

CHROMIUM VI | WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

1 Possible sources of exposure

 Occupational exposure (painting production, chrome plating, wood preserving, smelting of ore, welding of stainless steel and alloys, impurity in cement and leather)

 Contaminates fumes or mist

 Paint pigments and corrosion inhibitors (chromates)

 Solutions, coatings and cements

 Contaminated food and water

 Accidental dust ingestion due to hand-mouth contact

2 How can chromium VI enter your body?

Via inhalation 

Via dermal absorption 

Via ingestion 

3 How might chromium VI affect your health?

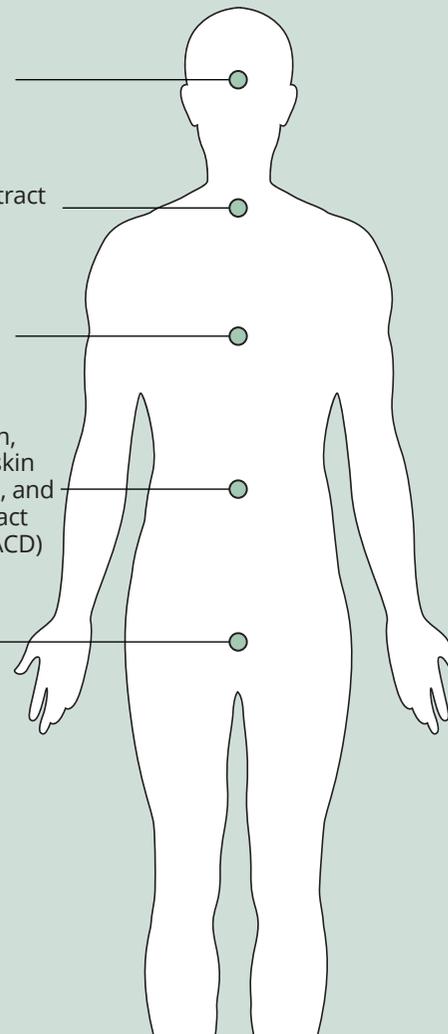
 Eye damage

 Respiratory tract problems

 Lung cancer

 Skin irritation, skin ulcers, skin sensitization, and allergic contact dermatitis (ACD)

 Infertility



4 How can you reduce your exposure to chromium VI?

 **Don't** eat, drink or smoke in work areas where chromium VI may be present

 **Comply** with workers' regulations on carcinogens

 **Use** engineering controls at workplace as local exhaust ventilation (LEV), process enclosure, process modification

 **Use** personal protection equipment (PPE) at workplace as respirators, gloves and protective clothing

 **Use** hygiene and sanitation practices, laundry facilities and changing areas provided at workplace

 If you are an employer, **make** medical examinations available to employees

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Despite the fact that exposure to citizens is very limited, the European Union has taken action to reduce citizens' exposure to chromium VI known to cause risks to health. Legislation is also in place at occupational settings.

 For further information on how the European Union is protecting citizens read the [HBM4EU Chromium VI Factsheet](#).

Where they can be possibly found?

 **Chromium VI is present in cement, textiles, leather, chrome baths, chrome ore, chrome colors and dyes, paints, primers, anti-corrosion pigments, and coatings.**

