

Table 3-1 Levels of Significant Exposure to Cadmium - Inhalation

Key to Figure ^a	Species (Strain)	Exposure/Duration/Frequency (Route)	System	NOAEL (mg/m ³)	LOAEL		Reference Chemical Form	Comments
					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
ACUTE EXPOSURE								
Death								
1	Human	5 hr (occup)				8.63 M (5 male workers died after a 5 hour exposure)	Beton et al. 1966 CdO fume	
2	Rat (NS)	10-15 min				30 (LC50 at 7 days)	Barrett et al. 1947 CdO fume	
3	Rat (Fischer- 344)	6.2 hr/d 5 d/wk 2 wk				8.8 (100% mortality by day 6)	NTP 1995 CdO	
4	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	2 hr				112 (25/32 died within 1 week)	Rusch et al. 1986 CdO fume	
5	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	3 d 1 hr/d				61 M (17/18 died within 3 days)	Snider et al. 1973 CdCl ₂	
6	Mouse (B6C3F1)	6.2 hr/d 5 d/wk 2 wk				8.8 (100% mortality by day 7)	NTP 1995 CdO	
7	Rabbit (NS)	4 hr				28.4 (LC50 at 14 days)	Friberg 1950 Cd metal dust	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
Systemic								
8	Rat (Long- Evans)	1 hr	Resp				5 M (pulmonary edema, enzyme changes associated with type 2 cell hyperplasia)	Boudreau et al. 1989 CdCl ₂
9	Rat (Wistar)	3 hr	Resp		0.4 M (mild hypercellularity at the bronchoalveolar junction and in adjacent alveoli)		4.6 M (persistent focal interstitial thickening, increased collagen, general hypercellularity)	Buckley and Bassett 1987b CdO dust
			Bd Wt	0.4 M	4.6 M (15% decreased body weight)			
10	Rat (Sprague- Dawley)	1 hr	Resp				6.5 M (severe pneumonitis)	Bus et al. 1978 CdCl ₂
			Bd Wt		6.5 M (10.8% decreased body weight)			
11	Rat (Sprague- Dawley)	2 hr	Resp	0.45 M			4.5 M (moderate to severe pneumonitis, hemorrhage, edema)	Grose et al. 1987 CdCl ₂
			Bd Wt				4.5 M (20% decreased body weight)	

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12	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	2 hr	Resp		0.45 M (significant increased absolute and relative lung weight)	4.5 M (severe pneumonitis, hyperplasia of type 2 cells and fibroblasts)	Grose et al. 1987 CdO dust	
			Bd Wt	0.45 M				
13	Rat (Lewis)	1-6 wk 5 d/wk 3 hr/d	Resp			1.6 M (interstitial pneumonitis)	Hart 1986 CdO dust	
14	Rat (Wistar)	10 d 6 hr/d	Bd Wt	0.17 M			Klimisch 1993 CdCl ₂	No histopathological examination.
15	Rat (Wistar)	10 d 6 hr/d	Bd Wt	6.29 M			Klimisch 1993 CdS	No histopathological examination.
16	Rat (Fischer- 344)	6.2 hr/d 5 d/wk 2 wk	Resp		0.88 F (degeneration of nasal olfactory epithelium)	8.8 (marked necrosis of alveolar ducts)	NTP 1995 CdO	
				0.088 ^b (alveolar histiocytic infiltrate and focal inflammation in alveolar septa)				
			Hepatic	2.6				
	Renal	2.6						

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
17	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	2 hr	Resp				6 M (alveolar type 1 cell damage and necrosis)	Palmer et al. 1986 CdCl ₂
			Endocr		6 M			
			Bd Wt		6 M			
18	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	2 hr	Gastro		132	(erosions of the stomach)		Rusch et al. 1986 CdCO ₃
19	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	5, 10, or 15 d 1 hr/d	Resp				6.1 M (emphysema)	Snider et al. 1973 CdCl ₂
20	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	3 d 1 hr/d	Resp				61 M (pulmonary hemorrhage)	Snider et al. 1973 CdCl ₂
21	Mouse (B6C3F1)	6.2 hr/d 5 d/wk 2 wk	Resp		0.88	(fibrosis and inflammation around the alveolar ducts, necrosis of the alveolar duct epithelium)		NTP 1995 CdO
					0.088	(histiocytic infiltrates)		
			Hepatic		2.6			
	Renal		2.6					

