

Lead
Pb
[CAS No. 7439-92-1]
Reproductive toxicant: Group 1

Many epidemiology studies have shown a clear association between occupational exposure to lead and adverse development and fertility outcomes. The National Toxicology Program in the United States (NTP) concluded in their review that there is sufficient evidence indicating that blood Pb levels $<5 \mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ are associated with adverse effects on pregnancy in women (reduced fetal growth or lowered birth weight) and that blood Pb levels $\geq 15 \mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ are associated with adverse effects on sperm/semens in men (decreased sperm counts and/or concentration)¹⁻⁷. There are many other epidemiological studies reporting such evidence that lead has adverse effects on pregnancy (development of fetuses) and fertility in female and male workers⁸⁻¹². Based on this evidence, lead is classified as a Group 1 reproductive toxicant.

References

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