

Mercury poisoning

What is mercury ?

Mercury is a heavy metal. The common form of mercury is liquid at an ordinary temperature. It is commonly known as "quicksilver" and can apply to many products such as thermometers, fluorescent lamps, dental amalgams, and barometer, etc.

TOXICITY OF MERCURY



Mercury can be fatal if inhaled. It may damage the unborn child and causes damage to the kidneys and the central nervous system through prolonged or repeated exposure. It can be absorbed through the skin. It is also very toxic to aquatic life with long-lasting effects.



Symptoms & early signs



Shortness of breath



Headache



Cough, sore throat



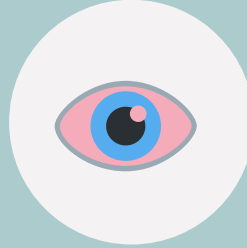
A metallic taste in the mouth



Nausea, vomiting



Vision problem



Eye irritation



Chest pain

First aid

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| Inhalation | Remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. Assure fresh air breathing. Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician. |
| Skin contact | Wash immediately with lots of water/shower. Remove affected clothing and wash all exposed skin area with mild soap |
| Eye contact | Rinse immediately and thoroughly, pulling the eyelids well away from the eye |
| Ingestion | Immediately call a POISON CENTER or doctor/physician. Rinse mouth. If conscious, give large amounts of water and induce vomiting. Give water or milk if the person is fully conscious. |

References :

<https://www.epa.gov/mercury/health-effects-exposures-mercury>
<https://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/mercury-and-health>