



Occupational risk factors for acute inhalation injuries

Agents which may lead to acute inhalation injuries include:

Irritant gases	Organic chemicals	Metallic compounds	Complex mixtures
High water solubility, e.g. ammonia, sulfur dioxide, hydrogen chloride	Organic acids, e.g. acetic acid	Mercury vapours	Fire smokes
Moderate water solubility, e.g. chlorine, hydrogen sulfide	Aldehydes, e.g. formaldehyde, acrolein	Metallic oxides, e.g. those of cadmium, vanadium, manganese, osmium	Pyrolysis products from plastics
Low water solubility, e.g. ozone, nitrogen dioxide, phosgene	Isocyanates	Halides, e.g. zinc chloride, titanium tetrachloride, antimony pentachloride, uranium hexafluoride	Solvent mixtures
	Amines. e.g. hydrazine, chloramines	Nickel tetracarbonyl	Spores and toxins from microorganisms
	Tear (CS) gas, mustard gas	Hydrides of boron, lithium, arsenic, antimony	(Polymer fumes)
	Organic solvents, including some leather sprays	(Metal fumes)	
	Some agrochemicals (paraquat, cholinesterase inhibitors)		