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Toxic substances formed from thermal processing

# Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH)

- Burning of organic materials (wood, coal or fuel oil) → pyrolytic by pyrolysis of hydrocarbons between 500 and 800°C in zone of flame with insufficient O<sub>2</sub> → various types of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (ca 250 have been identified) with more than three linearly or angularly fused benzene rings, that are carcinogenic to varying extents
- Highly lipophilic → accumulated in fatty tissue
- Contamination of food :
  - fall-out from the atmosphere (contaminating fruit and leafy vegetables in industrial districts)
  - smoking or roasting of food (barbecuing or charcoal broiling; smoking of sausage, ham or fish; roasting of coffee).

- Example: Benzo[a]pyrene (Bap): the most common, most dangerous
- Meat and processed meat products < 1 μg/kg end-product measured as Bap. A maximum of 5 μg/kg Bap is tolerated in smoked fish.
- Others



anthracene



naphthacene



### Heterocylic aromatic amines

 Heating proteinaceous food products (e.g. meat) may induce the formation of traces of heterocyclic aromatic amines, especially aminoimidazoazaarenes (AIA), which are potent mutagens



Abbreviation	Ζ	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	<b>R</b> <sup>3</sup>
IQ	С	Н	Н	Н
MelQ	С	Me	Η	Н
MelQx	Ν	Η	Η	Me
4,8-DiMelQx	Ν	Me	Η	Me

GURE 12.21 Structures of commonly occurred aminoimidazoazaarenes (AIAs).

(1) IQ = 2-Amino-3-methylimidazo[4,5-*f*]quinoline
(2) MeIQ = 2-amino-3,4-dimethylimidazo[4,5-*f*]quinoline
(1) and (2) isolated from boiled, sun-dried sardines

(3) 4,8-DiMeIQ = 2-Amino-3,8-dimethylimidazo-[4,5-*f*]quinoxaline
(4) 2-amino-3,4,8-trimethylimidazo[4,5-*f*]quinoxaline)
(1), (2), (3), (4) have been isolated from dried meat products

### Heterocylic aromatic amines

- The exact mechanism for heterocyclic aromatic amines formation in food has not been clearly elucidated
  - 2-aminoimidazo part of the molecules may originate from naturally occurring creatine in muscle
  - quinoline and quinoxaline parts are believed to be formed from Maillard reaction products, especially precursors of pyrazines or pyridines and aldehydes

Heterocyclic aminoamines formation from Maillard reactions (see figure)

Maillard reaction:

- reducing sugar + amino acids  $\rightarrow$  reactive dicarbonyl compounds (e.g. pyruvaldehyde)

- Strecker degradation between a dicarbonyl compound and amino acid will generate a reactive dihydropyrazine molecule
- Condensation among dihydropyrazine, creatinine, and acetaldehyde\* will lead to 4,8-DiMelQx formation
- \*Acetaldehyde :
- -Strecker degradation product of amino acids such as alanine and cysteine
- important product of lipid oxidation  $\rightarrow$  the presence of triacylglycerols facilitates the formation of heterocyclic aromatic amines.



### Furan

- Possibly carcinogen (EFSA)
- Furan is formed from amino acids which yield acetaldehyde and glycolaldehyde on thermal degradation
- Aldol condensation, cyclization and elimination of water are the reaction steps.
- Other precursors of furan are carbohydrates, polyunsaturated fatty acids and carotenoids
- Furan can also be formed from the thermolysis of ascorbic acid.



### Acrylamide

- Acrylamide is preferentially formed by the reaction of the amino acid asparagine with reductive carbohydrates (or their degradation products).
- Carcinogenic on chronic exposure in animal tests
- Concentration of acrylamide in water  $\leq 0.1 \,\mu\text{g/l}$  (EU)
- To avoid:
  - enzymatic hydrolysis of asparagine with asparaginase
  - lowering the pH value
  - reducing the heating temperature.