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
22	Hamster (Golden Syrian)	30 min	Resp		1.1 (moderate increase in PMN, 2-fold increase in acid phosphatase)	10.1 (severe pneumonitis)	Henderson et al. 1979 CdCl ₂	
23	Rabbit (New Zealand)	2 hr	Resp		4.5 M (mild, multifocal interstitial pneumonitis)		Grose et al. 1987 CdCl ₂	
24	Rabbit (New Zealand)	2 hr	Resp		0.45 M (increase in alveolar macrophages)	4.5 M (multifocal interstitial pneumonitis)	Grose et al. 1987 CdO dust	
			Bd Wt		0.45 M (unspecified decrease in body weight)			
Immuno/ Lymphoret								
25	Mouse (Swiss)	2 hr		0.11 F	0.19 F (decreased humoral immune response)		Graham et al. 1978 CdCl ₂	
26	Mouse (C57Bl/6)	60 min			0.88 F (reduction in spleen lymphocyte viability [35%], numbers, and humoral response (75%))		Krzystyniak et al. 1987 CdCl ₂	
INTERMEDIATE EXPOSURE								
Death								
27	Rat (Wistar)	20 wk 5 d/wk 5 hr/d				1 F (13/13 died by week 20)	Baranski and Sitarek 1987 CdO dusts	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)			
28	Rat (Fischer 344)	62 d 5 d/wk 6 hr/d					2.13 M (100% mortality by day 45)	Kutzman et al. 1986 CdCl ₂	
29	Rat (Wistar)	6 mo 40 hr/wk					0.09 (> 75% mortality by 11-12 months postexposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdCl ₂	
30	Rat (Wistar)	6 mo 40 hr/wk					0.27 (> 75% mortality by 21-23 months postexposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdS	
31	Rat (Wistar)	63d 24 hr/d					0.105 F (5/12 died)	Prigge 1978a CdO dust	
Systemic									
32	Rat (Wistar)	20 wk 5 d/wk 5 hr/d	Bd Wt	0.16 F			1 F (30-50% decreased body weight gain)	Baranski and Sitarek 1987 CdO dusts	
33	Rat (Wistar)	30 d 7 d/wk 22 hr/d	Resp		0.105 M (increased total bronchoalveolar macrophage numbers, leukocytes, and macrophage cytotoxicity)			Glaser et al. 1986 CdCl ₂	No histopathology examination.
			Hemato		0.105 M (45% increase in WBC)				

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
34	Rat (Wistar)	30 d 7 d/wk 22 hr/d	Resp		0.098 M (increased total bronchoalveolar macrophage numbers, leukocytes, and macrophage cytotoxicity)		Glaser et al. 1986 CdO dust	No histopathology examination.
			Hemato		0.098 M (45% increase in WBC)			
35	Rat (Wistar)	30 d 7 d/wk 22 hr/d	Resp		1.034 M (increased total bronchoalveolar macrophage numbers, leukocytes, and macrophage cytotoxicity)		Glaser et al. 1986 CdS	No histopathological examination.
			Hemato	1.034 M				
			Bd Wt	1.034 M				
36	Rat (Fischer 344)	62 d 5 d/wk 6 hr/d	Resp		1.06 M (marked fibrosis with significant increase in collagen)		Kutzman et al. 1986 CdCl ₂	
			Bd Wt	0.33	1.06	(14% decreased body weight)		

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
37	Rat (Fischer- 344)	6.33 hr/d 5 d/wk 13 wk	Resp	0.022 F	0.022 F	0.88	NTP 1995 CdO	
					(epithelial degeneration in the larynx)	(marked inflammation and moderate fibrosis in interstitium around alveolar ducts and terminal bronchioles)		
				0.22	(Inflammation of nasal respiratory epithelium)			
			Cardio	0.88				
			Gastro	0.88				
			Hemato	0.88				
			Hepatic	0.88				
Renal	0.88							
Bd Wt	0.88							
38	Rat (Fischer 344)	4 wks 5 d/wk 6 hr/d	Resp	0.1 M			Oberdorster et al. 1994 CdCl ₂	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
39	Rat (Wistar)	63 or 90 d 24 hr/d	Resp		0.025 F (proliferations, histiocytic cell granulomas)		Prigge 1978a CdO dust	
			Hemato		0.052 F (increased hemoglobin and hematocrit)			
			Hepatic	0.105 F				
			Renal	0.105 F				
			Bd Wt		0.105 F (11% decrease in body weight)			
		Metab		0.105 F (decreased blood pH and pO ₂ , increased pCO ₂)				
40	Rat (Wistar)	21 d Gd 1-21 24 hr/d	Resp		0.204 F (77% increased lung relative weight)		Prigge 1978b CdCl ₂	
			Hemato		0.204 F (8% increased hemoglobin, 5% increased hematocrit)			
			Hepatic	0.581 F				
			Renal	0.581 F				
			Bd Wt	0.394 F				

