

WHO Chemical Safety

Carolyn Vickers



World Health
Organization

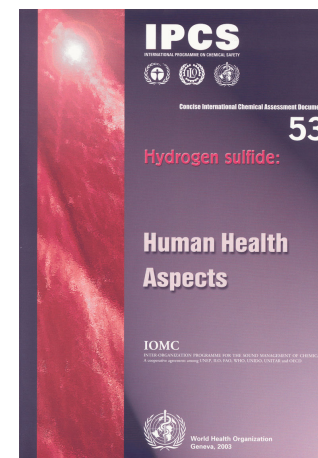
Chemical Safety – Key work areas

- Risk assessment – information on health impacts (burden of disease, specific chemicals), risk assessment tools and methods, strengthening country capacities
- Health in international instruments
- Poisoning prevention and management
- Preparedness and response to chemical emergencies



Risk Assessment Series

- Environmental Health Criteria (EHC)
- Concise International Chemical Assessment Documents (CICADs)
- International Chemical Safety Cards (ICSC)
- WHO Recommended Classification of Pesticides by Hazard
- Other ad hoc reports

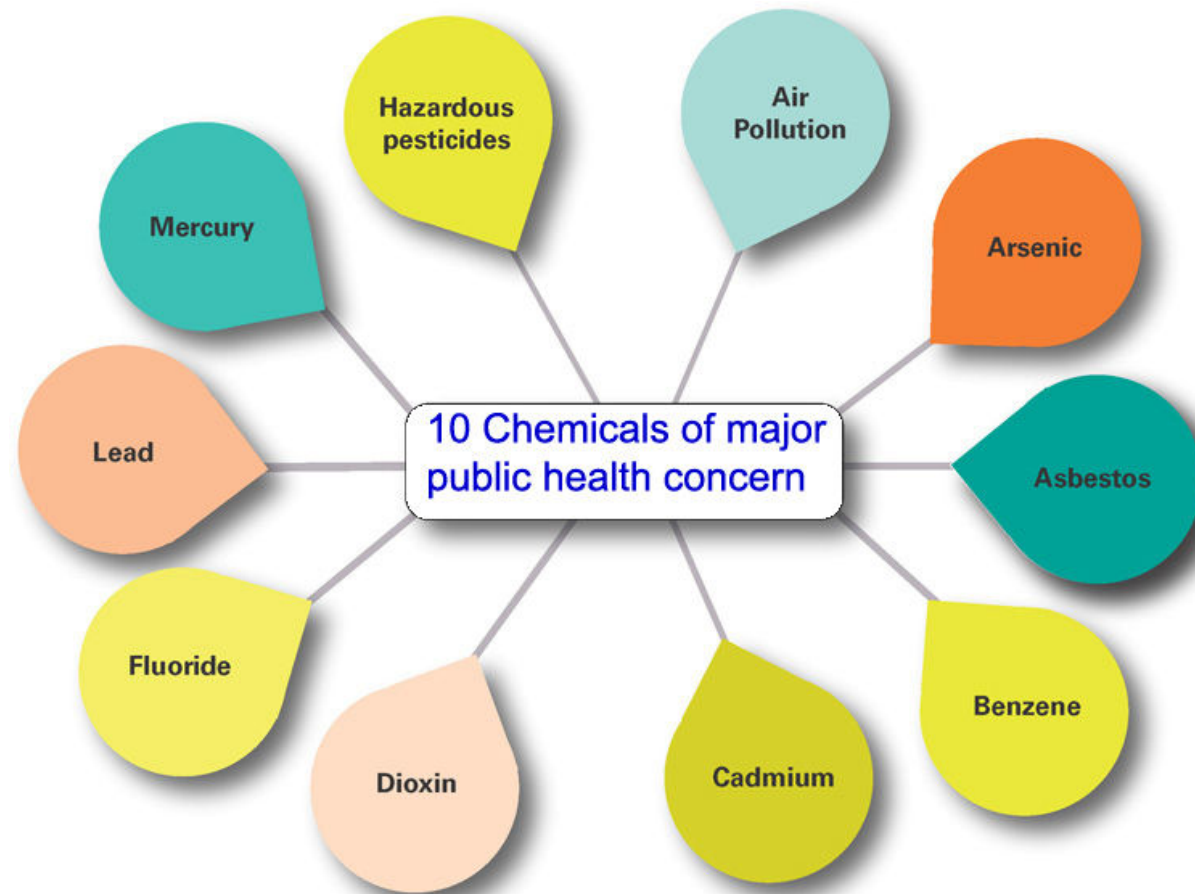


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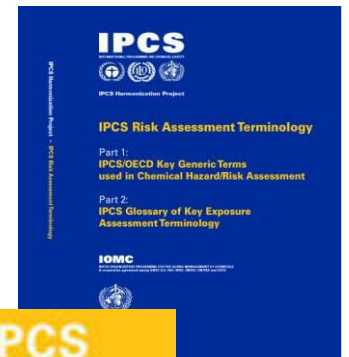
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WHO 10 chemicals of major public health concern

