

**DRAFT  
TOXICOLOGICAL PROFILE FOR  
VANADIUM**

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
Public Health Service  
Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry

September 2009

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## UPDATE STATEMENT

A Toxicological Profile for Vanadium was released in 1992. This present edition supersedes any previously released draft or final profile.

Toxicological profiles are revised and republished as necessary. For information regarding the update status of previously released profiles, contact ATSDR at:

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## FOREWORD

This toxicological profile is prepared in accordance with guidelines developed by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The original guidelines were published in the *Federal Register* on April 17, 1987. Each profile will be revised and republished as necessary.

The ATSDR toxicological profile succinctly characterizes the toxicologic and adverse health effects information for these toxic substances described therein. Each peer-reviewed profile identifies and reviews the key literature that describes a substance's toxicologic properties. Other pertinent literature is also presented, but is described in less detail than the key studies. The profile is not intended to be an exhaustive document; more comprehensive sources of specialty information are referenced.

The focus of the profiles is on health and toxicologic information. Each toxicological profile begins with a public health statement that describes, in nontechnical language, a substance's relevant toxicological properties. Following the public health statement is information concerning levels of significant human exposure and, where known, significant health effects. The adequacy of information to determine a substance's health effects is described in a health effects summary. Data needs that are of significance to protection of public health are identified by ATSDR and EPA.

Each profile includes the following:

- (A) The examination, summary, and interpretation of available toxicologic information and epidemiologic evaluations on a toxic substance to ascertain the levels of significant human exposure for the substance and the associated acute, subacute, and chronic health effects;
- (B) A determination of whether adequate information on the health effects of each substance is available or in the process of development to determine levels of exposure that present a significant risk to human health of acute, subacute, and chronic health effects; and
- (C) Where appropriate, identification of toxicologic testing needed to identify the types or levels of exposure that may present significant risk of adverse health effects in humans.

The principal audiences for the toxicological profiles are health professionals at the Federal, State, and local levels; interested private sector organizations and groups; and members of the public. We plan to revise these documents in response to public comments and as additional data become available. Therefore, we encourage comments that will make the toxicological profile series of the greatest use.

Comments should be sent to:

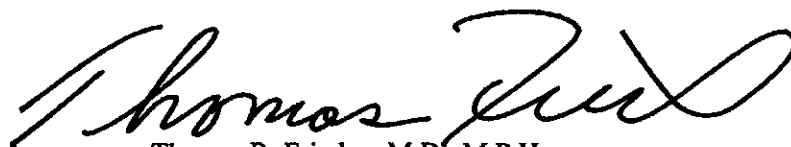
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The toxicological profiles are developed under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA or Superfund). CERCLA section 104(i)(1) directs the Administrator of ATSDR to "...effectuate and implement the health related authorities" of the statute. This includes the preparation of toxicological profiles for hazardous substances most commonly found at facilities on the CERCLA National Priorities List and that pose the most significant potential threat to human health, as determined by ATSDR and the EPA. Section 104(i)(3) of CERCLA, as amended, directs the Administrator of ATSDR to prepare a toxicological profile for each substance on the list. In addition, ATSDR has the authority to prepare toxicological profiles for substances not found at sites on the National Priorities List, in an effort to "...establish and maintain inventory of literature, research, and studies on the health effects of toxic substances" under CERCLA Section 104(i)(1)(B), to respond to requests for consultation under section 104(i)(4), and as otherwise necessary to support the site-specific response actions conducted by ATSDR.

This profile reflects ATSDR's assessment of all relevant toxicologic testing and information that has been peer-reviewed. Staffs of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other Federal scientists have also reviewed the profile. In addition, this profile has been peer-reviewed by a nongovernmental panel and is being made available for public review. Final responsibility for the contents and views expressed in this toxicological profile resides with ATSDR.



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*Managing Hazardous Materials Incidents* is a three-volume set of recommendations for on-scene (prehospital) and hospital medical management of patients exposed during a hazardous materials incident. Volumes I and II are planning guides to assist first responders and hospital emergency department personnel in planning for incidents that involve hazardous materials. Volume III—*Medical Management Guidelines for Acute Chemical Exposures*—is a guide for health care professionals treating patients exposed to hazardous materials.

*Fact Sheets (ToxFAQs)* provide answers to frequently asked questions about toxic substances.

