantitative scale to characterize the
142 **Fatality Rate** as “low” for less than 5%, “medium” for scores between 5 and 50%, and “high”
143 when the score was higher than 50%. Likewise, the **Proportion of hospitalized people among**
144 **diagnosed people** was scored as “low” when less than 5%, “medium” for the 5-50 % range and
145 “high” for values higher than 50%.

146 For the duration of symptoms related to biological hazards, the Anses food-borne biohazard
147 description factsheets (Anses, Updated 2019a) were analysed in addition to ICMSF (2018).
148 When this information was missing, the assigned score was based on a consensus among co-
149 authors. The **Duration of symptoms** criterion was scored “Low” when duration was estimated
150 to be few days by co-authors or short according to ICMSF classification (ICMSF, 2018),
151 “medium” when it was few weeks or moderate, “high” when it was more than several weeks or
152 long.

153 The presence or absence of sequelae was assessed based on ICMSF (2018) or by co-author
154 consensus when the information was missing. The **Probability of sequelae** score was “low”
155 when associated to no sequelae, “medium” in the case of possible sequelae, “high” when
156 sequelae are likely to occur.

157 The concerned population or “target population” by the health effect was assessed using ICMSF
158 (2018) or by consensus among co-authors when the information was missing; the **Target**
159 **population** score was “yes” when the general population was concerned, “no” when only a
160 specific population was concerned.

161 For the likelihood, three criteria were informed: Strength of the link between habit/food and
162 the hazard, Number of people adopting this habit, Percentage of people who “always” or
163 “often” follow this habit (Table 1).

164 Data from the RASFF Portal were analysed to highlight the number of notifications related to
165 biological and chemical hazards. The number of outbreaks related to biological hazards was
166 defined according to the EFSA reports “Trends and sources of zoonoses and zoonotic agents in
167 foodstuffs, animals and feeding stuffs” (from 2000 to 2017). These two quantitative values were
168 used to establish the **Strength of the link between habit/food and hazard** criteria. Firstly, the
169 RASFF notifications values were converted to low, medium, high scores respectively when there
170 were less than 100 notifications, between 100 and 1000 notifications, and more than 1000
171 notifications. The EFSA outbreak values were converted to low, medium, high scores when
172 there were less than 5 outbreaks, between 5 and 50 outbreaks, and more than 50 outbreaks,
173 respectively. Secondly, the strength of the link between habit/food and hazard criterion was
174 established using the following rules: when the notification AND outbreak were both scored
175 low, the Strength of the link between habit/food and hazard criterion was characterized as
176 “low”; when notification was scored high and the outbreak medium or high, and vice versa,
177 then the Strength of the link between habit/food and hazard criterion was characterized “high”;
178 in the other cases, the Strength of the link between habit/food and hazard criterion was
179 characterized as “medium”.

180 The **Number of people having this habit** and the **Percentage of people “always” or “often”**
181 **having this habit** resulted from the survey analysis (Table 1). These numbers were reported as
182 they were, without any particular scoring system.

183 **2-2-4-The multicriteria analysis**

184 Table 1 was analysed with the MCDA PROMETHEE method (Brans, Vincke, & Mareschal, 1986).
185 PROMETHEE belongs to the outranking methods first introduced by Roy (1968). The analysis
186 was done with the PROMETHEE package in R (version 3.5.1) associated with the R Studio
187 interface (version 1.1.463).

188 In PROMETHEE, the overall ranking of the alternatives (hereby “practice-hazard-health effect”
189 triplets) is generated using “positive flows”, “negative flows” and “net flows”. The positive flow,

190 ϕ^+ , indicates the degree to which the alternative is dominating all others, the negative flow,
191 ϕ^- , indicates the degree to which the alternative is being dominated by all the others (Brans &
192 Vincke, 1985). The net flow, $\phi = \phi^+ - \phi^-$, is used to rank overall the alternatives: the
193 preferred alternative will get the highest net flow. An ideal alternative would have a positive
194 flow equal to 1, a negative flow equal to 0 and consequently a net flow equal to 1.

195 The preference chosen was V-shape for all criteria and the indifference was set to zero. The
196 weights were 1, 0.75, 0.75, 0.25, 0.25 for Fatality Rate, Proportion of hospitalized people among
197 diagnosed people, Duration of symptoms, Probability of sequelae, Target population,
198 respectively. This led to a total of 3 for the severity. The weights were 1, 1, 1 for Strength of the
199 link between habit/food and the hazard, Number of people having this habit, Percentage of
200 people “always” or “often” having this habit, respectively. This led to a total of 3 for the
201 likelihood, meaning that the same importance was given to severity and likelihood.

202 When the score of a criterion was given as a range - for instance the Medium to High score for
203 Hospitalization related to the triplet “Raw Fish – Cadmium - Renal impairment” - the lowest
204 value of the interval was used to establish the rank, for instance Medium in the previously
205 mentioned case.

206 **3-Results and Discussion**

207 **3-1- Framework to rank dietary practices regarding their potential biological and** 208 **chemical risks**

209 The key conceptual features of the risk-ranking framework developed in the present study are
210 reported in Figures 1 and 2. Figure 1 describes the general approach used to rank the dietary
211 habits based on their potential biological and chemical risks. The first step aims at identifying
212 dietary habits of interest. In our case, the considered dietary habits were the emerging ones
213 selected based on the results of a survey. When such an initiative is undertaken by decision
214 makers or food safety agencies, they usually use available data or build their own survey when
215 the required data are lacking. The second step of the framework development aims identifying
216 the most significant hazards associated with each practice: this hazard identification step can be
217 achieved using different sources of information including data provided by Rapid Alert Systems

218 available in a specific country or area, experts knowledge and additional published scientific
219 information. The last step of the framework development consists in identifying the adverse
220 health effects for each hazard. There may be more than one health effect for a given hazard.
221 This health effect identification can be carried out using scientific articles, agencies reports and
222 experts' opinions. Once these three steps are achieved, a list of "Practice-Hazard-Health effect"
223 triplets is obtained. The next step consists in ranking these triplets, based on an outranking
224 MCDA method as detailed in Figure 2. Once each triplet had a score, i.e. a Phi value, dietary
225 habits could be scored: the dietary habit included in the triplet having the highest score was
226 ranked at the highest risky dietary habit.