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
41	Rat (Wistar)	21 d Gd 1-21 24 hr/d	Resp		0.204 F (70% increased lung relative weight)		Prigge 1978b CdCl ₂	
			Hemato		0.581 F (increased hemoglobin [12%], hematocrit [12%], total biliurin [2-fold])			
			Hepatic	0.581 F				
			Renal	0.581 F				
			Bd Wt		0.394 F (12% decreased maternal weight gain)			
42	Mouse (B6C3F1)	6.33 hr/d 5 d/wk 13 wk	Resp		0.088 M (Degeneration of nasal olfactory epithelium)		NTP 1995 CdO	
					0.022 (alveolar histiocytic infiltrates and squamous metaplasia of the larynx)			
			Cardio	0.88				
			Gastro	0.88				
			Hepatic	0.88				
			Renal	0.88				
			Bd Wt	0.88				

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
43	Mouse (BALB/c)	4 wks 5 d/wk 6 hr/d	Resp		0.1 M (increased neutrophils, LDH and beta-glucuronidase; pulmonary inflammation)		Oberdorster et al. 1994 CdCl ₂	
44	Rabbit (NS)	9 mo 21 d/mo 3 hr/d	Resp			4 (chronic pneumonia, emphysema)	Friberg 1950 Cd metal dust	
			Hemato		4 (eosinophilia, lower hemoglobin)			
			Renal			4 (proteinuria)		
45	Rabbit (NS)	7 mo 23 d/mo 3 hr/d	Resp			5.6 (emphysema)	Friberg 1950 Cd metal dust	
			Renal			5.6 (proteinuria in 6/10 surviving to the end of exposure)		
46	Rabbit (NS)	4-6 wk 5 d/wk 6 hr/d	Resp			0.4 M (lung interstitial inflammation, type 2 cell hyperplasia)	Johansson et al. 1984 CdCl ₂	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
Reproductive								
47	Rat (Wistar)	5 hr/d 5 d/wk 5 mo prematuring, mating, Gd 1-20		0.16 F			Baranski 1984 CdO	
48	Rat (Wistar)	20 wk 5 d/wk 5 hr/d			1 F (increased duration of estrous cycle)		Baranski and Sitarek 1987 CdO dusts	
49	Rat (Fischer 344)	62 d 5 d/wk 6 hr/d		1.06 M (t)			Kutzman et al. 1986 CdCl ₂	
50	Rat (Fischer- 344)	6.33 hr/d 5 d/wk 13 wk		0.22 M 0.22 F	0.88 M (decreased spermatid counts) 0.88 F (increased estrous cycle length)		NTP 1995 CdO	
Developmental								
51	Rat (Wistar)	5 hr/d 5 d/wk 5 mo prematuring, mating, Gd 1-20			0.02 F (altered performance on neurobehavioral tests)		Baranski 1984 CdO	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)			
52	Rat (Wistar)	4-5 mo 5 d/wk 5 hr/d			0.02	(altered performance on neurobehavioral tests)	0.16	(decreased pup viability)	Baranski 1985 CdO dusts
53	Rat (Sprague-Dawley)	6.27 hr/d 7 d/wk Gd 4-19		0.4 F	1.7 F	(decreased fetal body weight and reduced ossification)			NTP 1995 CdO
54	Rat (Wistar)	21 d Gd 1-21 24 hr/d			0.581	(9% decreased fetal body weight, 12% increase in fetal alkaline phosphatase)			Prigge 1978b CdCl ₂
55	Mouse (Swiss)	6.27 hr/d 7 d/wk Gd 4-17		0.04 F	0.4 F	(decreased fetal body weight)			NTP 1995 CdO
Cancer									
56	Rat (Wistar)	6 mo 40 hr/wk					0.09	(CEL: lung bronchioalveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas, and squamous cell carcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdCl ₂
CHRONIC EXPOSURE									
Death									
57	Human	1-34 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)					6.8 M	(2 fatalities from 14 years or 25 years of exposure to Cd dust)	Friberg 1950 Cd dust

