

Compound	Acetaldehyde		Data collection sheet (1)	
N° CAS 75-07-0	EU-Classification: CLP , harmonised classification: Eye Irrit. 2, H319, STOT SE 3, H335, Muta. 2, H341, Carc. 1B, H350			
1 ppm = 1.81 mg/m³ at 23 °C				
Organisation name	EU LCI	OEHTA	US EPA	German AIR
Risk value name	EU LCI	Inhalation REL	RfC	RW I
Risk value (µg/m³)	1200	140	9	100
Reference period	Chronic	Chronic	Chronic	Chronic
Year	2012	2008	1991	2013
Key study	Appelman et al., 1982	Appelman et al., 1982; 1986; supported by Saldiva et al., 1985; Woutersen et al., 1986, 1984; Woutersen and Feron, 1987	Appelman et al., 1986	Dorman et al., 2008
Study type	Subacute	Subacute	Subacute	Subchronic
Species	Rat	Rat	Wistar rat	F344 rats
Duration of exposure in key study	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 4 w	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 4 w	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 4 w	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 13 w
Critical effect	Nasal irritation	Respiratory system: degenerative, inflammatory and hyperplasic changes of the nasal mucosa in animals	Degeneration of olfactory epithelium	Degeneration of olfactory epithelium
Critical dose value	NOAEC: 275 mg/m³	NOAEC: 275 mg/m³	NOAEC: 275 mg/m³	LOAEC: 150 mg/m³
Adjusted critical dose	49 mg/m³	BMC ₀₅ : 178 mg/m³ HEC: 242 mg/m³ HEC adjusted: 43.2 mg/m³	Temporal + HC*: 8.7 mg/m³	48 mg/m³
Single assessment factors	UF _s 2 x UF _H 10 x UF _e 2	UF _A √10 x UF _S √10x UF _H (10 x √10) = 300	UF _s 10 x UF _A 10 x UF _H 10 = 1000	UF _L 10 x UF _H 10 x 2 UF _A 1 = 400
Other effects				
Remarks				RW (Indoor guide value) I set as 1/10 of RW II
AgBB = Ausschuss zur gesundheitlichen Bewertung von Bauprodukten UF _L Used LOAEL; UF _H Intraspecies variability; UF _A interspecies variability; UF _S Used subchronic/subchronic study UF _D dose-response at low dose UF _e severity of effect.				

*: The NOAEL(HEC) was calculated for a gas: respiratory effect in the extra thoracic region.

MVa = 0.23 m³/day, MVh = 20 m³/day, Sa(ET) = 11.6 sq. cm, Sh(ET) = 177 sq. cm.

RGDR(ET) = (MVa/Sa) / (MVh/Sh) = 0.18

NOAEL(HEC) = NOAEL(ADJ) x RGDR = 8.7 mg/m³

Compound	Acetaldehyde	Data collection sheet (2)
N° CAS 75-07-0	EU-Classification:	
1 ppm = 1.81 mg/m ³ at 23 °C	CLP , harmonised classification: Eye Irrit. 2, H319, STOT SE 3, H335, Muta. 2, H341, Carc. 1B, H350	
Organisation name	Health Canada	ANSES
Risk value name	RIAQG	VGAI
Risk value (µg/m ³)	280	160
Reference period	Chronic	1 a
Risk value (µg/m ³) Short term	1420 (1 h)	3000 (1 h)
Year	2017	2014
Key study	Dorman et al. (2008)	Dorman et al. (2008)
Study type	Subchronic (90 d)	Subchronic (90 d)
Species	F344 rats	F344 rats
Duration of exposure in key study	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 13 w	Inhalation exposure 6 h/d, 5 d/w, 13 w
Critical effect	Degeneration of olfactory epithelium	Degeneration of olfactory epithelium
Critical dose value	NOAEC: 89 mg/m ³	NOAEC: 90 mg/m ³
Adjusted critical dose	HEC: 120 mg/m ³	HEC: 12 mg/m ³ (adjustment to account for dosimetric differences between animal species and humans) No adjustment for continuous exposure (considering that the toxicity of sensory irritants such as acetaldehyde would be more dependent on concentration than on duration of exposure)
Single assessment factors	UF _H 10 x UF _A 2.5 x UF _S 2 x UF _D 3 = 75	UF _H 10 x UF _A 2.5 x UF _S 3 = 75
Other effects		
Remarks	Short-term value based on acute inhalation study in humans (Prieto et al., 2000)	Short-term value based on acute inhalation study in humans (Prieto et al., 2000)
AgBB = Ausschuss zur gesundheitlichen Bewertung von Bauprodukten UFL Used LOAEL; UF _H Intraspecies variability; UF _A interspecies variability; UF _S Used subchronic study UF _D dose-response at low dose.		