227 Figure 2 highlights the steps implemented in the outranking PROMETHEE MCDA method to
228 assess and compare the risks related to the whole set of "Practice-Hazard-Health effect" triplets
229 previously identified. To rank all the triplets regardless of the nature of the hazard (i.e.
230 microbes, parasites, mycotoxins, allergens, other chemical compounds), it was decided to adopt
231 a unique set of criteria. Since the risk in the food safety domain is defined as a function of the
232 probability of an adverse health effect and the severity of that effect consequential to a
233 hazard(s) in food (FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission, 2003), it was decided to keep
234 severity and likelihood as supra criteria (Figure 2). Moreover, it was decided to ascribe the same
235 weight for these two supra criteria, i.e. to consider that severity was as important as likelihood
236 and vice versa. This latter decision is of course subjective, some decision makers might have
237 considered that severity is more important than likelihood, others the opposite. The advantage
238 of using an outranking method relies on the fact that all the inputs, i.e. data and weights, are
239 transparently implemented. If the framework developed here is used for the same application
240 (i.e. emerging dietary habit) but with different inputs or weights, the outputs (i.e. the risk
241 ranking) is likely to be affected. For instance, decision makers can visualise the effect of
242 attributing a set of weights on the outputs. In other words, they can visualize how the final risk
243 ranking score is sensitive, or not, to the weights that they have given to the eight criteria.

244 According to experts in food safety risk assessment and reports on risk-ranking, there are two
245 main measures for estimating the severity of a health effect. The first measure is mortality and
246 the second one is morbidity. For the microbiological hazards, these measures are

247 simultaneously quantified by calculating the Disability-Adjusted Life Year (DALY). Unfortunately
248 this metric is not always applicable to chemicals since for many of them, the cause-effect
249 relationship is hard to characterize (Van der Fels-Klerx et al. 2018). Accordingly, in the present
250 study, we used the case fatality rate to score the mortality: this score was calculated by dividing
251 the number of deaths due to a disease over the number of people diagnosed for this disease. As
252 regards the morbidity, we used the following three criteria: (1) the proportion of hospitalized
253 people due to a disease among the people that were diagnosed for the disease, (2) the duration
254 of the symptoms and (3) the probability of sequelae. To better characterize the severity of the
255 health effect, an additional criterion corresponding to the target population (the whole
256 population or only a subset) was considered.

257 The likelihood, was assessed according to prevalence in food and consumption pattern
258 (Figure2). Prevalence in food was established using the strength of the link between dietary
259 habit and/or food and the hazard based on the number of notifications and the number of
260 outbreaks reported by food safety agencies. The consumption pattern includes the number of
261 people who adopt the dietary habit and how often they are practising it. Such an assessment of
262 the likelihood can be rapidly obtained and is objective (based on data) but of course this
263 assessment is not as accurate as one based on the quantification of the contamination doses in
264 the food. It is important to keep in mind that collecting dose level information is resource- and
265 labour-intensive, especially if a large variety of dietary habits and food is considered.

266 Interestingly, the framework we developed enables ranking dietary practices based on their
267 potential risk regarding either the population level or the individual level. Indeed, by excluding
268 the consumption criteria from the likelihood, the analysis can be interpreted per individual. An
269 assessment at the population level makes sense for a decision maker, for instance a food safety
270 authority, who wants to issue recommendations or make decisions at the national or
271 international level. An assessment at the individual level enables to target, for instance in a
272 communication plan, a specific dietary habit which can result in potential risks for some
273 consumers. Indeed, consumers have the right to be informed as regards the food they consume.
274 A Eurobarometer survey in 2019 showed that food safety is equally as important as food origin,
275 cost and taste in their purchasing decision-making (EFSA, 2019). More generally, consumer's

276 decisions are influenced, among other things, by health, economic, environmental, social, and
277 ethical considerations.

278 To develop our risk-ranking framework, the PROMETHEE method (Brans et al., 1986), that has
279 been used and advocated by FAO to classify risks related to food safety (FAO, 2017), was
280 privileged. Besides, this approach is available as a package in R and is easy to implement. The
281 general principle of outranking methods is to rank alternatives two by two based on criteria
282 defined by the user and weights assigned to these criteria. Outranking methods enable to
283 compare alternatives even if the criteria are semi-quantitative (e.g. low, medium, high) which is
284 very convenient in the public health domain where the scoring system results at least partially
285 from experts' opinion. Outranking methods have been widely employed in environmental
286 problems when users are asked to select from a number of discrete alternatives (Herva & Roca,
287 2013). In the present study, the use of an outranking method was even more relevant as our
288 objective was to establish a framework enabling to rank simultaneously biological and chemical
289 hazards and that we had to face to a lack of data to quantify all criteria. The outranking
290 PROMETHEE method has been acknowledged by Fazil et al. (2008) as an easy one to be
291 implemented in the food safety domain. The PROMETHEE approach has allowed Ruzante et al.
292 (2010) to prioritize six "pathogen bacteria – food matrix" pairs considering five criteria: public
293 health, market impact, consumer perception and social sensitivity. In this latter study, the public
294 health criteria were assessed according to the DALY metric, which is frequently used for
295 estimating the burden of foodborne pathogens (Gkogka, Reij, Havelaar, Zwietering, & Gorris,
296 2011; Havelaar et al., 2004; Lake, Cressey, Campbell, & Oakley, 2010). Unfortunately this metric
297 is rarely useable when chemical pollutants are considered (Van der Fels-Klerx et al. 2018).

298 While there have been recent initiatives of using MCDA to solve food supply chain problems
299 (Duret et al., 2019; Sharma, Yadav, Mangla, & Patil, 2018), MCDA still remain less frequently
300 used in the food industry sector than in other engineering sectors such as energy management
301 (Mardani et al., 2017), building technology (Zavadskas, Antucheviciene, Vilutiene, & Adeli, 2018)
302 or waste management (Soltani, Hewage, Reza, & Sadiq, 2015). However, recent initiatives
303 performed at national scale (Merad, 2018) illustrate the interest of food safety agencies for aids
304 in evidence-based decisions. Likewise, at the European scale, there is currently a demand for

305 holistic approaches considering food safety in addition to health benefits, public savings,
306 environmental impacts, etc. (EFSA, 2018). Accordingly, , food safety research has been
307 introduced as part of a systemic food system approach to achieve food and nutrition security in
308 the Food2030 agenda (European Commission, 2016). Thus, the use of MCDA applications in food
309 safety is planned to increase in the next future.

310 **3-2-Application to a case study**

311 **3-2-1-Results of the survey:**

312 A total of 301 people aged of more than 25 years, mainly from the French department “Loire
313 Atlantique” responded to the survey addressing the issue of new dietary practices. Results are
314 gathered in Figure 3. The five most important emerging practices that were highlighted by the
315 survey were the consumption of seeds, the use of silicone cookware, the consumption of nuts,
316 the consumption of plant milks and finally the consumption of raw fish with percentages of
317 47.84%, 33.55%, 31.56%, 28.57% and 26.91% of the total respondents, respectively. The survey
318 size was relatively small and geographically not representative of France. Therefore, the
319 conclusions of this case-study cannot be considered as definitive for the French population even
320 if the top-five emerging practices identified here were in-line with what generally reported for
321 the French population (Anses, 2017). Nevertheless, the main objective of this survey, that was
322 quick to set up and easy to organise through internet, was to collect an objective list of
323 emerging dietary practices, or at least a more objective list than one obtained by consulting a
324 limited number of experts or scientists. It enabled to test the risk-ranking framework on real
325 data since the survey provided enough information to this purpose.

