

National Standard of the People's Republic of China

UDC 613.632

GB 5044-85

**Classification of Health Hazard Levels from Occupational
Exposure to Toxic Substances**

(职业性接触毒物危害程度分级)

Approved by NBAS on 1985-04-02

Implemented as of 1985-12-01

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This standard applies to classification of health hazard levels from occupational exposure to toxic substances.

1. Basic Definition

Toxic substances occupationally exposed to shall mean those that exist in forms of raw materials, finished products, semi-finished products, intermediates, by-products of reaction and foreign matters and that operators may be exposed to in production and that may enter into human body through the respiratory tract, skin or mouth during operation and thus bring about hazard to health.

2. Principles of Classification

2.1 Classification of health hazard levels from occupational exposure to toxic substances is performed by following the grading criterion based on the six indices of acute toxicity, pathogenic conditions of acute poisoning, pathogenic conditions of chronic poisoning, consequences of chronic poisoning, carcinogenicity and max. allowed concentration.

2.2 The health hazard levels shall be determined on the basis of comprehensive analysis, all-round weighing of the above-stated six indices and the grading results of the majority of them. As for some special toxic substances, classification may be conducted in accordance with the level of major health hazard like acuteness, chronicity or carcinogenic character.

3. Classification Basis

3.1 Acute toxicity

Acute toxicity is determined in accordance with the data of the median lethal concentration (LC_{50}) by intake through the respiratory tract or peroral or percutaneous half lethal dose (LD_{50}) attained through animal tests among which the lowest value of LC_{50} or LD_{50} shall be selected as the figure of acute toxicity.

3.2 Pathogenic conditions of acute poisoning

It's a qualitative index to be determined on the basis of the incidence of acute poisoning and consequences of the same. It may be divided into four grades i.e. easy to occur, possible to occur, occasionally occurred, never occurred. The toxic substances that are susceptible to lethal poisoning or disablement shall be considered as having serious consequences of poisoning and those the sufferers of which are easy to get recovered shall be considered as having favorable prognosis.

3.3 Pathogenic Conditions of Chronic Poisoning

Normally the incidence of poisoning of operators of major industries the workers of which may be exposed to toxic substances is taken as the base for grading of this index. In case no such data are available the incidence rate of the poisoning symptoms or indices may be considered as the grading basis.



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