Compound	Acetaldehyde C2H4O		Factsheet
Parameter	Note	Comments	Value / descriptor
EU-LCI value and status			
EU-LCI value	1	[µg/m ³]	300
EU-LCI status	2	Draft/Final	Final
EU-LCI year of issue	3	Year when EU-LCI value has been issued	2020
General information			
CLP-Index No.	4	INDEX	605-003-00-6
EC-No.	5	EINECS	200-836-8
CAS-No.	6	Chemical Abstract Service number	75-07-0
Harmonised CLP classification	7	Human health risk related classification	Eye Irrit 2, H319, Muta. 2, H341, Carc. 1B, H350, STOT SE 3, H335
Molar mass and conversion factor	8	[g/mol] and [ppm – mg/m ³]	44.05 (1 ppm = 1.81 mg/m ³)
Key data / database			
Key study, authors, year	9	Critical study with lowest relevant effect level	Dorman et al. (2008)
Read across compound	10	Where applicable	-
Species	11	Rat, human, etc.	Rat, F344 (12 male/dose)
Route / type of study	12	Inhalation, oral feed, etc.	Inhalation
Study length	13	Days, subchronic, chronic, etc.	3 months (subchronic)
Exposure duration	14	h/d, d/w	6 h/d, 5 d/week
Critical endpoint	15	Effect (s), site of	Lesions of nasal epithelia
Point of departure (POD)	16	LOAEC, NOAEC, BMD, etc.	NOAEC
POD value	17	[mg/m ³] or ppm or [mg/kg _{BW} ×d]	90 mg/m ³
Assessment factors (AF)			
Adjustment for exposure duration	19	Study exposure h/d, d/w	5.6
Study length	20	sc→c	2
Route-to-route extrapolation factor	21	-	1
Dose-response	22a	Reliability of dose-response, LOAEL to NOAEL	1
	22b	Severity of effect (R8 6d)	1
<u>Interspecies</u> differences	23a	Allometric Metabolic rate (R8-3)	1
	23b	Kinetic + dynamic	2.5
<u>Intraspecies</u> differences	24	Kinetic + dynamic General population	10
AF (sensitive population)	25		1
Other adjustment factors	26		1
Quality of database			
Result			
Summary of assessment factors	27	Total Assessment Factor	280
POD/TAF	28	Calculated value [µg/m ³ and ppb]	321 µg/m ³ and 176.8 ppb
Molar adjustment factor	29		

Rounded value	30	[$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$]	300
Additional comments	31		
Rationale section	32		

- Rationale for critical effects**

Acetaldehyde is found ubiquitously in nature, including foodstuffs and in the human body, mainly as an intermediate in ethanol oxidation, but also from endogenous sources by regular intermediary metabolic reactions. The endogenous acetaldehyde concentration in whole blood is estimated as about $2.2 \pm 1.1 \mu\text{mol/l}$ ($96.9 \pm 48.5 \mu\text{g/l}$) (DFG, 2008). Acetaldehyde is excreted from the human body in small amounts with exhaled breath. A concentration of about $40 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ (22 ppb) can be regarded as a mean physiological level of acetaldehyde (Lourenco and Turner, 2014).

Sensory irritation following acetaldehyde inhalation has been observed in controlled human studies. Eye irritation was reported after 15 min of exposure to $\geq 91 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ acetaldehyde (Silverman et al., 1946). In a well-conducted controlled study with volunteers 50 ppm acetaldehyde ($91 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$) caused no signs of sensory irritation and no increase in inflammation or in the concentration of inflammation indicators during or after a 4 h exposure (Muttray et al., 2009).

No human data relevant for the evaluation of repeated inhalation exposure effects of acetaldehyde is available. In animal inhalation studies, the upper respiratory tract, especially the nasal epithelia, is the target organ of the toxic and carcinogenic effects of acetaldehyde. Systemic (non-specific) effects (reduced body weight gain, loss of weight, mortality) were only observed after exposure to high concentrations of acetaldehyde which caused local tissue lesions in the respiratory tract.

In a subchronic inhalation toxicity study with rats a NOAEC of $90 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ (50 ppm) was obtained for effects on the olfactory nasal epithelium which is the target tissue of the toxic effects of acetaldehyde upon inhalation. Acetaldehyde caused degeneration of the olfactory nasal epithelium at $270 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ (150 ppm) (Dorman et al., 2008).