326 **3-2-2- Hazards and health effects for each dietary habit**

327 For each practice dietary habit, hazards were identified, and for each hazard, health effects
328 were listed. For the first five most frequent dietary practices, a total of 41 Practice-Hazard-
329 Health effect triplets with a large variety of hazards (microbes, parasites, mycotoxins, allergens,
330 other chemical compounds) and health effects (foodborne pathogen disease, anaphylaxis,
331 cancer, immunosuppression, endocrine disturbance...) was obtained. These first five dietary
332 practices were used to validate the risk ranking framework. The associated data are presented
333 in Table 1. For the most popular dietary habit within our 301-sample, i.e. the consumption of

334 seeds, 10 hazards and 13 Practice-Hazard-Health effect triplets were identified. Regarding the
335 emerging consumption of nuts and plant milks, 11 and 2 triplets were identified, respectively.
336 The consumption of raw fish led to a list of 15 triplets. Finally, concerning the use of silicone
337 cookware, no particular hazard was identified and consequently no health effect; this absence
338 of hazard was discussed with a toxicologist expert who stated that when consumers buy silicone
339 cookware stamped “French Standard” in dedicated cooking shops or established supermarkets,
340 no proven record of any potential harm effect can be retrieved (Jean-Pierre Cravedi,
341 unpublished data). This emerging dietary habit was therefore discarded from the risk-ranking
342 analysis.

343 For most of the biological hazards identified such as *Salmonella spp.*, *Bacillus cereus*, norovirus,
344 *Listeria monocytogenes*, *Clostridium perfringens*, *Vibrio parahaemolyticus*, it was considered
345 that the health effect was “food poisoning” indiscriminately of the nature of the clinical signs
346 since most of these agents are responsible for different syndromes including at the same time
347 digestive signs, neurological signs, systemic signs etc. Moreover, since those hazards are
348 acknowledged agents of specific food poisonings, associated mortality and morbidity data are
349 well-informed whatever the related health effect. On the opposite, no mortality and morbidity
350 data were available as regards chemical hazards. For this reason, the most significant health
351 effects induced by a chronic digestive exposure were detailed (Ex: Liver cancer, reprotoxicity,
352 anaphylaxis etc.) in order to estimate mortality and morbidity data based on these health
353 effects.

354 After identifying the hazards and the health effects, the eight criteria were scored based on
355 available data and experts’ knowledge. It clearly appears in the red columns of Table 1 that
356 almost all the triplets were characterized by high scores on certain criteria while medium or low
357 scores were attributed to other criteria, which prompt us to use a multicriteria analysis to be
358 able to classify the triplets.

359 **3-2-3- Risk-ranking based upon the PROMETHEE algorithm**

360 For the whole population, the final rank of the Practice-Hazard-Health effect triplets is
361 presented in Figure 4. The triplets with the highest risk, considering only four dietary practices,

362 were: Nuts-Aflatoxins B1-Liver Cancer, Nuts-Aflatoxins B1-Immunosuppression, Nuts-Propylene-
363 Cancer, Nuts-Allergens-Anaphylaxis and Seeds-Aflatoxins B1-Liver Cancer with respective Phi(s)
364 of 0.21, 0.14, 0.11, 0.11, and 0.10. The triplets Nuts-Aflatoxins B1-Liver Cancer and Seeds-
365 Aflatoxins B1-Liver Cancer were characterized by equal scores on the Severity criteria. In
366 contrast, on the likelihood criteria, with more than 3000 RASFF notifications as regards aflatoxin
367 B1 contamination, nuts exceed largely seeds (105 notifications) in term of prevalence.
368 Concerning the consumption, data included in the ranking analysis were the total number of
369 consumers, whatever it was a new habit or not (meaning that the data used for scoring the
370 likelihood are different from data used to identify new habit, see Figure 3). Nuts were declared
371 to be consumed by 276 people 212 people have indicated a consumption of seeds. This
372 difference is an additional reason explaining why nuts were scored above seeds in term of risk.
373 The dietary habits having the lowest Phi scores were raw fish consumption, with Phi values of -
374 0.10 for raw fish-*C. perfringens*-Food Poisoning and Raw fish-Norovirus-Food Poisoning. These
375 low values mainly resulted from the “Low” scores ascribed to all the Severity criteria (Table 1).

376 Risk-ranking results per individual are reported in Figure 5. Interestingly, when Nuts-Aflatoxins
377 B1-Liver cancer and Nuts-Aflatoxins-Immunosuppression were still at the top, Plant milk-
378 Phytoestrogens-Endocrine disturbance was in the third position in this individual ranking. This
379 result indicates that when an individual frequently consumes plant milk, he/she exposes
380 him/herself to a high risk of endocrine disturbance. As it was observed for the entire population,
381 applying the framework at the individual level led to the observation that consuming raw fish
382 was the dietary habit at the lowest risk among the emerging habits studied here in details.

383 **4. Conclusion**

384 A structured and transparent framework to rank emerging dietary practices considering
385 simultaneously biological and chemical hazards was successfully developed and applied to a
386 case study. The framework was adapted to a large variety of hazards, i.e. microbes, parasites,
387 mycotoxins, allergens, other chemical compounds and of health effects: foodborne pathogen
388 disease, anaphylaxis, cancer, immunosuppression, endocrine disturbance, etc. The risk-ranking
389 framework included in total eight criteria: five to describe the severity, three to describe the

390 likelihood. It was decided to give the same weight to severity and likelihood. Results could be
391 interpreted at both population and individual levels. In our data-limited case-study, consuming
392 nuts on a regular basis was the dietary habit presenting the highest risk score, due to the hazard
393 aflatoxin B1 and its associated health effect (liver cancer). Nuts are increasingly appreciated and
394 consumed, as a result of their nutritional benefits (source of omega-3 fatty Acids) and their
395 ready to eat character (no need of preparation or cooking). A recent study addressing the risk-
396 benefit of consuming nuts showed that cardiovascular health benefits may outweigh the burden
397 of carcinogenic effects attributed to aflatoxin B1 exposure (Eneroth et al., 2017). Nevertheless,
398 ranking food safety risks associated with dietary practices remains essential for setting priorities
399 in research, identifying vulnerable sub-populations and tailoring consumer communication plan.
400 It may be as well as a preliminary step before carrying out a more comprehensive risk-benefit
401 assessment of food (Nauta et al., 2018). The risk-ranking framework was developed using the
402 PROMETHEE outranking MCDA technique, available as a package in R. The technique was
403 transparent and easy to run. Developing transparent, structured and easy-to-use tools are
404 highly useful to food safety authorities in charge of making decisions and disseminating them to
405 a large audience. Nevertheless, the risk-ranking framework developed here is still in an infancy
406 stage, it needs to be tested furthermore and in other contexts. Once consolidated, this
407 framework will be highly relevant for policy makers willing to move forward transparent and
408 evidence-informed decisions. Besides, this framework could go beyond consumers's choices as
409 food safety requirements should also consider the product origins (imported or exported), the
410 way the product has been handled in processing and trade, and even the choice of raw
411 materials.

