


# APROTIC SOLVENTS | WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

## 1 Possible sources of exposure

-  Household products (aprotic solvents-containing household cleaning products)
-  Personal care products
-  Occupational exposure:
  -  Rubber and plastics
  -  Pharmaceuticals and chemicals
  -  Polishes and waxes
  -  Inks and toners
  -  Textiles
-  Fragrances and air fresheners
-  Cleaning products
-  Occupational exposure (factories, car services, cleaning services, labs)
-  Ph-regulators
-  Neutralisation agents
-  Flocculants


## 2 How can aprotic solvents enter your body?


Via dermal absorption 


Via inhalation 

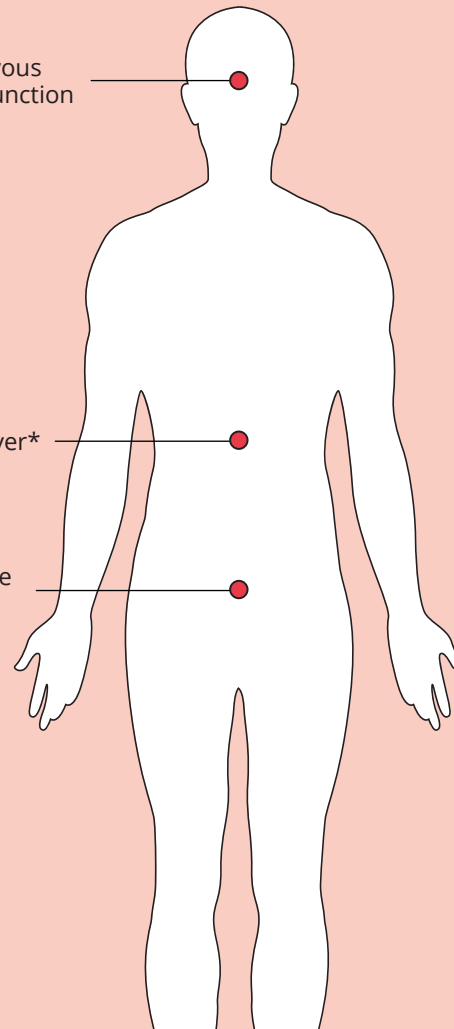
Via ingestion 

## 3 How might aprotic solvents affect your health?

 Central nervous system dysfunction









 Effects on liver\*

 Reproductive toxicity



\* Occupational exposure

## 4 How can you reduce your exposure to aprotic solvents?

-  **Do not** eat or smoke in areas where there are solvents dispersed or being used
-  **Do not** work with aprotic solvents if pregnant or breastfeeding
-  **Read** labels and follow the manufacturer's instructions for safe use. Same applies to paints, finishes or glues and cleaning products.
-  **Avoid** using products containing aprotic solvents where possible or replace them with a safer option
-  **Avoid** inhalation of vapors and skin contact
-  **Use** suitable gloves and wash hands thoroughly after using aprotic solvents with soap and water
-  **Ventilate** the room where aprotic solvents have been used
-  **Apply** safety measures to prevent exposure at the workplace and use appropriate personal protective equipment

Aprotic solvents are coming under increasing regulatory pressure. The European Union (EU) has taken measures to reduce citizens' exposure to aprotic solvents. Remarkable successes have been achieved in reducing solvent contents in paints and varnishes. **NEP is restricted** under Annex XVII of REACH (Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemical Substances) in 2014; **NMP, DMAC and DMF** are restricted since 2018 and «shall not be placed on the market as substances, constituents of other substances or components of a mixture above 0.3 %».

For further information on aprotic solvents, please visit the '[HBM4EU Factsheet](#)' section.

### Where can they possibly be found?

They often can be found in many products consumers use every day, including personal care products and cleaning products. Aprotic solvents are widely used in the chemicals, pharma, textile, industrial cleaner sectors. They are also used in the manufacture of agrochemicals (fertilisers, pesticides etc.) as well as in coatings for industrial use, including the use of the varnishes.