

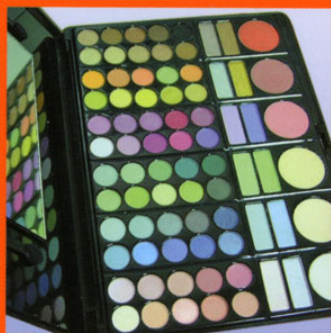
WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER



IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans

VOLUME 88

**Formaldehyde, 2-Butoxyethanol
and 1-*tert*-Butoxypropan-2-ol**



LYON, FRANCE
2006

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This publication represents the views and expert opinions
of an IARC Working Group on the
Evaluation of Carcinogenic Risks to Humans,
which met in Lyon,

2–9 June 2004

2006

IARC MONOGRAPHS

In 1969, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) initiated a programme on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of chemicals to humans involving the production of critically evaluated monographs on individual chemicals. The programme was subsequently expanded to include evaluations of carcinogenic risks associated with exposures to complex mixtures, life-style factors and biological and physical agents, as well as those in specific occupations.

The objective of the programme is to elaborate and publish in the form of monographs critical reviews of data on carcinogenicity for agents to which humans are known to be exposed and on specific exposure situations; to evaluate these data in terms of human risk with the help of international working groups of experts in chemical carcinogenesis and related fields; and to indicate where additional research efforts are needed.

The lists of IARC evaluations are regularly updated and are available on Internet: <http://monographs.iarc.fr/>

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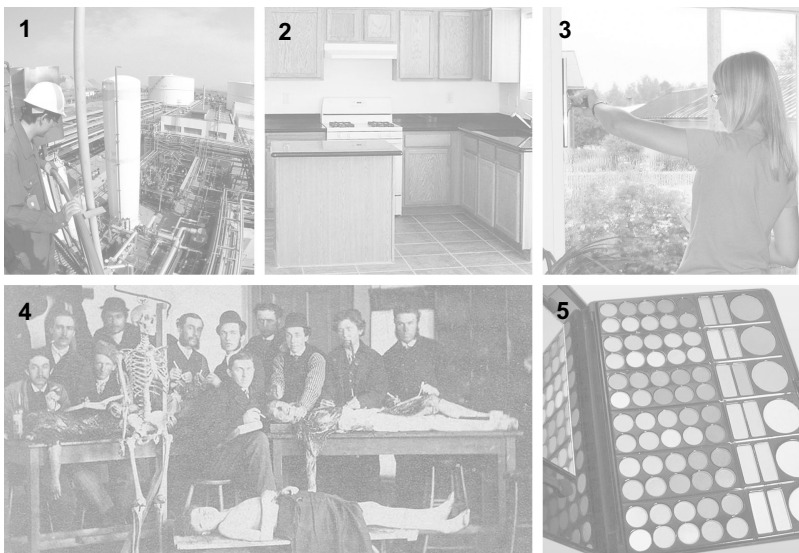
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- 1 Formaldehyde and 2-butoxyethanol are intermediates used in the chemical industry.
- 2 Formaldehyde-based resins are used in the manufacture of plywood, particle-board, furniture, cabinets and other composite wood products.
- 3 The general population can be exposed to 2-butoxyethanol and 1-*tert*-butoxypropan-2-ol by inhalation or skin contact with cleaning products containing these glycol ethers.
- 4 Embalmers, pathologists and anatomists are exposed to formaldehyde, a preservative and embalming agent.
- 5 Formaldehyde is also present as an antimicrobial agent in many cosmetic products.