Chronic inhalation exposure to acetaldehyde at much higher concentrations ($\geq 1350 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$) led to local cytotoxicity and to the development of tumours in the nasal epithelia of rats (and, with weaker evidence, in the respiratory epithelium of nose and larynx in hamsters). The olfactory nasal epithelium was more sensitive than the respiratory nasal epithelium. Chronic inhalation studies at lower exposure concentrations are not available.
- Rationale for starting point**

The results of the subchronic inhalation toxicity study with rats (Dorman et al., 2008) are the most relevant for the derivation of an EU-LCI value for acetaldehyde. In this study a NOAEC of $90 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ (50 ppm) was obtained for effects on the olfactory nasal epithelium. Acetaldehyde caused degeneration of the olfactory nasal epithelium at $270 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$ (LOAEC). The study was conducted in male animals. However, no relevant sex-specific differences are to be expected for the observed cytotoxic non-specific lesions and no additional factor is considered necessary to account for missing data for females.

The critical effect at the LOAEC was observed already after 4 exposures. The effect, if any, only very slightly increased in severity and incidence with further increasing exposure time. A similar time dependency was noted at $910 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$. A more pronounced increase in the severity of the lesions over time occurred at $2730 \text{ mg}/\text{m}^3$. Taking into account the observation that these lesions are not reversible after cessation of exposure (Woutersen and Feron, 1987) and that chronic inhalation of high, cytotoxic concentrations of acetaldehyde lead to the development of tumours in the nasal epithelia of rats, it is concluded that a time extrapolation factor of 3 is appropriate to avoid cytotoxic effects in the target tissue during chronic exposure.

In case of the structural analogue (but much more potent) formaldehyde, data from animal studies provide strong evidence that the local tissue damage in the epithelia of the respiratory tract depend on the concentration level during exposure and less on the total dose. A similar reaction to acetaldehyde can be assumed. However the data base for acetaldehyde is less extensive and does not allow firm conclusions. Therefore the experimental NOAEC is adjusted for continuous exposure.

The standard interspecies factor of 2.5 is retained in accordance with the ECA report (EC, 2013).

Acetaldehyde reacts directly with organic compounds without metabolic activation, hence enzyme polymorphism is not considered to play a significant role in this step. However the oxidation (and thus inactivation) of acetaldehyde is catalysed by enzymes, some of them expressing interindividual differences in activity. Especially, the aldehyde dehydrogenase ALDH2 is a polymorphic enzyme with a nearly inactive variant which is found in parts of the human population, especially in Asians. The role of this polymorphism is widely discussed within the scope of the carcinogenicity of ethanol and the role of its metabolite acetaldehyde (Mizumoto et al., 2017), but not well studied in case of acetaldehyde exposure itself. According to the PBPK model of Teeguarden et al. (2008), this polymorphism does not affect the local dose of acetaldehyde at the target tissue. On the other hand animal experiments with knockout mice deficient in ALDH2 (Oyama et al., 2007; Oyama et al., 2010) showed, especially at the higher concentration, more pronounced lesions in knockout than in wild-type mice in the nasal epithelium. The effects and the differences between wild-type and knockout-mice were less pronounced at the lower concentration. Overall the differences in these studies were within a range of 10.

In conclusion, the intraspecies factor of 10 is kept to allow for the interindividual variability within the human population.

- **Rationale for assessment factors**

The following factors are used:

- ▶ Adjustment for continuous exposure (6 h/d, 5 d/week): 5.6
- ▶ Adjusted study length factor (subchronic to chronic exposure): 2
- ▶ Interspecies extrapolation: 2.5
- ▶ Intraspecies extrapolation (interindividual variability, general population): 10

Total assessment factor: 280. This leads to a concentration of $90 \text{ mg/m}^3 : 280 = 0.321 \text{ mg/m}^3$.

A EU-LCI value (rounded) for acetaldehyde of $300 \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$ is proposed.

The German MAK commission calculated that under steady-state conditions the lowest mean endogenous aldehyde concentration of $2.2 \pm 1.1 \text{ }\mu\text{mol/l}$ in equilibrium corresponds to an endogenous acetaldehyde formation of about $5.6 \text{ }\mu\text{mol acetaldehyde/min}$ (0.25 mg/min). It was further estimated that the additional acetaldehyde dose from an inhalation concentration of 10 ppm (18 mg/m^3) would lead to an additional absorbed dose of acetaldehyde of $4.7 \text{ }\mu\text{mol/min}$ (0.21 mg/min). This rate is within the range of the endogenously produced acetaldehyde of 0.25 mg/min (DFG, 2008). Extrapolating linearly to a continuous inhalation concentration of $300 \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$ would lead to a rate of about 0.0035 mg/min . In conclusion, an acetaldehyde exposure at $300 \text{ }\mu\text{g/m}^3$, i.e. the concentration of the proposed EU-LCI, does not alter the systemic body burden of acetaldehyde and no systemic (or developmental) toxic effects are to be expected at this concentration of acetaldehyde.