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### ***Other Agencies and Organizations***

*The National Center for Environmental Health (NCEH)* focuses on preventing or controlling disease, injury, and disability related to the interactions between people and their environment outside the workplace. Contact: NCEH, Mailstop F-29, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Atlanta, GA 30341-3724 • Phone: 770-488-7000 • FAX: 770-488-7015.

*The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)* conducts research on occupational diseases and injuries, responds to requests for assistance by investigating problems of health and safety in the workplace, recommends standards to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA), and trains professionals in occupational safety and health. Contact: NIOSH, 200 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20201 • Phone: 800-356-4674 or NIOSH Technical Information Branch, Robert A. Taft Laboratory, Mailstop C-19, 4676 Columbia Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998 • Phone: 800-35-NIOSH.

*The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)* is the principal federal agency for biomedical research on the effects of chemical, physical, and biologic environmental agents on human health and well-being. Contact: NIEHS, PO Box 12233, 104 T.W. Alexander Drive, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709 • Phone: 919-541-3212.

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### ***Referrals***

*The Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics (AOEC)* has developed a network of clinics in the United States to provide expertise in occupational and environmental issues. Contact: AOEC, 1010 Vermont Avenue, NW, #513, Washington, DC 20005 • Phone: 202-347-4976 • FAX: 202-347-4950 • e-mail: AOEC@AOEC.ORG • Web Page: <http://www.aoec.org/>.

*The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)* is an association of physicians and other health care providers specializing in the field of occupational and environmental medicine. Contact: ACOEM, 25 Northwest Point Boulevard, Suite 700, Elk Grove Village, IL 60007-1030 • Phone: 847-818-1800 • FAX: 847-818-9266.

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### THE PROFILE HAS UNDERGONE THE FOLLOWING ATSDR INTERNAL REVIEWS:

1. Health Effects Review. The Health Effects Review Committee examines the health effects chapter of each profile for consistency and accuracy in interpreting health effects and classifying end points.
2. Minimal Risk Level Review. The Minimal Risk Level Workgroup considers issues relevant to substance-specific Minimal Risk Levels (MRLs), reviews the health effects database of each profile, and makes recommendations for derivation of MRLs.
3. Data Needs Review. The Applied Toxicology Branch reviews data needs sections to assure consistency across profiles and adherence to instructions in the Guidance.
4. Green Border Review. Green Border review assures the consistency with ATSDR policy.

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## PEER REVIEW

A peer review panel was assembled for vanadium. The panel consisted of the following members:

1. Janusz Z. Byczkowski, Ph.D., DABT, Independent Consultant, Fairborn, Ohio;
2. David Dorman, Ph.D., D.V.M., DABT, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina; and
3. Anna Fan, Ph.D., DABT, Chief, Pesticide and Environmental Toxicology Branch, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, California Environmental Protection Agency, Oakland/Sacramento, California.

These experts collectively have knowledge of vanadium's physical and chemical properties, toxicokinetics, key health end points, mechanisms of action, human and animal exposure, and quantification of risk to humans. All reviewers were selected in conformity with the conditions for peer review specified in Section 104(I)(13) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, as amended.

Scientists from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) have reviewed the peer reviewers' comments and determined which comments will be included in the profile. A listing of the peer reviewers' comments not incorporated in the profile, with a brief explanation of the rationale for their exclusion, exists as part of the administrative record for this compound.

The citation of the peer review panel should not be understood to imply its approval of the profile's final content. The responsibility for the content of this profile lies with the ATSDR.

