Assessment of Human Health Risk for cadmium and lead in muscle of *Liza auratus* and *Liza Saliens* from Gorgan Gulf

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Abstract
For most people, diet is the main route of exposure to metals, so risk assessment of these elements to human via dietary intake is important. For this purpose, concentrations of Pb and Cd in the muscles of two species of fish (*Liza auratus* and *Liza Saliens*) collected from Gorgan gulf were measured. The determination of Cd and Pb in fish tissues was carried out using a graphite furnace atomic absorption spectrometer, (Thermo, Model 97GFS). Health risks of fish were assessed by the target hazard quotients (THQs), provisional tolerable weekly intake (PTWI) and provisional tolerable daily intake (PTDI). The results showed that mean concentration of Cd in muscle tissues of *L. auratus* and *L. Saliens* were 252.05 and 96.7 and mean concentration of Pb in muscle tissues of *L. auratus* and *L. Saliens* were 8632 and 1712 µg kg⁻¹ wet weights. The THQ values of Pb and Cd were below 1 for both species. The estimated values of Pb and Cd in muscles of fish in this study were less than established values by JECFA.

Keywords: Health Risk, Metal, Fish, THQ, PTWI