412

413 **Acknowledgement**

414 Gaud Dervilly (Oniris, Nantes, France) and Jean-Pierre Cravedi (INRAE, Toulouse, France) are
415 gratefully acknowledged for having shared their expertise in food contaminant and food
416 toxicology.

417

418

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579

580

581 **Table**

582 Table 1: Scores given to the eight criteria (five related to severity, three to likelihood) used in
583 the framework to rank simultaneously chemical and biological risks due to dietary practices.
584 When the criteria were built on indicators, the score given to these indicators are provided as
585 well. Table 1A: Plant origin products, Severity criteria. Table 1B: Plant origin products, Likelihood
586 criteria. Table 1C: Silicone cookware and raw fish, Severity criteria. Table 1D: Silicone cookware
587 and raw fish, Likelihood criteria.

588

589

590 **Figure captions**

591 Figure 1: Framework to rank food safety risk. One consumption habit could lead to more than
592 one hazard, itself potentially associated with more than one health effect. Once all the triplets
593 of “habit-hazard-health effect” are established, they are ranked using the PROMETHEE MCDA
594 method (detailed in Figure 2).

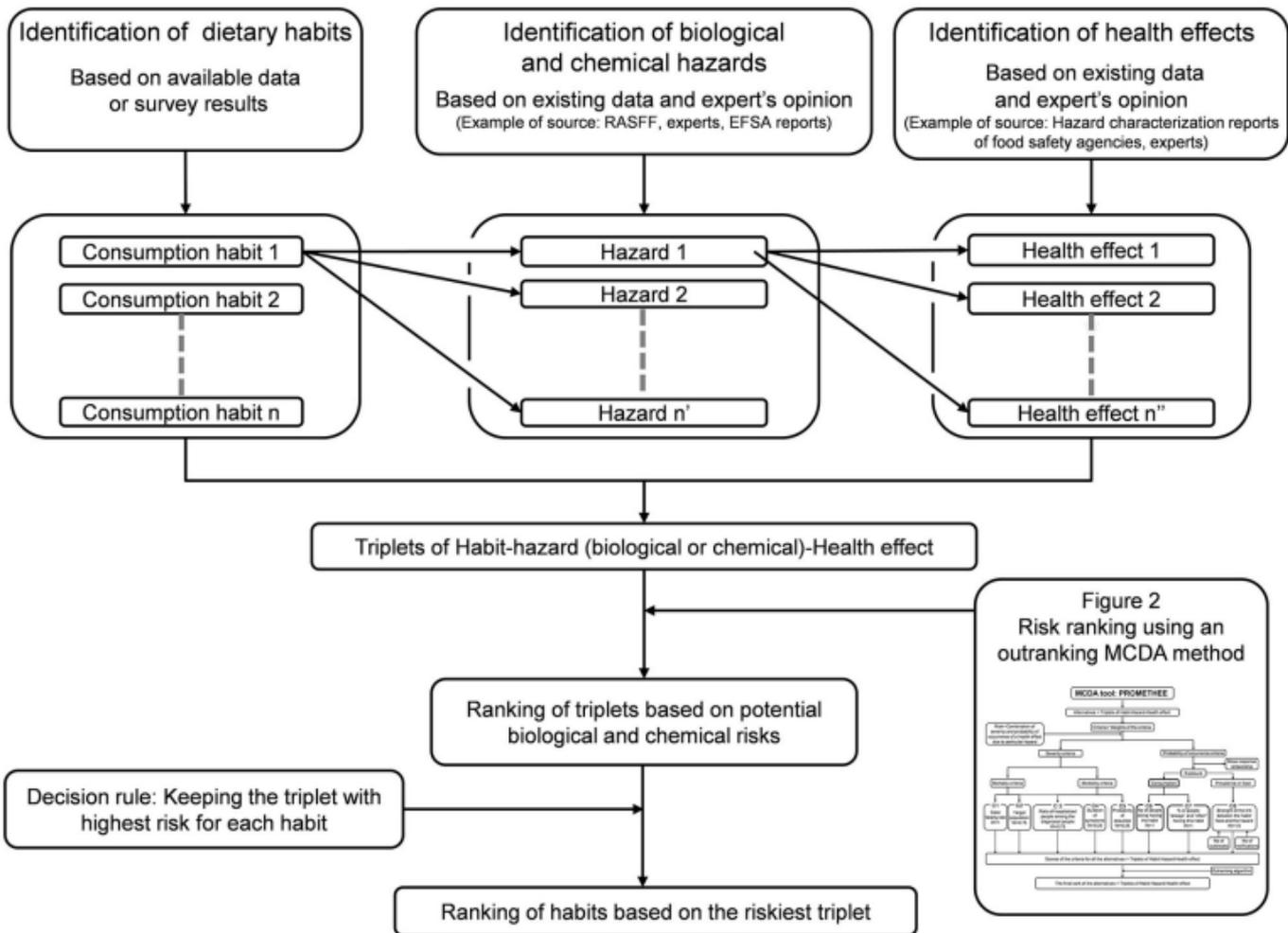
595 Figure 2: Details of the PROMETHEE method applied for ranking food safety risk. The ranking is
596 based on criteria associated with severity or likelihood. All triplets “practice-hazard-health
597 effect” (named here alternative) are scored using the same criteria whatever the nature of the
598 hazard and the type of health effect.

599 Figure 3: List of emerging dietary practices sorted by the number of people having adopted in
600 the last 10 years, it in our survey (301 people in total)

601 Figure 4: Net flow Phi, ϕ , given to the 41 triplets “practice-hazard-health effect” scored with the
602 PROMETHEE method. Analysis done at the population level.

603 Figure 5: Net flow Phi, ϕ , given to the 41 triplets “practice-hazard-health effect” scored with the
604 PROMETHEE method. Analysis done at the individual level.

