

Hazardous Chemical Exposure †

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Abstract: Every activity leaves some kind of waste in the environment like garbage created by ordinary households & the emission of exhaust gases by cars, trucks, and buses. Some wastes contain chemicals that are hazardous to people & the environment. Exposure to these chemicals can cause serious health concerns & other issues. The place where the chemical originates is called the source chemicals. These chemicals enter the environment from different sources like landfills, tanks, drums, or factories. Exposure to these chemicals occurs at the source where they are originally present or by their movement. They move through air, soil & water. The different ways a person comes into contact with hazardous chemicals are called exposures pathways. There are three basic exposure pathways. First skin contact occur & ingestion occurs as a secondary pathway. The EPA (Environment Protection Agency) has developed a list of selected chemicals to describe how much concentration of the chemicals can harm the person in contact. The chemical going into your body can make you sick. The adverse health effect is dependent on the factors of exposure:- Type of chemical, Amount or dose, Duration, and Frequency. The response to chemical exposure is different in different persons. Some people are exposed to a chemical & do not have any effect on their health. But on the other hand, some people with low immunity get easily sick when surfaced with such chemical exposures. The human body is tolerant to certain amounts of chemicals & if that limit exceeds, then it harms health. The Maximum Contaminant Level (MCLs) are given by EPA is given below:- In Public drinking water, it is 0.01 mg/L. The MCL given by EPA for the public drinking water is called Legally Enforceable Limits.

Keywords: MCL; EPA; enforceable.

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Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.