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Title: Male rat exposure to low dose of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate during pre-pubertal, pubertal and post-pubertal periods: impact on sperm count, gonad histology and testosterone secretion

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Male rat exposure to low dose of di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate during pre-pubertal, pubertal and post-pubertal periods: impact on sperm count, gonad histology and testosterone secretion.

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Highlights

- The aim of this study consisted to evaluate the impact of low dose of di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate exposure, particularly at regulatory doses (NOAEL and TDI considered as “safe dose”), on male rat reproductive functions.
- The animals were exposed during pre-pubertal, pubertal and post-pubertal periods.
- Gonads histology, testosterone secretion and sperm parameters were monitored
- The results showed that exposure to doses, far below or at regulatory doses, affected gonads histology, increased testosterone levels and Leydig cells number, decreased sperm count and Sertoli cells number.

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