Acetaldehyde is reported to have a fruity, but, especially at higher concentrations, pungent odour. An odour threshold of 2.7 µg/m³ has been reported by Nagata (2003). Thus, odour perception is possible at the EU-LCI-value.

References

ANSES (2014) Proposition de valeurs guides de qualité d'air intérieur. L'acétaldéhyde. French Agency for Food EaOHS, Maisons-Alfort, France. <https://www.anses.fr/fr/system/files/AIR2013sa0076Ra.pdf> (last accessed 1.03.2021)

DFG (2008) Acetaldehyde. Gesundheitsschädliche Arbeitsstoffe. Toxikologisch-arbeitsmedizinische Begründungen von MAK-Werten, 44. Lieferung. Greim H (eds). Wiley-VCH. Weinheim, Germany. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/3527600418.mb7507e4413> (english version, last accessed 1.03.2021))

Dorman DC, Struve MF, Wong BA, et al. (2008) Derivation of an inhalation reference concentration based upon olfactory neuronal loss in male rats following subchronic acetaldehyde inhalation. *Inhal Toxicol* 20:245-256

EC, European Commission (2013) Harmonisation framework for health based evaluation of indoor emissions from construction products in the European Union using the EU-LCI concept. Report No 29. EUR 26168 EN. Joint Research Centre, Institute for Health and Consumer Protection, Chemical Assessment and Testing Unit. <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d3d78842-bc95-4984-a2fe-2317731324bd> (last accessed on 1.03.2021)

German AIR (2013) Richtwerte für Acetaldehyd in der Innenraumluft. *Bundesgesundheitsblatt* 56:1434-1447

Health Canada (2017) Residential indoor air quality guideline: acetaldehyde. Health Mo. Ottawa, Canada. <http://publications.gc.ca/site/eng/9.835076/publication.html>. (last accessed 1.03.2021)

Lourenco C, Turner C (2014) Breath analysis in disease diagnosis: methodological considerations and applications. *Metabolites* 4:465-498

Mizumoto A, Ohashi S, Hirohashi K, Amanuma Y, Matsuda T, Muto M (2017) Molecular Mechanisms of Acetaldehyde-Mediated Carcinogenesis in Squamous Epithelium. *Int J Mol Sci* 18

Muttray A, Gosepath J, Brieger J, et al. (2009) No acute effects of an exposure to 50 ppm acetaldehyde on the upper airways. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health* 82:481-488

Nagata Y (2003) Measurement of odor threshold by triangle odor bag method. Japaneses Ministry of the Environment. http://www.env.go.jp/en/air/odor/measure/02_3_2.pdf. (last accessed 1.03.2021)

OEHHA (2008b) TSD for Noncancer RELs. Appendix D. Individual Acute, 8-Hour, and Chronic Reference Exposure Level Summaries. Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) CEPA, State of California.

Oyama T, Isse T, Ogawa M, Muto M, Uchiyama I, Kawamoto T (2007) Susceptibility to inhalation toxicity of acetaldehyde in Aldh2 knockout mice. *Front Biosci* 12:1927-1934

Oyama T, Nagayoshi H, Matsuda T, et al. (2010) Effects of acetaldehyde inhalation in mitochondrial aldehyde dehydrogenase deficient mice (Aldh2^{-/-}). *Front Biosci (Elite Ed)* 2:1344-1354

Silverman L, Schulte HF, First MW (1946) Further studies on sensory response to certain industrial solvent vapors. *J Ind Hyg Toxicol* 28:262-266

Teeguarden JG, Bogdanffy MS, Covington TR, Tan C, Jarabek AM (2008) A PBPK model for evaluating the impact of aldehyde dehydrogenase polymorphisms on comparative rat and human nasal tissue acetaldehyde dosimetry. *Inhal Toxicol* 20:375-390

U.S. EPA (1991) IRIS Substance file - Acetaldehyde, CASRN 75-07-0. Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) Washington, D.C., 1991

Woutersen RA, Feron VJ (1987) Inhalation toxicity of acetaldehyde in rats. IV. Progression and regression of nasal lesions after discontinuation of exposure. *Toxicology* 47:295-305