



Chromium Exposure and Health

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Message from the Guest Editor

Chromium is a global environmental pollutant and a major public health concern. Hexavalent chromium [Cr(VI)] is an established human lung carcinogen, particularly after inhalation exposure, yet its carcinogenic mechanisms are poorly understood. Impacts on DNA repair, chromosome structure and number, cellular metabolism, inflammation, apoptosis, cell signaling, centrosome amplification, among others have all been implicated in its carcinogenicity along with epigenetic, mutagenic and aneugenic changes. Data have also emerged that implicate Cr(VI) as an important reproductive concern with impacts on reproductive success and possibly for offspring, with the potential for multigenerational toxicity. This reproductive impact is an important consideration for not only human populations, but also for wildlife, particularly endangered species exposed to the ubiquitous chemical. Data indicated wildlife are often heavily exposed to chromium, though the route, sources and valence of exposure are poorly understood. Thus, chromium is a complex, multifaceted chemical that requires a deeper and broader understanding to better access and manage its impacts and health consequences.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Addressing the environmental and public health challenges requires engagement and collaboration among clinicians and public health researchers. Discovery and advances in this research field play a critical role in providing a scientific basis for decision-making toward control and prevention of human diseases, especially the illnesses that are induced from environmental exposure to health hazards. *IJERPH* provides a forum for discussion of discoveries and knowledge in these multidisciplinary fields. Please consider publishing your research in this high quality, peer-reviewed, open access journal.

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