

**AMBIENT SURFACE WATER QUALITY  
STANDARDS DOCUMENTATION****CHEMICAL:** Acrylonitrile**CAS NO.(s):** 107-13-1**BASIS (Human/Aquatic):** Human**WATER CLASSIFICATION:** AA; AA-s; A; A-s**STANDARD:** 0.07 ug/l **Note A****REMARKS:****SUMMARY INFORMATION:**

The toxicologic data base for this compound has been reviewed.<sup>1-3</sup> Acrylonitrile is embryotoxic and teratogenic in laboratory animals<sup>2-4</sup> and is a suspected occupational carcinogen.<sup>5,6</sup> It is an animal oncogen as defined in Part 701.1(p). Chronic exposure of laboratory animals to this compound via inhalation, drinking water, or gavage has resulted in a significant increase in the incidence of tumors at numerous sites in male and female rats, including tumors of the stomach, brain, mammary gland, zymbal gland and tongue.<sup>7,8</sup>

**STANDARD DERIVATION:**

Dose-response data from the Quast *et al.*<sup>7</sup> carcinogenesis bioassay were used for extrapolation. Using the protocol in Part 701.4 and a linearized multistage extrapolation procedure (GLOBAL82)<sup>9</sup>, an acrylonitrile concentration of 0.07 ug/l in water was calculated to correspond to an increased human cancer risk of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  over a lifetime (see calculations below). The recommended ambient water quality standard for acrylonitrile is 0.07 ug/l.

**Calculations:****1. Quast *et al.* Bioassay Data**

The incidence of brain tumors in female rats given acrylonitrile in the drinking water at levels of 0, 35, 85 and 210 ppm during the exposure period is the dose-response data for the most sensitive tumor type in the most sensitive species and sex, occurring at a statistically significant level.

2. Average Daily Intake (for animals)\*

Average Daily Intake  
During Lifetime

0 mg/kg/day  
4.4 mg/kg/day  
10.8 mg/kg/day  
25 mg/kg/day

\*Specific information on average daily dose was provided by Quast et al.<sup>7</sup>

3. Data Input for GLOBAL82 Computer Program

<u>Dose</u> <u>(mg/kg/day)</u>	<u>Number of animals</u> <u>with tumors</u>	<u>Number of</u> <u>experimental animals</u>
0	1	80
4.4	17	48
10.8	22	48
25*	24*	48*

\*Since the dose-response data indicate that the number of responders reached a plateau at an average daily dose of 10.8 mg/kg/day, the data from the highest dose level were omitted from input into the GLOBAL82 program.

4. GLOBAL82 Result (for animals)

The lower 95% confidence limit value of the acrylonitrile dose corresponding to an increased lifetime cancer risk of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  for the experimental animals was 0.011 ug/kg/day.

5. Conversion of the animal dose (ug/kg/day) to a human dose using surface area conversion rule

rodent dose (ug/kg/day)  $\times \left( \frac{\text{animal body wt. (kg)}}{\text{human body wt. (kg)}} \right)^{0.33} = \text{human dose (ug/kg/day)}$

0.011 ug/kg/day  $\times \left( \frac{0.37 \text{ kg}}{70 \text{ kg}} \right)^{0.33} = 0.002 \text{ ug/kg/day}$

6. Calculation of the acrylonitrile level in water corresponding to an increased cancer risk of  $1 \times 10^{-6}$  for a 70 kg human ingesting 2 liters of contaminated water per day over a lifetime.

$$\frac{0.002 \text{ ug/kg/day} \times 70 \text{ kg}}{2 \text{ l/day}} = 0.07 \text{ ug/l}$$

**REFERENCES:**

- (1) National Academy of Sciences. 1980. Drinking Water and Health, Vol. 3. National Academy Press. Washington, D.C.
- (2) International Agency for Research on Cancer. 1979. IARC Monographs on the Evaluation of the Carcinogenic Risk of Chemicals to Humans. 19: 73-113.
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- (4) Willhite, C.C. *et al.* 1981. Morphogenesis of axial skeletal (dysraphic) disorders induced by aliphatic nitriles. *Teratology*. 23: 325-333.
- (5) Werner, J.B. and J.T. Carter. 1981. Mortality of United Kingdom acrylonitrile polymerisation workers. *Br. J. Ind. Med.* 38: 247-253.
- (6) O'Berg, M.T. 1980. Epidemiologic study of workers exposed to acrylonitrile. *J. Occup. Med.* 22: 245-252.
- (7) Quast, J.F. *et al.* 1980. A two-year toxicity and oncogenicity study with acrylonitrile incorporated in the drinking water of rats. Toxicology Research Lab. Dow Chemical, U.S.A.
- (8) Maltoni, C. *et al.* 1977. Carcinogenicity bioassays on rats of acrylonitrile administered by inhalation and by ingestion. *Med. Lav.* 68: 401-411.
- (9) Howe, R.B. and K.S. Crump. 1982. GLOBAL82 Computer Program. Science Research Systems, Inc., Ruston, LA.

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DEC 6 1984