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
58	Rat (Wistar)	413-455 d 7 d/wk 22 hr/d					0.095 M (6/20 died)	Oldiges and Glaser 1986 CdSO ₄
59	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d					0.03 M (>75% mortality by 12 months postexposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdCl ₂
60	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d					0.09 (more than 25% died after 7 months [M] and 11 months [F] of exposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdO dust
61	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d					0.09 (>75% mortality after 12 months postexposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdS
62	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d					0.09 M (>25% mortality by 14 months of exposure) 0.09 F (>75% by 11 months postexposure)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdSO ₄
63	Human		Renal	0.0001 ^C F				Buchet et al. 1990; Jarup et al. 2000; Suwazono et al. 2006 form not specified

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
64	Human	4-24 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Resp	0.025			Edling et al. 1986 CdO fume	
65	Human	30 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Renal	0.033		0.067 (pronounced proteinuria)	Elinder et al. 1985b CdO fume	
66	Human	30 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Renal	0.0153 M		0.0379 M (100% incidence of proteinuria in the cohort exposed to this level for 21 years)	Falck et al. 1983 CdO fume	
67	Human	30 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Renal	0.017		0.023 (9.2% incidence of proteinuria)	Jarup et al. 1988 CdO dust	
68	Human	30 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Renal	0.0367 M			Mason et al. 1988 form not specified	
69	Human	30 yr 5 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)	Renal	0.027			Thun et al. 1989 CdO dust or fume	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
70	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 23 hr/d	Resp			0.0134 M (adenomatous hyperplasia in the bronchoalveolar area)	Takenaka et al. 1983 CdCl ₂	
			Bd Wt	0.0508 M				
Cancer								
71	Human	6 mo - 43 yr 7 d/wk 8 hr/d (occup)				0.1 M (CEL: 50-111 lung cancer deaths per 1000 workers; 45 year exposure)	Stayner et al. 1992 CdO dust or fumes	
72	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d				0.03 (CEL: lung bronchioalveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas, and squamous cell carcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdCl ₂	
73	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d				0.03 (CEL: lung bronchioalveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas, and squamous cell carcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdO dust	

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
74	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d				0.03	(CEL: lung bronchioalveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdO fume
75	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d				0.09	(CEL: lung bronchioalveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas, and squamous cell carcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdS
76	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 22 hr/d				0.09	(CEL: lung bronchio-alveolar adenomas, adenocarcinomas, squamous cell carcinomas)	Oldiges et al. 1989 CdSO ₄

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					Less Serious (mg/m ³)	Serious (mg/m ³)		
77	Rat (Wistar)	18 mo 7 d/wk 23 hr/d				0.0134 M (CEL: lung epidermoid carcinomas, adenocarcinomas, and mucoepidermoid carcinomas)	Takenaka et al. 1983 CdCl ₂	

a The number corresponds to entries in Figure 3-1.

b Used to derive an acute-duration inhalation minimal risk level (MRL) of 0.00003 mg Cd/m³ (0.03 ug Cd/m³); concentration was adjusted for intermittent exposure (6.2 hours/day, 5 days/week) and divided by an uncertainty factor of 300 (10 for use of a LOAEL, 3 for extrapolation from animals to humans with dosimetric adjustment, and 10 for human variability).

c The chronic-duration inhalation MRL of 0.00001 mg Cd/m³ (0.01 ug Cd/m³) was calculated from the 95% lower confidence limit of the urinary cadmium level associated with a 10% increased risk of low molecular weight proteinuria (0.5 ug/g creatinine) estimated from a meta-analysis of select environmental exposure studies. An air concentration (together with an assumed dietary intake of 0.3 ug Cd/kg/day) which would result in this urinary cadmium concentration was estimated using the ICRP human respiratory tract model and a modification of the Nordberg-Kjellström pharmacokinetic model (see Appendix A for details on the meta-analysis and extrapolation to air concentration). This air concentration of 0.1 ug Cd/m³ was divided by an uncertainty factor of 3 for human variability and a modifying factor of 3.

Bd Wt = body weight; Cardio = cardiovascular; CEL = cancer effect level; d = day(s); Endocr = endocrine; F = Female; Gastro = gastrointestinal; Gd = gestational day; Hemato = hematological; hr = hour(s); Immuno/Lymphoret = immunological/lymphoreticular; LC50 = lethal concentration, 50% kill; LDH = lactate dehydrogenase; LOAEL = lowest-observed-adverse-effect level; M = male; min = minute(s); Metab = metabolic; mo = month(s); NOAEL = no-observed-adverse-effect level; NS = not specified; occup = occupational; PMN = polymorphonuclear leukocyte; Resp = respiratory; WBC = white blood cells; wk = week(s); yr = year(s)