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OCCURRENCE PHARMACEUTICALS IN SOUTH WEST IBERIAN PENINSULA: A PRELIMINARY RISK ASSESMENT

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The coastal ecosystems are impacted as consequence of human activities. The inputs of contaminants can affect to marine organisms and reduce the biodiversity. Within the input of contaminants to coastal areas, pharmaceuticals have provoked social concern. In fact, some of them have been proposed to be included in the WFD of the EU. Nevertheless, the information about the levels of pharmaceuticals in coastal ecosystem is lacking. To know, the occurrence of pharmaceuticals in coastal areas of the southwest of the Iberian Peninsula, a survey was carried out in the superficial sediments of ten sampling sites. For many pharmaceuticals their concentrations were below the than limit and the pharmaceuticals occurrence was different depending on coastal areas. A preliminary assessing of environmental risk was carried out.

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