605



MCDA tool: PROMETHEE

Alternatives = Triplets of Habit-Hazard-Health effect

Criteria+ Weights of the criteria

Risk= Combination of severity and probability of occurrence of a health effect due to particular hazard

Severity criteria

Probability of occurrence criteria

Dose response relationship

Mortality criteria

Morbidity criteria

Exposure

Prevalence in food

Consumption

C1
Case fatality rate
W=1

C2
Target population
W=0.75

C3
Ratio of hospitalized people among the diagnosed people
W=0.75

C4
Duration of symptoms
W=0.25

C5
Probability of sequelae
W=0.25

C6
No of people doing having the habit
W=1

C7
% of people "always" and "often" having this habit
W=1

C8
Strenght of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard
W=1/3

No of outbreaks

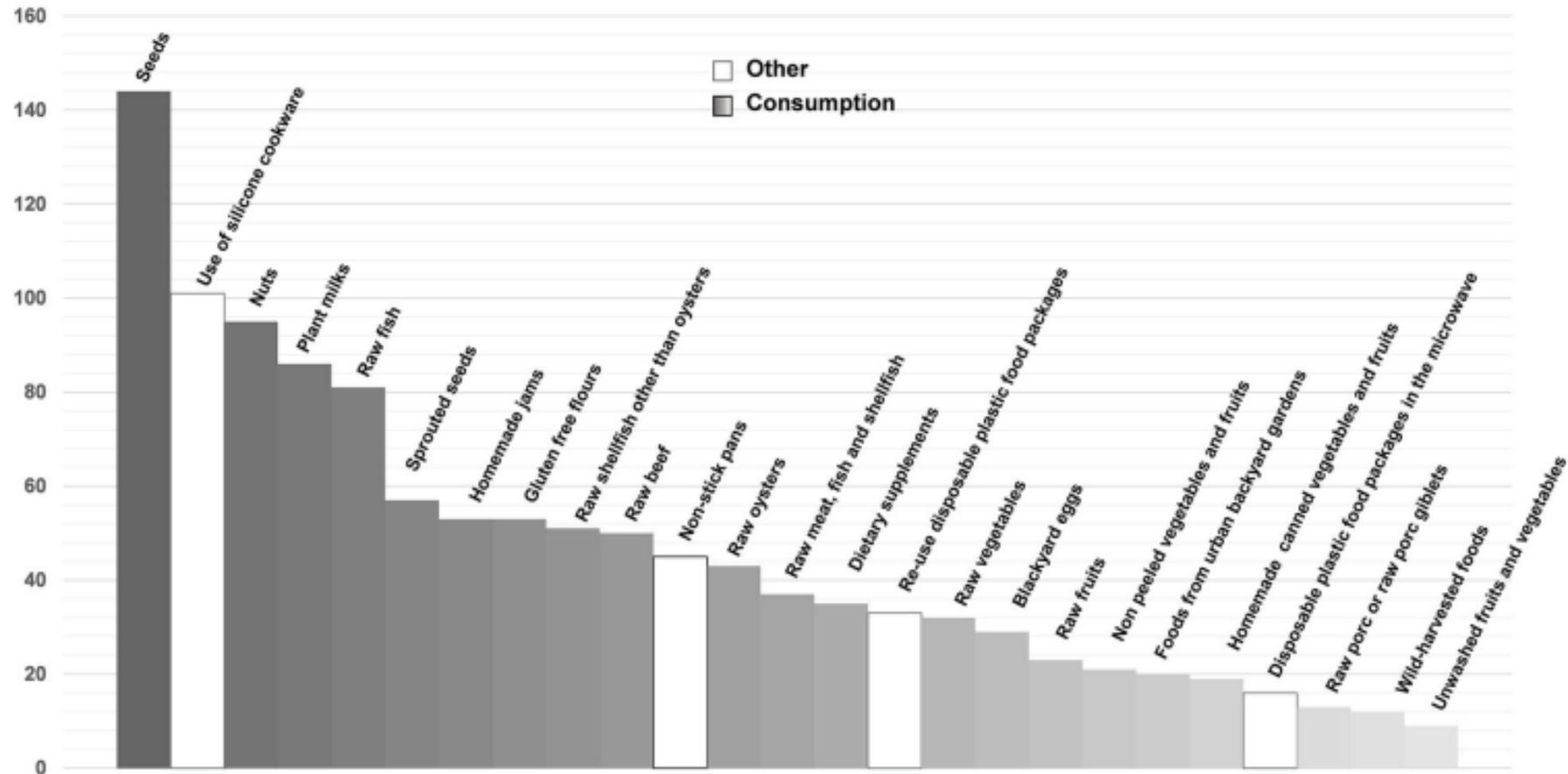
No of notifications

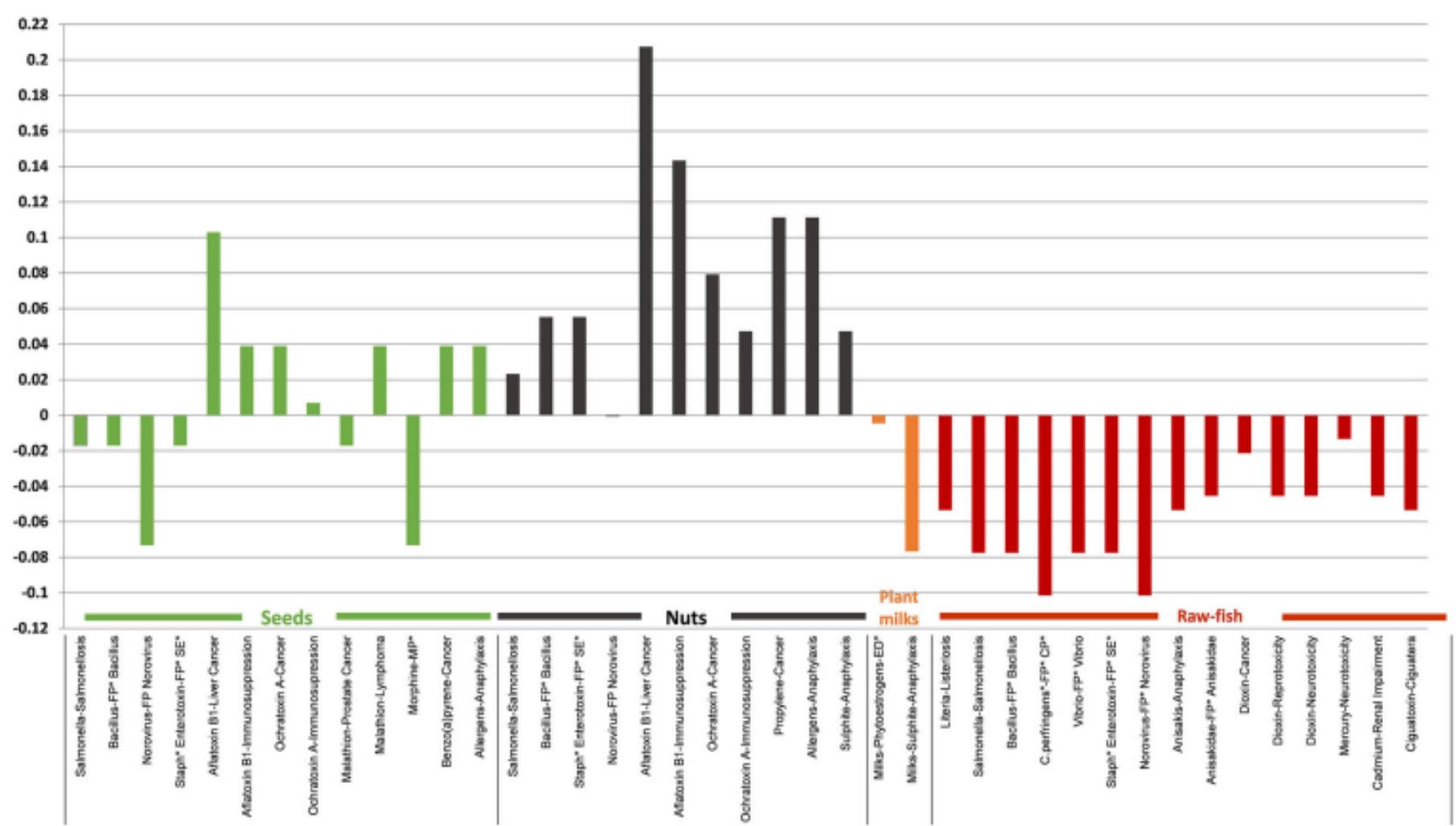
Scores of the criteria for all the alternatives = Triplets of Habit-Hazard-Health effect

