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Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) is a group of compounds that are ubiquitous in humans and environment all over the world, of which many have been found to be persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic. In recent years, PFAS production and subsequent emission and consumer products ingredients have underwent major changes. In replacement of long-chain perfluoroalkyl carboxylates (PFCAs) and perfluoroalkyl sulfonates (PFSAs), the use of fluorotelomer compounds, shorter-chained homologues, and other PFAS with perfluorinated moieties have emerged. Amongst these substances are polyfluorinated alkyl substances that can degrade into PFCAs, such as polyfluoroalkyl phosphate esters (PAPs).

The aim of this thesis was to study the contribution from PAPs and other precursors to the total PFAS exposure.

The main objective of this thesis was to assess the contribution PAPs and other precursors to the total amount of PFCAs in indoor dust from several countries world-wide, human serum from Australia, raptor bird eggs from Sweden, and waste water and sludge from Swedish waste water treatment plants. Precursor compounds were detected in human serum and raptor bird eggs, and PAPs were found to be a major contributor in abiotic matrices.

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