

HEALTH MAINTENANCE PROCEDUREXII. POLYVINYL CHLORIDE

This health maintenance program is to be carried out on all persons having an exposure which exceeds the action level of 0.5 ppm of Vinyl Chloride as set forth in OSHA Regulation 1910.93q Vinyl Chloride.

Until more is known about the effects of Vinyl Chloride monomer on pregnancies, no woman who is pregnant or who can reasonably expect to get pregnant shall be employed in an area which exceeds the action level.

I. At the time of initial employment or upon institution of this health maintenance program the following procedures will be carried out.

A. Routine history with special attention to:

1. Family history of cancer.
2. Industrial or work history.
3. History of tobacco and alcohol use and type.
4. History of hepatitis, gall bladder disease or hepatotoxic exposure.

B. Physical examination with special attention to abdominal palpitation of the liver and the spleen.

C. X-rays

1. PA and lateral chest X-rays.
2. Hand X-rays both with qualified interpretations.
3. Routine ReX-rays of the chest need not normally be done more frequently than once every two years. Repeat X-rays for clarification or diagnostic follow-up are to be undertaken at the judgment of the physician.

D. Pulmonary function studies.

1. FVC (Forced Vital Capacity)
2. FEV₁ (Forced Expired Volume per second)

E. Laboratory work to include:

1. CBC (Complete Blood Count)
2. Platelet count
3. Serum studies to include:
 - a. Serum Protein Determinations.
 - b. Serum Protein Electrophoresis.
 - c. Total Bilirubin

- d. Alkaline Phosphatase.
- e. LDH (Lactic Dehydrogenase).
- f. SGOT (Serum Glutamic Oxalacetic Transaminase).
- g. SGPT (Serum Glutamic Pyruvic Transaminase).
- h. GGTP (Gamma Glutamyl Transpeptidase).

II. If all tests are NORMAL:

- A. The new employee may begin work in vinyl chloride production and will be retested annually.
- B. The employee with less than 10 years exposure may continue to work in the area and will be retested annually.
- C. The employee with more than 10 years exposure may continue working and will be retested semi-annually.

Note: Recheck chest X-rays need not normally be done more frequently than once every two years as discussed in I.C.3.

III. If any tests are ABNORMAL:

- A. The new employee should not be considered for work in vinyl chloride production.
- B. If the abnormality does not seem to relate to liver pathology or to other known industrial causes, the employee shall be referred to his own physician for definitive care and his disposition will be determined by the diagnosis.
- C. If the abnormality relates to the liver, the employee shall be removed from further exposure to vinyl chloride monomer and more extensive workup be developed. The best resources of the community shall be utilized to arrive at a diagnosis as soon as possible. Disposition and further placement shall be based on the results of the above findings.

Employees shall be kept informed of the findings and should have access to copies of the reports upon providing the medical department with a signed release.

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