

# Technical Note on Additivity Calculations and Cumulative Risk for PFHxS

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In 2019, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) completed a chemical review of perfluorohexane sulfonate (PFHxS) and derived a Health-Based Value (HBV) of 47 nanograms per liter (ng/L), equivalent to 0.047 µg/L. In 2023, MDH promulgated the 47 ng/L value as a Health Risk Limit (HRL).<sup>1</sup>

In 2024, the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) released a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) and MCL Goal (MCLG) for PFHxS of 10 ng/L (0.01 µg/L).<sup>2</sup> MCLs are regulatory standards; therefore, public water systems will be required to maintain PFHxS concentrations below 10 ng/L. MCLGs are non-regulatory and are determined by EPA as levels protective of human health.

For more information on MCLs and MCLGs, see [Guidance Values and Standards for Contaminants in Drinking Water](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/guidance/gw/index.html) (<https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/guidance/gw/index.html>).

Given EPA's more recent health assessment and its status as a regulatory value, MDH recommends the use of EPA's value of **10 ng/L for PFHxS** in additivity calculations and cumulative risk assessments.

1 <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/risk/docs/guidance/gw/pfhxs.pdf>

2 <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

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