

VINYL CHLORIDE-POLYVINYL CHLORIDE TOXICOLOGY

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- 1940- 3. Mellon Institute of Research conducted sixteen studies of skin sensitization by vinyl chloride resins and compounds.
1944
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- The work started in 1944 involved feeding rats diets containing 1.5% and 12% of a vinyl chloride resin for two years and included two generations of reproductive studies. No effect attributable to the resin was found.
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- The feeding of a diet containing five percent by weight of resin to laboratory rats for two years produced no toxic effects or retardation of growth.
- The feeding of a diet containing five percent by weight of resin to two dogs did not produce toxic effects or retardation of growth.
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- 1961 13. Torkelson, T. R., et al, "The Toxicity of Vinyl Chloride
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14. Oppenheimer, E. T., et al., "Observations on the Effect
of Powdered Polymer in the Carcinogenic Process", Cancer
Research, p. 132, 21, 1961.
- 1962 15. The American Congress of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
set the worker exposure to vinyl chloride at 500 ppm for
eight-hour TWA weighted average.
16. Lester, D., et al, "Effects of Single and Repeated Expo-
sures of Humans and Rats to Vinyl Chloride", American
Industrial Hygiene Association Meeting, Washington, D.C.,
May, 1962.

- 1963 17. The American Congress of Governmental Industrial Hygienists set the worker exposure to vinyl chloride at 500 ppm threshold limit value.
- 1966 18. The Manufacturing Chemists Association Occupational Health Committee met to discuss reported acroosteolysis at B. F. Goodrich, Company plants in October 6, 1966.
- 1967 19. The Manufacturing Chemists Association sponsored a study of the epidemiology of acroosteolysis in the United States.
20. Wilson, R. H., et al, "Occupational Acroosteolysis", Journal of American Medical Association, Vol. 21, No. 8, 1967.
- 1968 21. Mutchler, J. E., et al, "Report on the Relation of Exposure to State of Health of Dow Chemical Workers", Gordon Conference, Tilton, New Hampshire, 8-1968.
- 1969 22. Popow, Jerzy, "Effect of Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) Dust on the Respiratory System of the Rat", Roczniki Akademii Medycznej im Juliana Marchlewskiego w Bialymstoku, Supplement 24, p. 5, Vol. 48, 1969.
- (Rat exposure 92% of PVC dust particles less than five microns.)
23. Baretta, E. D., et al, "Monitoring Exposures to Vinyl Chloride Vapor: Breath Analysis and Continuous Air Sampling", American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal, p. 537, Vol. 30, 1969.
24. "Epidemiological Investigation of the Polyvinyl Chloride Industry in Reference to Occupational Acroosteolysis", The Institute of Industrial Health, The University of Michigan, February, 1969.
- 1970 25. Viola, P. L., "Cancerogenic Effect of Vinyl Chloride", Regina Elena Institute for Cancer Research, University of Perugia, Tenth International Cancer Congress, Houston, Texas, May 22, 1970.

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1971 29. Szende, C. K., et al, "Pneumoconiosis Developing After Inhalations of Polyvinyl Chloride", Orv. Hetil. 112:85-6, January 10, 1971.

(This is a study of one case of pneumoconiosis where the authors raise the assumption that aspiration of PVC dust may lead to pneumoconiosis. Individual particles were oval or polygonal in shape and 15-25 microns in diameter.)

30. The Manufacturing Chemists Association Occupational Health Committee met with Dr. Viola May 5 and 6, 1971 to discuss the work reported.
31. On October 27, 1971 the MCA Occupational Health Committee recommended that a study of chronic inhalation toxicology be undertaken by industry.
32. On November 16, 1971 an Ad Hoc Planning Group for Vinyl Chloride Research was formed with R. N. Wheeler, Jr. of Union Carbide Corporation Chairman.
33. On December 14, 1971 the Ad Hoc Planning Group met in Washington, D. C. and adopted a basic research plan of:
 1. Chronic Inhalation Toxicity Study at three levels with rats, mice and hamsters.
 2. Vinyl chloride metabolism study.
 3. An Epidemiological Study of PVC Industry Mortality

The program would cost approximately \$350,000 for over a three- to four-year period.

