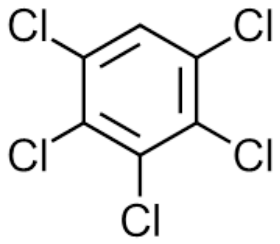
CAS 608-93-5

Pentachlorobenzene

C_6HCl_5

VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



Summary of Health Effects

Pentachlorobenzene can interfere with how hormones are made and how they work in the bodies of animals.

How is pentachlorobenzene used?

Pentachlorobenzene has been used as a pesticide, fungicide and flame retardant.[1] It also may be produced during manufacturing processes or as a contaminant of pesticides.[2]

Toxicity: What are its health effects?

In a National Toxicology Program study on rats and mice, the kidney, liver and thyroid gland were the organs most affected by pentachlorobenzene.[3]

The European Union classified pentachlorobenzene as a category 1 endocrine disruptor.[4] When pentachlorobenzene breaks down into pentachlorophenol in the body, it disturbs the self-regulating processes of retinoid and thyroid hormones in rats.[3]

Exposure: How can a person come in contact with it?

A person can come in contact with pentachlorobenzene by breathing in contaminated air, eating contaminated food, drinking contaminated water, or from skin contact.[1,2]

Pentachlorobenzene was used as a pesticide, fungicide, and as a flame retardant.[1] Today, exposure may occur through its use as a chemical created during manufacturing processes, or as a contaminant in pesticides.[2]

Pentachlorobenzene was placed on the Persistent Organic Pollutant (POP) list at the Stockholm Convention under Annex A and C, which means that parties must take measures to eliminate the production and use and reduce unintentional releases.[1]

Pentachlorobenzene is listed on Washington state's list of Persistant Bioaccumulative Toxic's (PBT) (WAC 173-333-310).[5]

The 2014 National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES) report did not include data for pentachlorobenzene.

References

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5. WA Department of Ecology PBT Initiative. *The PBT list*. Retrieved November 9, 2018, from apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-333-310