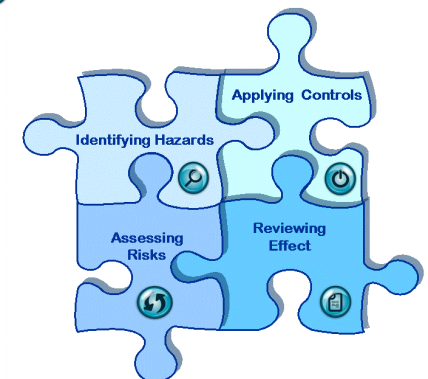


Risk Assessment Methodology – some current priorities

- Life stages – childhood age groupings
- Combined exposures
- Immunotoxicity
- Assisting countries to do risk assessment
 - Risk Assessment Toolkit



✓ Human Health Risk Assessment Toolkit



Health in International instruments

- SAICM – strengthening health sector engagement
 - Global Alliance on Elimination of Lead in Paint
- Stockholm (POPs), Rotterdam (e.g. Asbestos)
- IHR
 - disinsection, chemical-related outbreaks, poisons centres
- Mercury Treaty negotiations
 - greening the health sector, health care waste, Children's health



WHO taking action on Mercury:

- Global Initiative to Substitute Mercury-Based Measuring Devices in Health Care -



TOWARD THE TIPPING POINT

WHO-HCWH Global Initiative to Substitute Mercury-Based Medical Devices in Health Care

A Two Year Progress Report



In association with the UNDP GEF Global Health Care Waste Project



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WHO taking action on Lead: WHO guidelines and *Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints*

- ❑ WHO guidelines on prevention and clinical management of lead exposure
- ❑ Alliance to phase out the use of lead in paint.
 - ❑ Collaborative effort from various parties, e.g. governments, IGOs, NGOs, academia, civil society and industry.
 - ❑ WHO and UNEP serve as Secretariat and contribute technically.



Poisons centres

- Public health roles
 - Human data on chemical exposures
 - IHR compliance
 - Poisons prevention
 - Chemical incident response



Le monoxyde de carbone dans le Nord-Pas-de-Calais

> Données chiffrées sur le CO

> Entrez dans le site
Le site web réunissant toutes les données sur le monoxyde de carbone pour la région Nord-Pas-de-Calais à destination des mairies, professionnels de la santé, journalistes, etc.

> Site Jeunes
Découvrez les aventures d'Adèle...

> Entrez dans le site
Le site web sur l'intoxication au monoxyde de carbone à destination des jeunes, de leurs enseignants et de leurs parents.

W.H.O.
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

GHANA HEALTH SERVICE
Your Health - Our Concern

Remember
poisoning can be prevented

prevention must take place
every time, everywhere
and by everybody

POISONS INFORMATION & CONTROL CENTRE
GHANA HEALTH SERVICE
PBM, MINISTRIES-ACCRA

HOTLINE:
021-243552 / 238626
FAX: 244773
Email: poisoncentre@ghana.com
Located at Ridge Hospital Hospital, Accra

Facts About Poisoning

POISONS CENTRE
Ensuring Chemical & Biological Safety

2005



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Poisons centres – capacity building

- Maintain network – global directory & mail serve
- Provision of
 - Information management tools
 - Training materials
 - Training workshops
 - Guidelines



Chemical Emergencies

- Direct support to countries
 - Investigative and response missions
- Supporting RO response
 - Technical support, access to networks
- Work within existing frameworks
 - IHR, Clusters (Health, WASH)
- Guidance materials
 - WHO Manual for the Public Health Management of Chemical Incidents
 - In pipeline - Manual for Investigating Disease Outbreaks of Chemical Origin



Emergency response – examples from 2010

- Nigeria – mass lead poisoning
- Haiti earthquake
- Volcanic ash
- Hungary – red mud flood



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www.who.int/phe/

World Health Organization

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Public health and environment (PHE)

WHO > Programmes and projects > Public health and environment

Public health and environment

HEALTH THROUGH A BETTER ENVIRONMENT

Proper environmental management is the key to avoiding the quarter of all preventable illnesses which are directly caused by environmental factors. The environment influences our health in many ways — through exposures to physical, chemical and biological risk factors, and through related changes in our behaviour in response to those factors.

Thirteen million deaths annually are due to preventable environmental causes. Preventing environmental risk could save as many as four million lives a year, in children alone, mostly in developing countries.

- Public health and environment topics and technical information

Global environmental health events scheduled in April 2010

International programme on chemical safety

Health impact assessment

UN-Water Global Annual Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water (GLAAS)

EVENTS

World Health Assembly
17-22 May 2010

All events

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Health and environment: images from around the world

10 facts on health impact of environment

Features on environmental health