(Maltoni at the end of 1970 planned a project to clarify the type and degree of carcinogenic risk from vinyl chloride sponsored by Montedison).

- 1972 34. Manufacturing Chemists Association requests for sponsorship of the vinyl chloride research project produced subscription of \$165,000. The Ad Hoc Planning Group recommended starting the chronic inhalation toxicity study and delaying the remainder of the program until money was available. The Ad Hoc Group disbanded and was replaced by the MCA Technical Task Force for Vinyl Chloride Research under Dr. T. R. Torkelson of Dow.
35. Kramer, C. G., et al, "The Correlation of Clinical and Environmental Measurements for Workers Exposed to Vinyl Chloride", American Industrial Hygiene Journal, January, 1972.
36. The American Congress of Governmental Industrial Hygienists recommended that the TLV for vinyl chloride be reduced to 200 ppm for workers.
37. Chemical Safety Data Sheet SD-56 Vinyl Chloride Manufacturing Chemists Association revised, 1972.
- 1973 38. The Manufacturing Chemists Association contracted with Industrial Biotest Laboratory to carry out the long-term chronic inhalation study of vinyl chloride. The project was delayed due to relocation of the laboratory and due to unsatisfactory laboratory conditions.
39. The Manufacturing Chemists Association contracted with Tabershaw Cooper Associates, Berkeley, California to do a retrogressive epidemiology study of the workers in the VCM and PVC industry.
40. The MCA also contracted with Dow Chemical to study the metabolism of vinyl chloride in animals on a best efforts basis for one year.
41. Informal reports in confidence were received from Dr. C. Maltoni via Imperial Chemical Industries that rats exposed to 250 ppm of vinyl chloride were showing evidence of tumors. These results, as well as the Manufacturing Chemists Association research program, were discussed with Dr. Marcus Key and associates of NIOSH in mid year by representatives of MCA, Dow, Ethyl, Union Carbide Corporation and Imperial Chemical Industries.
42. Manufacturing Chemists Association reported to NIOSH, EPA and OSHA that mice exposed in the Industrial Biotest Laboratory study were showing evidence of angiosarcoma.

- 1974 43. The B. F. Goodrich Company reported on January 23, 1974 five workers at their Louisville, Kentucky plant had died of angiosarcoma.
44. NIOSH convened a group of labor, industry and governmental consultants to consider the problem. Union Carbide Corporation was represented by R. N. Wheeler, Jr. The group was unable to agree on a common program and was disbanded after two meetings.
45. Recommended Standard for Occupational Exposure to Vinyl Chloride, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare, 1974.
46. OSHA promulgated an Emergency Temporary Standard for Exposure to Vinyl Chloride. Worker exposure was to be limited to 50 ppm ceiling vinyl chloride.
47. Richardson, H. L., "Angiosarcoma of the Human Liver", United States Environmental Protection Agency, April 17, 1974.
48. Occupational Safety and Health Administration Exposure to Vinyl Chloride, United States Department of Labor, (29 CFR 1910.1017) October 21, 1974.
49. Proposed Regulation Vinyl Chloride Final Environmental Impact Statement, Occupational Safety and Health Administration, United States Department of Labor, 1974.
- 1975 50. OSHA promulgated a Permanent Standard for Vinyl Chloride Exposure with permissible exposure limited to one ppm eight-hour TWA and five ppm ceiling value.
51. "Biological Reactivity of PVC Dust", Nature, Vol. 56, August 21, 1975.
52. "PVC Dust Fells Factory Mice Suggesting New Work Hazard", New Scientist, June, 1975.
53. "Epidemiological Study of Vinyl Chloride Workers", Tabershaw/Cooper Associates, Inc., 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley, California 94704, May 3, 1974.

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56. Scientific and Technical Assessment Report on Vinyl Chloride
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57. Standard Support and Environmental Impact Statement, Pro-
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61. Proposed Standard for Vinyl Chloride, United States Environ-
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Union Carbide Corporation, South Charleston, Plant, Equitable
Environmental Health, Inc., 2180 Milvia Street, Berkeley,
California 94704, December, 1976.
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