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## CONTENTS

DISCLAIMER .....	ii
UPDATE STATEMENT .....	iii
FOREWORD .....	v
QUICK REFERENCE FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS .....	vii
CONTRIBUTORS .....	ix
PEER REVIEW .....	xi
CONTENTS .....	xiii
LIST OF FIGURES .....	xvii
LIST OF TABLES .....	xix
1. PUBLIC HEALTH STATEMENT .....	1
1.1 WHAT IS VANADIUM? .....	1
1.2 WHAT HAPPENS TO VANADIUM WHEN IT ENTERS THE ENVIRONMENT? .....	2
1.3 HOW MIGHT I BE EXPOSED TO VANADIUM? .....	3
1.4 HOW CAN VANADIUM ENTER AND LEAVE MY BODY? .....	4
1.5 HOW CAN VANADIUM AFFECT MY HEALTH? .....	5
1.6 HOW CAN VANADIUM AFFECT CHILDREN? .....	6
1.7 HOW CAN FAMILIES REDUCE THE RISK OF EXPOSURE TO VANADIUM? .....	6
1.8 IS THERE A MEDICAL TEST TO DETERMINE WHETHER I HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO VANADIUM? .....	7
1.9 WHAT RECOMMENDATIONS HAS THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT MADE TO PROTECT HUMAN HEALTH? .....	7
1.10 WHERE CAN I GET MORE INFORMATION? .....	8
2. RELEVANCE TO PUBLIC HEALTH .....	11
2.1 BACKGROUND AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURES TO VANADIUM IN THE UNITED STATES .....	11
2.2 SUMMARY OF HEALTH EFFECTS .....	12
2.3 MINIMAL RISK LEVELS (MRLs) .....	13
3. HEALTH EFFECTS .....	25
3.1 INTRODUCTION .....	25
3.2 DISCUSSION OF HEALTH EFFECTS BY ROUTE OF EXPOSURE .....	25
3.2.1 Inhalation Exposure .....	26
3.2.1.1 Death .....	26
3.2.1.2 Systemic Effects .....	27
3.2.1.3 Immunological and Lymphoreticular Effects .....	41
3.2.1.4 Neurological Effects .....	41
3.2.1.5 Reproductive Effects .....	41
3.2.1.6 Developmental Effects .....	42
3.2.1.7 Cancer .....	42
3.2.2 Oral Exposure .....	44
3.2.2.1 Death .....	44
3.2.2.2 Systemic Effects .....	44
3.2.2.3 Immunological and Lymphoreticular Effects .....	64
3.2.2.4 Neurological Effects .....	64
3.2.2.5 Reproductive Effects .....	65
3.2.2.6 Developmental Effects .....	65
3.2.2.7 Cancer .....	66

3.2.3	Dermal Exposure.....	66
3.2.3.1	Death.....	66
3.2.3.2	Systemic Effects.....	66
3.2.3.3	Immunological and Lymphoreticular Effects.....	66
3.2.3.4	Neurological Effects.....	66
3.2.3.5	Reproductive Effects.....	66
3.2.3.6	Developmental Effects.....	66
3.2.3.7	Cancer.....	66
3.3	GENOTOXICITY.....	66
3.4	TOXICOKINETICS.....	72
3.4.1	Absorption.....	72
3.4.1.1	Inhalation Exposure.....	72
3.4.1.2	Oral Exposure.....	73
3.4.1.3	Dermal Exposure.....	73
3.4.2	Distribution.....	73
3.4.2.1	Inhalation Exposure.....	73
3.4.2.2	Oral Exposure.....	74
3.4.2.3	Dermal Exposure.....	77
3.4.2.4	Other Routes of Exposure.....	77
3.4.3	Metabolism.....	77
3.4.4	Elimination and Excretion.....	77
3.4.4.1	Inhalation Exposure.....	77
3.4.4.2	Oral Exposure.....	78
3.4.4.3	Dermal Exposure.....	78
3.4.5	Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK)/Pharmacodynamic (PD) Models.....	78
3.5	MECHANISMS OF ACTION.....	80
3.5.1	Pharmacokinetic Mechanisms.....	80
3.5.2	Mechanisms of Toxicity.....	82
3.5.3	Animal-to-Human Extrapolations.....	82
3.6	TOXICITIES MEDIATED THROUGH THE NEUROENDOCRINE AXIS.....	82
3.7	CHILDREN'S SUSCEPTIBILITY.....	83
3.8	BIOMARKERS OF EXPOSURE AND EFFECT.....	85
3.8.1	Biomarkers Used to Identify or Quantify Exposure to Vanadium.....	86
3.8.2	Biomarkers Used to Characterize Effects Caused by Vanadium.....	87
3.9	INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER CHEMICALS.....	87
3.10	POPULATIONS THAT ARE UNUSUALLY SUSCEPTIBLE.....	87
3.11	METHODS FOR REDUCING TOXIC EFFECTS.....	88
3.11.1	Reducing Peak Absorption Following Exposure.....	88
3.11.2	Reducing Body Burden.....	88
3.11.3	Interfering with the Mechanism of Action for Toxic Effects.....	89
3.12	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE.....	90
3.12.1	Existing Information on Health Effects of Vanadium.....	90
3.12.2	Identification of Data Needs.....	92
3.12.3	Ongoing Studies.....	99
4.	CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL INFORMATION.....	101
4.1	CHEMICAL IDENTITY.....	101
4.2	PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES.....	101
5.	PRODUCTION, IMPORT/EXPORT, USE, AND DISPOSAL.....	107
5.1	PRODUCTION.....	107

