Arsenic 5

Arsenic is a naturally occurring element found in soil that enters the air and water supply either by wind-blown dust or run-off. It can contaminate food, water and soil, creating multiple points of exposure. It has been used as a pesticide and is released from mines and industrial sites.

How can this chemical affect my health?

Acute (Short Term) Effects

- Toxic to Humans & Animals – Can be fatal on contact, ingestion or inhalation for humans and other mammals.
- Irritates the Skin – Can cause irritation or serious damage to the skin.
- Irritates the Eyes – Can cause irritation or serious damage to the eye.

Chronic (Long Term) Effects

- PBT (Persistent Bioaccumulative Toxicant) – Does not break down readily from natural processes, accumulates in organisms concentrating as it moves up the food chain, and is harmful in small quantities.
- Cancer – Can cause or increase the risk of cancer.
- Reproductive Harm – Can disrupt the male or female reproductive systems, changing sexual development, behavior or functions, decreasing fertility, or resulting in loss of the fetus during pregnancy.
- Birth Defects – Can cause harm to the developing child including birth defects, low birth weight and biological or behavioral problems that appear as the child grows.
- Gene Damage – Can cause or increase the rate of mutations, which are changes in genetic material in cells.
- Brain/Nervous System Harm – Can cause damage to the nervous system including the brain.
- Other Health Effects – Can cause serious damage on contact or ingestion.
- Sensitizes the Skin – Can lead to allergic reactions on the skin.