

Other titles available in the ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CRITERIA series include:

1. Mercury
2. Polychlorinated Biphenyls and Terphenyls
3. Lead
4. Oxides of Nitrogen
5. Nitrates, Nitrites, and *N*-Nitroso Compounds
6. Principles and Methods for Evaluating the Toxicity of Chemicals, Part I
7. Photochemical Oxidants
8. Sulfur Oxides and Suspended Particulate Matter
9. DDT and its Derivatives
10. Carbon Disulfide
11. Mycotoxins
12. Noise
13. Carbon Monoxide
14. Ultraviolet Radiation
15. Tin and Organotin Compounds
16. Radiofrequency and Microwaves
17. Manganese
18. Arsenic
19. Hydrogen Sulfide
20. Selected Petroleum Products
21. Chlorine and Hydrogen Chloride
22. Ultrasound
23. Lasers and Optical Radiation
24. Titanium
25. Selected Radionuclides
26. Styrene
27. Guidelines on Studies in Environmental Epidemiology
28. Acrylonitrile
29. 2,4-Dichlorophenoxyacetic Acid (2,4-D)
30. Principles for Evaluating Health Risks to Progeny Associated with Exposure to Chemicals during Pregnancy
31. Tetrachloroethylene
32. Methylene Chloride
33. Epichlorohydrin
34. Chlordane
35. Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) Fields
36. Fluorine and Fluorides
37. Aquatic (Marine and Freshwater) Biotoxins
38. Heptachlor
39. Paraquat and Diquat
40. Endosulfan
41. Quintozene
42. Tecnazene
43. Chlordecone
44. Mirex
45. Camphechlor
46. Guidelines for the Study of Genetic Effects in Human Populations
47. Summary Report on the Evaluation of Short-Term Tests for Carcinogens (Collaborative Study on *In Vitro* Tests)
48. Dimethyl Sulfate
49. Acrylamide
50. Trichloroethylene
51. Guide to Short-Term Tests for Detecting Mutagenic and Carcinogenic Chemicals
52. Toluene
53. Asbestos and Other Natural Mineral Fibres
54. Ammonia
55. Ethylene Oxide
56. Propylene Oxide
57. Principles of Toxicokinetic Studies
58. Selenium
59. Principles for Evaluating Health Risks from Chemicals During Infancy and Early Childhood: The Need for a Special Approach
60. Principles and Methods for the Assessment of Neurotoxicity Associated With Exposure to Chemicals
61. Chromium
62. 1,2-Dichloroethane
63. Organophosphorus Insecticides — A General Introduction
64. Carbamate Pesticides — A General Introduction
65. Butanols — Four Isomers
66. Kelevan
67. Tetradifon

This report contains the collective views of an international group of experts and does not necessarily represent the decisions or the stated policy of the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organisation, or the World Health Organization

Environmental Health Criteria 68

HYDRAZINE

Published under the joint sponsorship of the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organisation, and the World Health Organization



INVENTARIO N. 71



World Health Organization
Geneva, 1987

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CRITERIA FOR HYDRAZINE	
1. SUMMARY	9
2. IDENTITY, PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES, ANALYTICAL METHODS	13
2.1 Identity	13
2.2 Physical and chemical properties	13
2.3 Analytical methods	14
3. SOURCES OF HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURE	18
3.1 Natural occurrence	18
3.2 Man-made sources	18
3.2.1 Industrial production	18
3.2.2 Methods of transport	19
3.2.3 Disposal of waste	19
3.3 Use pattern	19
4. ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPORT, DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSFORMATION	21
4.1 Transport and distribution between media	21
4.2 Abiotic degradation	21
4.3 Biodegradation	22
4.4 Interactions with soil	22
5. ENVIRONMENTAL LEVELS AND HUMAN EXPOSURE	23
5.1 Environmental levels	23
5.2 General population exposure	23
5.3 Occupational exposure	23
5.4 Populations at special risk	24
6. KINETICS AND METABOLISM	25
6.1 Absorption and distribution	25
6.2 Metabolism and excretion	26
6.3 Reaction with body components	28
7. EFFECTS ON ORGANISMS IN THE ENVIRONMENT	30
7.1 Aquatic organisms	30

The **International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS)** is a joint venture of the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organisation, and the World Health Organization. The main objective of the IPCS is to carry out and disseminate evaluations of the effects of chemicals on human health and the quality of the environment. Supporting activities include the development of epidemiological, experimental laboratory, and risk-assessment methods that could produce internationally comparable results, and the development of manpower in the field of toxicology. Other activities carried out by the IPCS include the development of know-how for coping with chemical accidents, coordination of laboratory testing and epidemiological studies, and promotion of research on the mechanisms of the biological action of chemicals.

ISBN 92 4 154268 3

©World Health Organization 1987

Publications of the World Health Organization enjoy copyright protection in accordance with the provisions of Protocol 2 of the Universal Copyright Convention. For rights of reproduction or translation of WHO publications, in part or *in toto*, application should be made to the Office of Publications, World Health Organization, Geneva, Switzerland. The World Health Organization welcomes such applications.

The designations employed and the presentation of the material in this publication do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

The mention of specific companies or of certain manufacturers' products does not imply that they are endorsed or recommended by the World Health Organization in preference to others of a similar nature that are not mentioned. Errors and omissions excepted, the names of proprietary products are distinguished by initial capital letters.

ISSN 0250-863X

PRINTED IN FINLAND

DHSS — VAMMALA — 6000