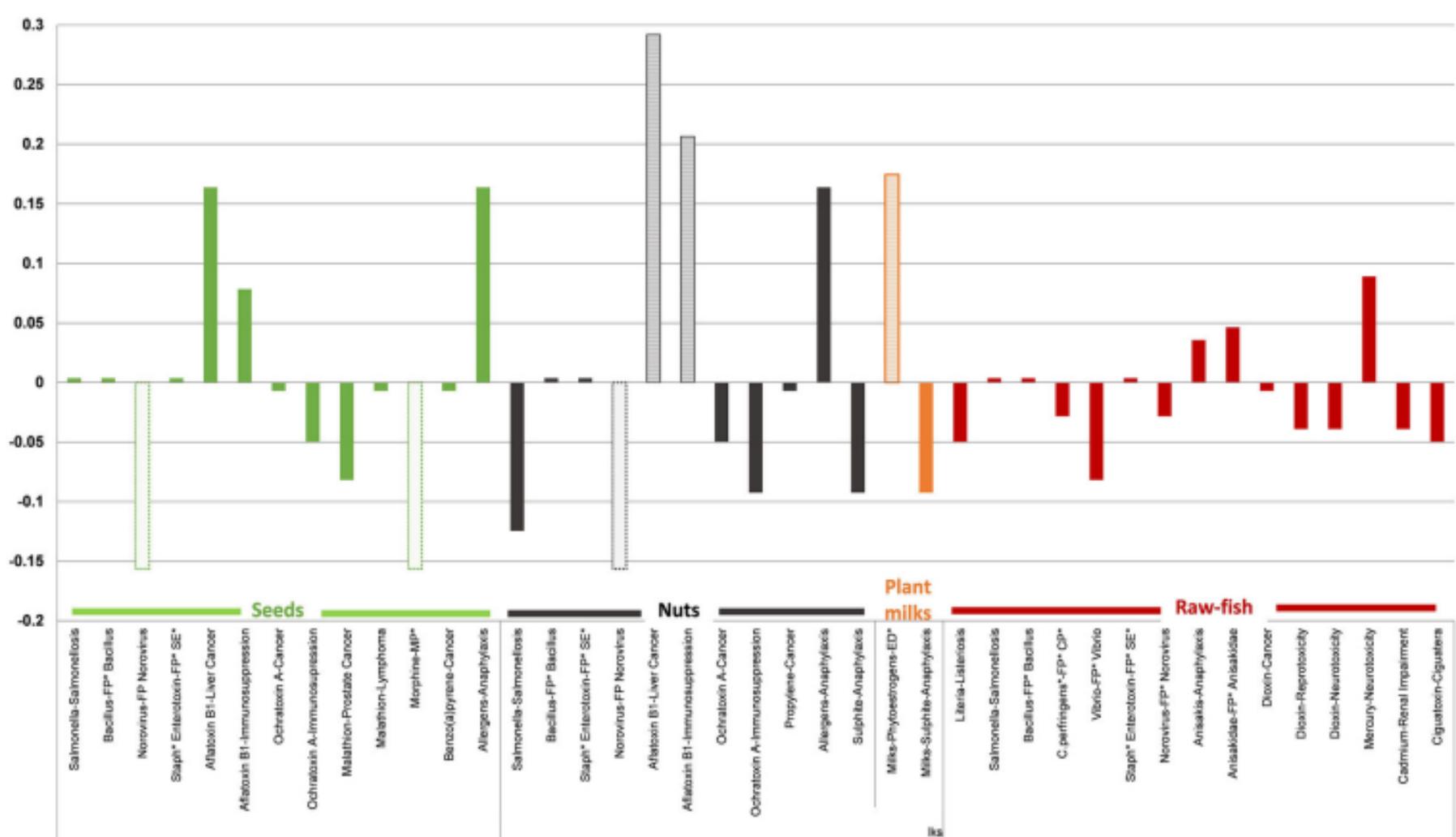
Outranking algorithm

The final rank of the alternatives = Triplets of Habit-Hazard-Health effect

Number of individual







Habits	Hazard	Adverse health effect	Weight of evidence	Severity										Likelihood																														
				Case Fatality rate			Score Case Fatality rate	Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people		Score Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people	Duration of symptoms Anses factsheets	Duration of symptoms (Experts)	Score Duration of symptoms	Probability of sequelae Anses factsheets	Probability of sequelae (Experts)	Score Probability of sequelae	Target population Anses factsheets	Target population (Experts)	Score Target population	Strength of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard					Score Strength of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard	Consumption																		
				INVS AFSSA 2004	Other reports	Experts		INVS AFSSA 2004	Experts											INVS AFSSA 2004	Experts	No outbreaks (EFSA tends and sources of Zoonoses and zoonotic agents reports 2009-2017)	Score of No of outbreaks	No RASFF notifications (2009-2019)		Score of No of notifications	Experts opinion	Score No of people having this habit	Score % of people "always" or "often" having this habit															
Seeds	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven	<1%	NA	NA	L	22%	NA	M	Few days	NA	L	None	General population	NA	Yes	3	L	442	M	NA	M	212	46																			
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		0%		NA	L	12%	NA	M	Few hours		L					18	M	1	M		212	46																				
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		NA		NA	L	L	NA	L	L		Few days					L	2	L	0		L	L	212	46																		
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		0%		NA	L	L	18%	NA	M		Few hours					L	24	M	0		L	M	212	46																		
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	85%	NA	H	NA	>90%	H	NA	NA	Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	General population	Yes	NA	NA	105	M	NA	NA	M	212	46																		
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA	L		L	M			M	Long							H			105	M	M	212	46																
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%			H	Few weeks to few years							M to H			7	L	L	212	46																
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA	L to M		L to M	M to H			M to H	Long							H			7		L	212	46																
	Malathion	Prostate Cancer	Probably (Group 2A)			6%	NA		L	>90%			H	Few weeks to few years							M to H			7	NA	Specific population	No	NA	NA	L	NA	7	L	212	46									
		Lymphoma	Proven			NA	NA		M	>90%			H	Few weeks to few years							M to H			7												L	212	46						
	Morphine	Morphine poisoning	Proven			NA	L		L	L			L	Short							L			9	NA	General population	Yes	NA	NA	L	NA	9	L	212	46									
	Benzo(a)pyrene	Cancer	Proven (Group 1)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%			H	Few weeks to few years							M to H			3												L	212	46						
Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven	NA			NA	M to H		M to H	H			H	Short							L			NA	NA	H	H	212	46															
Silicone Cookware	No hazard was identified	No adverse health effect was identified																																										
Nuts	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven			<1%	NA		NA	L			22%	NA							M			Few days	NA	L	None	General population	NA	Yes	3	L	52	NA	NA	L	276	69						
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning	Proven			0%			NA	L			12%								NA			M		Few hours					L	18	M			1	L	M	276	69				
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning	Proven	0%	NA	L		L	18%	M	Few hours	L	24		M	0	L	M	276	69																								
	Norovirus	Food poisoning	Proven	ND	NA	L		L	L	L	Few days	L	2		L	0	L	L	276	69																								
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	85%	NA		H	NA	>90%	H	NA	NA		Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	General population	Yes	NA	NA	3225	H	NA		NA					H	276	69											
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA		L		L	M				M	Long															H	3225	H			276	69							
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%		NA		M to H	>90%				H	Few weeks to few years							M to H								29	L	L			276	69							
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA		L to M		L to M	M to H				M to H	Long							H								29		L			L	276	69						
	Propylene oxid (ppo)	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%		NA		M to H	>90%				H	Few weeks to few years							M to H								3	NA	General population			Yes	NA	NA	L	NA	3	L	276	69
	Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven			NA		M to H		M to H	H				H	Short							L								NA													
Sulphite	Anaphylaxis	Proven				NA	M to H	M to H		H	H			Short	L	12							L		NA		L	276	69															
Plant milks	Phytoestrogens	Endocrine disturbance	Proven			NA	NA	L to M		L to M	NA			M to H	M to H	Long							NA		H		NA	Sequelae	NA	Specific population	No	NA	NA	0	NA	H	H	125	40					
	Sulphite	Anaphylaxis						M to H		M to H	NA			H	H	NA							Short		L															6	L	y	L	125
Raw fish	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	listeriosis	Proven			25%	NA	NA		M	100%			NA	H	Many days							NA		M		Possible	NA	M	NA	Specific population	No	NA	NA	92	L	NA	L	178	22				
	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis		<1%	L	22%			M	Few days	L	L	10		M	27	M	178	22																									
