

## HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

### 12. Chemical fact sheets

#### 12.1 Chemical contaminants in drinking-water

##### Lindane

##### ***History of guideline development***

The 1958 and 1963 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* did not refer to lindane, but the 1971 International Standards suggested that pesticide residues that may occur in community water supplies make only a minimal contribution to the total daily intake of pesticides for the population served. In the first edition of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984, a health-based guideline value of 0.003 mg/l was recommended for lindane, based on the ADI recommended by JMPR. The 1993 Guidelines established a health-based guideline value of 0.002 mg/l for lindane in drinking-water, on the basis of a study used to establish an ADI by JMPR in 1989 but using a compound intake estimate considered to be more appropriate in light of additional data and recognizing that there may be substantial exposure to lindane from its use in public health and as a wood preservative. This guideline value was brought forward to the third edition of the Guidelines, published in 2004, and the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011, with a note that concentrations in food have been falling steadily, and the 1% allocation factor may be considered very conservative.