

## International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) Classifications

### Assessing Scientific Evidence

IARC uses five classifications to assess the strength of scientific evidence of a potential association with cancer in humans.

For each agent, specialist IARC working groups form an opinion by consensus on whether the scientific evidence is strong, sufficient or limited in any way. They also consider whether the evidence is adequate to come to a conclusion.

IARC does not consider 'risk' or likelihood of harm to humans. It only considers the strength of the scientific evidence for a cancer association. Importantly, risk may not be present at everyday levels of exposure to the agent being assessed.

<b>Group 1</b> <b>Carcinogenic to Humans</b>	<b>Group 2A</b> <b>Probably Carcinogenic to Humans</b>	<b>Group 2B</b> <b>Possibly Carcinogenic to Humans</b>	<b>Group 3</b> <b>Not Classifiable</b>	<b>Group 4</b> <b>Probably not Carcinogenic to Humans</b>
Evidence that an agent is "proven" to be associated with human cancer	Limited evidence of an association with cancer in humans, but sufficient evidence of cancer in experimental animals	Limited evidence of an association with cancer in humans, but insufficient evidence of cancer in experimental animals	Evidence indicates that it is not possible to classify an agent based on the available information	Evidence to prove agent is "not associated" with human cancer
<b>Examples</b> <b>107 Agents including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Alcoholic Beverages</li><li>&gt; Asbestos (all forms)</li><li>&gt; Arsenic</li><li>&gt; Benzene</li><li>&gt; Formaldehyde</li><li>&gt; Ionizing Radiation (all types)</li><li>&gt; Painter (occupational exposure)</li><li>&gt; Sunlight (solar radiation)</li><li>&gt; Tobacco smoking, smoke and smokeless</li></ul> <a href="#">CLICK FOR FULL LIST</a>	<b>Examples</b> <b>59 Agents including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Hairdresser or barber (occupational exposure)</li><li>&gt; Petroleum refining (occupational exposure)</li><li>&gt; Shiftwork that involves circadian disruption (disruption to normal sleep patterns)</li></ul> <a href="#">CLICK FOR FULL LIST</a>	<b>Examples</b> <b>266 Agents including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Coffee (urinary bladder)</li><li>&gt; Diesel fuel, marine</li><li>&gt; Dry cleaning (occupational exposure)</li><li>&gt; Firefighter (occupational exposure)</li><li>&gt; Magnetic Fields (ELF)</li><li>&gt; Pickled vegetables</li><li>&gt; Styrene</li><li>&gt; Textile manufacturing industry (work in)</li></ul> <a href="#">CLICK FOR FULL LIST</a>	<b>Examples</b> <b>508 Agents including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Acrylic acid</li><li>&gt; Chlorinated drinking water</li><li>&gt; Electric Fields (ELF)</li><li>&gt; Fluorescent lighting</li><li>&gt; Hair colouring products (personal use of)</li></ul> <a href="#">CLICK FOR FULL LIST</a>	<b>Examples</b> <b>1 Agent:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>&gt; Caprolactam</li></ul> <b>Note</b> that Caprolactam is toxic and should not be considered as "safe" given this classification <a href="#">CLICK FOR FULL LIST</a>

### References:

Full list of agents classified by IARC - <http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Classification/index.php>

IARC Information, Terms & Definitions - <http://monographs.iarc.fr/ENG/Preamble/index.php>

EMF Explained - <http://www.emfexplained.info>

Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA) - <http://www.amta.org.au>