

Occupational Exposure to Heavy Metals and Pesticides

Employers are required under the Health and Safety in Employment Act (1992) to take reasonable steps to minimise the health risks associated with exposure to hazardous substances in the workplace. Incorporating the monitoring of heavy metals and pesticide exposure into Health and Safety Programmes is one step that can help. LabPlus offers a range of heavy metal and pesticide testing to detect high levels of exposure:

Arsenic

Sources include:

- Insecticides
- Rodenticides
- Wood preservatives / timber treatment
- Metal smelting and refining

Cadmium

Sources include:

- Metal smelting and welding
- Manufacturing batteries, ceramics, or textiles
- Soldering or electroplating
- Handling paint or plastic colour pigments

Chromium

Sources include:

- Welding
- Wood tanalising / timber treatment
- Chrome plating

Lead

Sources include:

- Lead based paints (from old house)
- Panel beating and radiator repairs
- Plastics
- Lead smelting

Mercury

Sources include:

- Metallic Mercury e.g. Thermometers
- Gold mining activities
- Some paints and fungicides

Cholinesterase

Testing for organophosphate (pesticide) exposure
Serum Cholinesterase is measured as an index of recent exposure to organophosphates or carbamates and the red cell enzyme to monitor long-term effects

For more information or other occupational testing that you require, please contact:

Daniel Wong,
Business Development Manager
LabPLUS