



MERCURY

June 2021

HSEQ Direct is a digital communication, registration and training platform with a focus on Health, Safety, the Environment and Quality.
Designed specifically for the workplace!

Associated IOGP Life-Saving Rules





WHAT IS IT?

Mercury is a liquid metal that evaporates easily and is toxic, odorless and harmful to your health and the environment. Maximum caution and care is required!

It can occur in production facilities or in products you work with. Ask your company for further clarification.





HAZARDS (1/2)

ACUTE

- vomiting
- fever with cold chills
- metallic taste
- muscle aches
- tremors
- headache
- salivation
- coughing
- diarrhea
- abdominal pain
- various paralysis symptoms



HAZARDS (2/2)

CHRONIC

- bronchitis
- pneumonitis
- acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)
- allergic skin disorders
- nephrotic syndrome
- impairment of the nervous system

Please note: the symptoms mentioned are general and may vary from one person or working condition to another. When in doubt, always consult a Health and Safety expert or an occupational physician.



PREVENTION (1/2)

PREVENTING POLLUTION

- use leak trays/decontamination-unit if present
- deposit (possible) Mercury contaminated clothing in accordance with your company's procedure



PREVENTION (2/2)

DURING THE WORK

- ensure good ventilation
- respect safety zones (red-white warning tape)
- ensure that mercury measurements are repeated throughout the work day
- correctly use the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) prescribed by your company

If you suspect Mercury contamination or see a Mercury leak, immediately leave the workplace and report it to your HSE Manager.



PROTECTION

Mercury vapors can only be detected with a Mercury Vapor Meter. The necessary Personal Protection Equipment depends on the result of the measurement. **Ask your company for further clarification and their specific procedures.**





IN CASE OF... (1/2)

SUSPECTED PRESENCE OF MERCURY

- leave the workplace immediately and report suspicion to your HSE Manager

INHALATION OF MERCURY VAPORS

- bring the affected person into the open for fresh air - if necessary carry out mechanical resuscitation (NO MOUTH TO MOUTH RESUSCITATION)

SKIN CONTACT

- remove contaminated clothing, wash the skin with lots of water and soap





IN CASE OF... (2/2)

EYE CONTACT

- flush with lots of water or eye fluid, remove contact lenses (if applicable)

INGESTION

- if conscious, rinse mouth with water, DO NOT induce vomiting

In all cases: immediately notify the person responsible for first aid in your company!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (1/2)

PERSONAL HYGIENE

Always wash your hands with lots of water and soap before:

- taking a break
- eating and drinking
- going to the toilet (and after)
- smoking
- leaving your workplace

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (2/2)

- 1 Use **leak trays** or **decontamination unit** (if present).
- 2 Repeat Mercury measurements **throughout the day**.
- 3 **Wash your hands frequently** with plenty of soap and water.
- 4 Dispose of contaminated clothing **as your company has prescribed**.
- 5 Use **the correct PPE** as your company has prescribed.

QUESTIONS? MORE INFORMATION? UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS?

Your HSE Manager is there to help answer any questions and ensure a safe working environment for all.

QUESTION 1

Where may Mercury occur?

.....

A. In the extraction of gas.

.....

B. In the parts of installations that are in direct contact with mercury.

.....

C. In the parts of installations that are 'suspected of mercury contamination'.

.....



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B. In the parts of installations that are in direct contact with mercury.

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QUESTION 2

What are the chronic symptoms and health risks of exposure to Mercury, or to Mercury contamination?

.....

A. Damage to kidneys, skin and possibly also to the nervous system and the brain.

.....

B. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

.....

C. Vomiting, headache, muscle aches and coughing.

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ANSWER 2

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B. Acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).

C. Vomiting, headache, muscle aches and coughing.

QUESTION 3

In order to prevent contamination with Mercury during work, a qualified person must (among other things):

A. Measure Mercury vapor before starting work.

B. Measure Mercury vapor repeatedly throughout the day.

C. Measure Mercury vapor once and report the outcome to the Supervisor.

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QUESTION 4

Which PPE must be used if a Mercury vapor measurement shows certain levels? (Ask your company about these levels)

A. Basic PPE kit for working with Mercury.

B. Basic PPE kit + additional PPE. Ask your company about their specific rules.

C. You are not permitted to work at all with these Mercury concentration levels.

ANSWER 4

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QUESTION 5

If a person has inhaled a high concentration of Mercury vapor, you must help the affected person as follows:

- A. Raise the alarm, avoid touching the affected person and stand-by until you are relieved by the medic.
- B. Take the affected person out into the open and perform mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.
- C. Take the affected person out into the open and perform mechanical resuscitation, if required.

ANSWER 5

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