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		0%	L	12%			M	Few hours	L	L	42		M	0	M	178	22																									
	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Food poisoning		<0.1%	L	1.2%			L	Few days	L	L	10		M	0	M	178	22																									
	<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	Food poisoning		7%	L	21%			M	Few days	L	L	2		L	0	L	178	22																									
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		0%	L	18%			M	Few hours	L	L	62		H	3	M	178	22																									
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		ND	L	NA			L	Few days	L	L	9		M	1	M	178	22																									
	Anisakidae	Anaphylaxis		Proven	NA	M to H			M to H	NA	H	H	One day		L	NA	Specific population	No	NA	NA	M	NA	350	M	NA	M															178	22		
		Food poisoning			0%	NA			L	75%	NA	H	H		Few days to few weeks																												L to M	350
	Dioxin and dioxin like PCBs	Cancer		Proven	NA	34-67%			NA	M to H	>90%	H	NA		NA	NA	Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	General population	Yes	NA	NA	22	L	NA															L	178	22	
		Reprotoxicity			L	M			M	H	L	178					22																											
		Neurotoxicity			L	M			M	H	L	178					22																											
	Mercury	Neurotoxicity		Proven	NA	NA			L	L	NA	M	M		898	M	M	178	22																									
	Cadmium	Renal empairment			L to M	L to M			M to H	M to H	H	H	56		L	L	178	22																										
Ciguatoxins	Ciguatera poisoning	Proven	NA	1%	NA	L	M	M	Few months to few years	NA	H	62	H	8	L	L	178	22																										

L: Low, M: Medium, H: High

Habits	Hazard	Adverse health effect	Weight of evidence	Severity																					
				Case Fatality rate			Score Case Fatality rate	Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people		Score Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people	Duration of symptoms Anses factsheets	Duration of symptoms (Experts)	Score Duration of symptoms	Probability of sequelae Anses factsheets	Probability of sequelae (Experts)	Score Probability of sequelae	Target population Anses factsheets	Target population (Experts)	Score Target population						
				INVS AFSSA 2004	Other reports	Experts		INVS AFSSA 2004	Experts																
Seeds	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven	<1%	NA	NA	L	22%	NA	M	Few days	NA	L	None	General population	NA	Yes								
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		0%		NA	NA	L	12%	NA	M		Few hours			L									
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		NA		L	L	NA	L	L	Few days		L												
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		0%		NA	L	18%	NA	M	Few hours		L												
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	85%	NA	H	NA	>90%	H	NA	Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	Possible	General population	Yes								
		Immunosuppression	Proven			L	L		M	M		Long	H												
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Few weeks to few years	M to H					
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA	L to M		L to M	M to H		M to H	H					Long	H						
	Malathion	Prostate Cancer	Probably (Group 2A)			6%	NA		L	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Few weeks to few years	M to H					
		Lymphoma				34%	NA		M	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Short	L					
	Morphine	Morphine poisoning	Proven			NA	L		L	L		L	Short					L	None	L					
						NA	L		L	L		Short	L					None	L						
	Benzo(a)pyrene	Cancer	Proven (Group 1)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Few weeks to few years	M to H	Possible	M	General population	Yes	
Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven	NA			M to H	M to H		NA	H		H	Short					L	None	L	Specific popultaion	No			
			NA							NA		NA	NA					NA	NA	NA	NA				
Nuts	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven			<1%	NA		NA	L		22%	NA					M	Few days	NA	L	None	General population	NA	Yes
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning	Proven			0%			NA	NA		L	12%					NA	M		Few hours			L	
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning	Proven	0%	L	L		18%	L	L	Few days	L													
	Norovirus	Food poisoning	Proven	ND	NA	L		L	L	L	Few days	L													
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	85%	NA	H	NA	>90%	H	NA	Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	Possible	General population	Yes								
		Immunosuppression	Proven			L	L		M	M		Long	H												
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Few weeks to few years	M to H					
		Immunosuppression	Proven			NA	L to M		L to M	M to H		M to H	H					Long	H						
	Propylene oxid (ppo)	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)			34-67%	NA		M to H	>90%		H	Few weeks to few years					M to H	Few weeks to few years	M to H	Possible	M	General population	Yes	
	Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven			NA	M to H		M to H	NA		H	H					Short	L	None	L	Specific population	No		
NA						NA						NA	NA					NA	NA	NA	NA				
Sulphite	Anaphylaxis	Proven	NA			M to H	M to H		NA	H		H	Short					L	None	L	Specific population	No			
			NA							NA		NA	NA					NA	NA	NA	NA				
Plant milks	Phytoestrogens	Endocrine disturbance	Proven			NA	NA		L to M	L to M		NA	M to H					M to H	Long	NA	H	Sequelae	H	Specific population	No
	Sulphite	Anaphylaxis		M to H	M to H			NA	H	H	Short	L	None	L											