Acrylamide formation

 Table 9.11. Maximum concentrations and variation

 ranges of acrylamide in selected foods

Food	Concentration (µg/kg)		
Gingerbread	7800	(80-7800)	
Potato chips	3700	(100-3700)	
Crispbread	2800	(25 - 2800)	
Roasted nuts	2000	(10-2000)	
Ground coffee	500		
Roasted meat	50		
Bread	40		

Acrylamide presents at various thermally treated food



Fig. 9.5. Formation of acrylamide during the frying of potato strips from different varieties of potatoes (according to *Amrein* et al., 2003)

Different Acrylamide level of potato strips made from different varieties of potato Polychlorinated Dibenzodioxins (PCDD) and Dibenzofurans (PCDF)

- Informally called "dioxins"
- They are formed in many thermal processes (600 °C > T ≥ 200 °C) in the presence of chlorine or other halogens in inorganic or organic form



PCDDs, *n* and *m* can range from 0 to 4



PCDFs,  $2 \le n+m \le 8$ 

- Side product of paint, pesticide, paper bleaching, steel industries, fuel combustions
- Non-volatile, lipophilic
- Exposure : animal based food (egg, meat, milk)

dibenzofurans	
Congener	TEF <sup>a</sup>
Dibenzo p-dioxins	
2,3,7,8-TCDD	$\longrightarrow$ The most toxic on
1,2,3,7,8-PnCDD	1
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDD	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDD	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDD	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDD	0.01
OCDD	0.0001
Dibenzofurans	
2,3,7,8-TCDF	0.1
1,2,3,7,8-PnCDF	0.05
2,3,4,7,8-PnCDF	0.5
1,2,3,4,7,8-HxCDF	0.1
1,2,3,6,7,8-HxCDF	0.1
1,2,3,7,8,9-HxCDF	0.1
2,3,4,6,7,8-HxCDF	0.1
1,2,3,4,6,7,8-HpCDF	0.01
1,2,3,4,7,8,9-HpCDF	0.01
OCDF	0.0001
<sup>a</sup> Toxicity aquivalant factors (2.2	7.8  TCDD = 1

 Table 9.17. Risk assessment of dibenzo-p-dioxins and dibenzofurans

Toxicity equivalent factors (2,3,7,8-TCDD = 1).

# TOXIC COMPONENTS FORMED DURING PROCESSING

# 3-MCPD (3-monochloropropane-1,2diol )

- 3-Monochloropropane-1,2-diol (3-MCPD) is a food processing contaminant classified as a possible human carcinogen for which the SCF established a tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 2 μg/kg b.w (EFSA)
- Formed by heat as a reaction product of triacylglycerols, phospholipids or glycerol and hydrochloric acid in fat-based or fat-containing foods.
- 3-MCPD can also be formed from NaCl + food fats + thermal process (e.g. Grilling)
- Depending on the type of food it may occur as a free substance, in the form of an ester with fatty acids or in both forms





3-MCPD

1-Oleyl-2-Stearyl-3-chlorpropandiol (3-MCPD-Ester)

### Nitrate, nitrite, nitrosamine

 Nitrite (NO2) or nitrate (NO3) is used in meat/meat products as preservative (inhibiting *C. botulinum* growth and fat oxidation) and to obtain pink-red colour and specific flavor



Nitrite reacts with secondary amines to form nitrosamines which are carcinogenic

secondary amine + nitrous acid  $\longrightarrow$  N-nitrosamine  $H \rightarrow CH_3$   $+ H \rightarrow O \rightarrow P = O$  $+ H \rightarrow O \rightarrow P = O$ 

### Nitrate, nitrite, nitrosamine

Other reaction



#### To avoid nitrosamine formation:

- Use ascorbic acid (500 ppm) together with nitrites (100-200 ppm)→ reduce the use of nitrites up tp 90%
- Adjusting the dose of nitrites used in curing so that it inhibits C. botulinum growth but insufficient to be converted into nitrosamines

## Referensi:

Hand out Kimia Komponen Pangan, Fateta IPB