

# Toxicology, Clinical Toxicology & Pharmacology

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## Circular economy: Survey among Portuguese companies

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The Circular Economy (CE) economic system aims to conciliate economic and environmental performance, by adopting an innovative approach to address the relationship between business and the environment. A quantitative research based on an online survey was carried out among 99 Portuguese organizations showing that CE is regarded as a strategic and relevant issue for profitability and value creation. Furthermore, the perception that it requires the adoption of new business models in addition to the classical “reduce, reuse and recycle” approach is growing. Moreover, based on the hypotheses raised, results suggest that the level of

CE adoption is positively impacted by the status of the EMS (Environmental Management System) certification and the willingness to improve the environmental performance and achieve a sustainable business model. However, CE activities are still relatively modest and a friendlier context (fiscal, legal, organizational, etc.) and the stronger support from supply chain agents and consumers are required. Future research should focus on how to design and shape the transition from a linear to a CE economy and to ascertain if the positive attitude towards CE is materialized in changing the way business is done.

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