

Cr(VI) Criteria Document Update Development Process

Charles Geraci, Ph.D., CIH

Chief, Document Development Branch
Education and Information Division

NIOSH



Cr(VI) Document Development

- NIOSH Experts:
 - Epidemiology
 - Risk assessment
 - Industrial hygiene
 - Exposure assessment
 - Toxicology
- Researchers: field and laboratory
- Policy response

Cr(VI) Document Development Process

- Document Development Team review
- Education and Information Division review
- NIOSH Internal review: all Divisions
- NIOSH Office of the Director
 - Scientific and policy reviews
- **External Review**
 - Public review
 - Public meeting
 - Peer review

Public Review of Document October 15, 2008 – March 31, 2009 (Extended 60 days)

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar contains the URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/review/public/144/>. The page title is "Document Cover sheet : NIOSH Criteria Document Update: Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chro...". The browser's navigation and toolbars are visible at the top.

The main content of the page is from the NIOSH website. At the top left is the CDC logo. The NIOSH logo is prominently displayed in the center, with the text "National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health" below it. A navigation menu includes links for "CDC Home", "CDC Search", "CDC Health Topics A-Z", "Search NIOSH", "NIOSH Home", "NIOSH Topics", "Site Index", "Databases and Information Resources", "NIOSH Products", and "Contact Us".

The document title is "Document for Public Review and Comment: NIOSH Criteria Document Update: Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chromium NIOSH Docket 144", dated "September 2008".

Introduction and Purpose

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting a public review of the NIOSH draft document "NIOSH Criteria Document Update: Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chromium." This draft NIOSH document provides a review of the available literature and an update of NIOSH policies on occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium compounds including an assessment of: (1) critical animal, human, and in vitro studies on occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium; (2) relevant quantitative risk assessments about occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium; (3) appropriate methods for sampling and analysis of hexavalent chromium compounds in the workplace; (4) basis for the NIOSH revised Recommended Exposure Limit for hexavalent chromium compounds; and (5) other NIOSH recommendations for protecting workers from occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium. This guidance document does not have the force and effect of law.

The purpose of the public review of the draft document and public meeting is to obtain public comments to ensure that (1) this hazard identification is an accurate reflection of the available scientific studies; (2) the NIOSH recommendations for protecting workers from occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium compounds are appropriate and justified, and (3) NIOSH has a transparent and scientific basis for its revised Recommended Exposure Limit for hexavalent chromium compounds. The overall goal of the review is to enhance the quality and credibility of Agency recommendations by ensuring that the scientific and technical work underlying these recommendations receives appropriate review by independent scientific and technical experts.

Charge to Peer Reviewers

The peer review charge was developed in accordance with Office of Management and Budget (OMB) guidelines, is consistent with NIOSH peer review practice, and is intended to ensure that credible and appropriate science is used in the development of criteria documents and recommended exposure limits. The peer reviewers have been asked to consider the following questions:

1. Are the critical studies presented clearly and adequately?
2. Do all of the presented studies use scientifically valid methods and techniques?

Core

Submitting Public Comments

- By March 31, 2009
- To NIOSH Docket Office (513) 533-8611
- Reference NIOSH Docket #144
- Microsoft Word format

Mail: Robert A. Taft Laboratories
4676 Columbia Parkway
MS C-32
Cincinnati, OH 45226-1998

E-mail: nioshdocket@cdc.gov

Next Steps

- Public comments due March 31, 2009
- Peer review comments due May 1, 2009
- NIOSH Cr(VI) Document Team
 - Respond to public, peer review comments
 - Revise document
- Education and Information Division review
- NIOSH Office of the Director
 - Review for publication and dissemination

Cr(VI) Public Meeting

- Opportunity for:
 - Public presentations
 - Public input
 - Open discussion
- Ensure:
 - Inclusion of relevant scientific studies
 - Appropriate and justified worker recommendations
 - Transparent and scientific basis for revised REL

Charge to Peer Reviewers

1. Are the critical studies presented clearly and adequately?
2. Do all of the presented studies use scientifically valid methods and techniques?
3. Are there additional critical studies relevant to occupational exposure to hexavalent chromium compounds that should be included?
4. Does NIOSH have a transparent and sound basis for its revised Recommended Exposure Limit for hexavalent chromium compounds?

Charge to Peer Reviewers

5. Is the new NIOSH policy of providing general exposure assessment recommendations instead of a specific Action Level scientifically justified?
6. Are the NIOSH recommendations for worker protection clear and justified?
7. Are there additional recommendations for worker protection that should be included?

Cr(VI) Public Meeting Agenda

- NIOSH presentations
- Public presentations
- Open discussion of draft document
- Adjourn