5.2	IMPORT/EXPORT.....	113
5.3	USE.....	113
5.4	DISPOSAL.....	113
6.	POTENTIAL FOR HUMAN EXPOSURE.....	115
6.1	OVERVIEW.....	115
6.2	RELEASES TO THE ENVIRONMENT.....	117
6.2.1	Air.....	118
6.2.2	Water.....	123
6.2.3	Soil.....	123
6.3	ENVIRONMENTAL FATE.....	124
6.3.1	Transport and Partitioning.....	124
6.3.2	Transformation and Degradation.....	127
6.3.2.1	Air.....	127
6.3.2.2	Water.....	128
6.3.2.3	Sediment and Soil.....	128
6.4	LEVELS MONITORED OR ESTIMATED IN THE ENVIRONMENT.....	129
6.4.1	Air.....	129
6.4.2	Water.....	131
6.4.3	Sediment and Soil.....	133
6.4.4	Other Environmental Media.....	136
6.5	GENERAL POPULATION AND OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE.....	139
6.6	EXPOSURES OF CHILDREN.....	142
6.7	POPULATIONS WITH POTENTIALLY HIGH EXPOSURES.....	144
6.8	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE.....	145
6.8.1	Identification of Data Needs.....	145
6.8.2	Ongoing Studies.....	148
7.	ANALYTICAL METHODS.....	149
7.1	BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS.....	151
7.2	ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLES.....	153
7.3	ADEQUACY OF THE DATABASE.....	153
7.3.1	Identification of Data Needs.....	157
7.3.2	Ongoing Studies.....	157
8.	REGULATIONS, ADVISORIES, AND GUIDELINES.....	159
9.	REFERENCES.....	165
10.	GLOSSARY.....	201
APPENDICES		
A.	ATSDR MINIMAL RISK LEVELS AND WORKSHEETS.....	A-1
B.	USER'S GUIDE.....	B-1
C.	ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND SYMBOLS.....	C-1
D.	INDEX.....	D-1

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## LIST OF FIGURES

3-1. Levels of Significant Exposure to Vanadium and Compounds - Inhalation .....	34
3-2. Levels of Significant Exposure to Vanadium and Compounds - Oral.....	56
3-3. Conceptual Representation of a Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetic (PBPK) Model for a Hypothetical Chemical Substance .....	81
3-4. Existing Information on Health Effects of Vanadium and Compounds .....	91
6-1. Frequency of NPL Sites with Vanadium Contamination .....	116

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## LIST OF TABLES

2-1. Lung Effects Observed in Rats Exposed to Vanadium Pentoxide 6 Hours/day, 5 Days/week for 6 or 13 Days, 3 Months, or 2 Years .....	17
2-2. Hematological Effects in Rats Exposed to Ammonium Metavanadate for 4 Weeks .....	23
3-1. Levels of Significant Exposure to Vanadium and Compounds - Inhalation .....	28
3-2. Incidence of Lung Tumors in Rats and Mice Exposed to Vanadium Pentoxide for 2 Years .....	43
3-3. Levels of Significant Exposure to Vanadium and Compounds - Oral.....	45
3-4. Genotoxicity of Vanadium and Compounds <i>In Vitro</i> .....	67
3-5. Genotoxicity of Vanadium and Compounds <i>In Vivo</i> .....	70
3-6. Vanadium Elimination Half-Times in Various Organs in Rats Exposed to 8.2 mg Vanadium/kg/day for 1 Week.....	76
4-1. Chemical Identity of Vanadium and Compounds.....	102
4-2. Physical and Chemical Properties of Vanadium and Compounds .....	104
5-1. Facilities that Produce, Process, or Use Vanadium (Except When Contained in an Alloy).....	108
5-2. Facilities that Produce, Process, or Use Vanadium Compounds.....	110
5-3. Current U.S. Manufacturers of Vanadium and Selected Vanadium Compounds.....	112
6-1. Releases to the Environment from Facilities that Produce, Process, or Use Vanadium (Except When Contained in an Alloy) .....	119
6-2. Releases to the Environment from Facilities that Produce, Process, or Use Vanadium Compounds .....	121
6-3. Vanadium Levels in Food.....	137
6-4. Estimated Daily Vanadium Intake .....	140
7-1. Analytical Methods for Determining Vanadium in Biological Materials .....	152
7-2. Analytical Methods for Determining Vanadium in Environmental Samples.....	154
8-1. Regulations, Advisories, and Guidelines Applicable to Vanadium and Compounds.....	161