

Recommended Medical Surveillance
for employees exposed to vinylidene chloride

Based on animal data there is evidence that vinylidene chloride by inhalation or ingestion has caused pathological changes in the liver and kidneys. MCA-administered studies currently underway have shown no increase in tumor formation in animals. We are not aware of any chronic disease in humans related to vinylidene chloride exposure.

Based on this information general medical surveillance of employees exposed to vinylidene chloride with particular attention to the liver and kidney should be provided.

At the time of initial consideration for placement in an area where exposure to vinylidene chloride is possible the following should be obtained:

- 1) Medical history with particular attention to alcohol intake, liver disease, exposure to potential hepatotoxic agents including drugs, chemicals and blood transfusions.
- 2) General physical examination
- 3) Laboratory investigation should include tests to evaluate liver and kidney function. As a minimum these should include serum levels of total bilirubin, alkaline phosphatase, serum glutamic oxalacetic transaminase (SGOT), serum glutamic pyruvic transaminase (SGPT), and gamma glutamyl transpeptidase and also complete urinalysis and blood urea nitrogen.

Medical reevaluation should be performed annually with particular attention paid to liver and kidney function.

If any of the liver or kidney function tests are found to be abnormal, a repeat test is recommended and if the repeat tests confirm the abnormality the employee should be ~~removed~~ *considered for removal* from vinylidene chloride exposure until further investigation is carried out. However the extent of further evaluation should be left to the discretion of the examining physician.

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Medical Surveillance and Records Subcommittee of the Vinylidene Chloride Technical Panel

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