L: Low, M: Medium, H: High

Habits	Hazard	Adverse health effect	Weight of evidence	Likelihood							Score Strength of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard	Consumption									
				Strength of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard				Experts opinion	Score No of people having this habit	Score % of people "always" or "often" having this habit											
				No outbreaks (EFSA tends and sources of Zoonoses and zoonotic agents reports 2009-2017)	Score of No of outbreaks	No RASFF notifications (2009-2019)	Score of No of notifications														
Seeds	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven	3	L	442	M	NA	NA	M	212	46									
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		18	M	1	L			M	212	46									
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		2	L	0				L	212	46									
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		24	M	0				M	212	46									
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	NA	NA	NA			NA	NA	NA	M	212	46						
		Immunosuppression	Proven										105	M	M	212	46				
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)										7	L	L	L	212	46			
		Immunosuppression	Proven										7			L	212	46			
	Malathion	Prostate Cancer	Probably (Group 2A)										7			L	L	212	46		
		Lymphoma											7			L	212	46			
Morphine	Morphine poisoning	Proven	9					L	L				212	46							
Benzo(a)pyrene	Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	3					L	L				212	46							
Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven	NA					NA	NA				H	H	212	46					
Nuts	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis	Proven					3	L				52	L	NA	NA	NA	L	276	69	
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning	Proven	18	M	1	M	276	69												
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning	Proven	24	M	0	M	276	69												
	Norovirus	Food poisoning	Proven	2	L	0	L	276	69												
	Aflatoxin B1	Liver Cancer	Proven (Group 1)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	H	276	69							
		Immunosuppression	Proven									3225	H	H				276	69		
	Ochratoxin A	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)									29	L	L				L	276	69	
		Immunosuppression	Proven									29						L	276	69	
	Propylene oxid (ppo)	Cancer	Possibly (Group 2B)									3						L	L	276	69
Allergens	Anaphylaxis	Proven	NA									NA	NA	H	H	276	69				
Sulphite	Anaphylaxis		12									L	NA	L	276	69					
Plant milks	Phytoestrogens	Endocrine disturbance	Proven									NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	H	125	40
	Sulphite	Anaphylaxis																	6	L	y

L: Low, M: Medium, H: High

Habits	Hazard	Adverse health effect	Weight of evidence	Severity																											
				Case Fatality rate			Score Case Fatality rate	Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people		Score of hospitalized people among diagnosed people	Ratio of hospitalized people among diagnosed people	Duration of symptoms Anses factsheets	Duration of symptoms (Experts)	Score Duration of symptoms	Probability of sequelae Anses factsheets	Probability of sequelae (Experts)	Score Probability of sequelae	Target population Anses factsheets	Target population (Experts)	Score Target population											
				INVS AFSSA 2004	Other reports	Experts		INVS AFSSA 2004	Experts																						
Silicone Cookware	No hazard was identified	No adverse health effect was identified																													
Raw fish	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	listeriosis	Proven	25%	NA	NA	M	100%	NA	H	Many days	NA	M	Possible	NA	M	NA	Specific population	No												
	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis		<1%			L	22%		M	Few days	L	NA	None	L	General population	NA	Yes													
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		0%			L	12%		M	Few hours	L																			
	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Food poisoning		<0.1%			L	1.2%		L	Few days	L																			
	<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	Food poisoning		7%			L	21%		M	Few days	L																			
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		0%			L	18%		M	Few hours	L																			
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		ND			L	NA		L	Few days	L																			
	Anisakidae	Anaphylaxis		NA			M to H	M to H		NA	H	H							One day	L											
		Food poisoning		0%			NA	L		75%	NA	H							Few days to few weeks	L to M											
	Dioxin and dioxin like PCBs	Cancer		NA			34-67%	NA		M to H	NA	>90%							H	NA	Few weeks to few years	M to H	NA	Possible	M	General population	NA	General population	Yes		
		Reprotoxicity		L			L	M		M																					
		Neurotoxicity		L			L	M		M																					
	Mercury	Neurotoxicity		NA			NA	L		L		M							M											Long	H
	Cadmium	Renal empairment		NA			NA	L to M		L to M		M to H							M to H											H	
	Ciguatoxins	Ciguatera poisoning		NA			1%	NA		L		M							M											Few months to few years	NA

L: Low, M: Medium, H: High

Habits	Hazard	Adverse health effect	Weight of evidence	Likelihood								
				Strength of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard					Score of the link between the habit/ food and the hazard	Consumption		
				No outbreaks (EFSA tends and sources of Zoonoses and zoonotic agents reports 2009-2017)	Score of No of outbreaks	No RASFF notifications (2009-2019)	Score of No of notifications	Experts opinion		Score No of people having this habit	Score % of people "always" or "often" having this habit	
Silicone Cookware	No hazard was identified	No adverse health effect was identified										
Raw fish	<i>Listeria monocytogenes</i>	listeriosis	Proven	NA	NA	92	L	NA	L	178	22	
	<i>Salmonella spp.</i>	Salmonellosis		10	M	27	L	NA	M	178	22	
	<i>Bacillus cereus</i>	Food poisoning		42	M	0			M	178	22	
	<i>Clostridium perfringens</i>	Food poisoning		10	M	0			M	178	22	
	<i>Vibrio parahaemolyticus</i>	Food poisoning		2	L	0			L	178	22	
	Staphylococcal Enterotoxins	Food poisoning		62	H	3			M	178	22	
	Norovirus	Food poisoning		9	M	1			M	178	22	
	Anisakidae	Anaphylaxis		NA	NA	NA			350	M	M	178
		Food poisoning					350		M	M	178	22
	Dioxin and dioxin like PCBs	Cancer		NA	NA	NA	22		L	L	178	22
		Reprotoxicity								L	178	22
		Neurotoxicity								L	178	22
	Mercury	Neurotoxicity					898		M	M	178	22
	Cadmium	Renal empairment					56		L	L	178	22
Ciguatoxins	Ciguatera poisoning				62	H	L		L	178	22	

L: Low, M: Medium, H: High