



IARC MONOGRAPHS

In 1969, the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) initiated a programme on the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of chemicals to humans involving the production of critically evaluated monographs on individual chemicals. The programme was subsequently expanded to include evaluations of carcinogenic risks associated with exposures to complex mixtures, lifestyle factors and biological and physical agents, as well as those in specific occupations. The objective of the programme is to elaborate and publish in the form of monographs critical reviews of data on carcinogenicity for agents to which humans are known to be exposed and on specific exposure situations; to evaluate these data in terms of human risk with the help of international working groups of experts in carcinogenesis and related fields; and to indicate where additional research efforts are needed. The lists of IARC evaluations are regularly updated and are available on the Internet at http://monographs.iarc.fr/.

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This volume of the *IARC Monographs* provides evaluations of the carcinogenicity of quinoline, styrene, and styrene-7,8-oxide.

Quinoline and styrene are present in air pollution and in tobacco smoke. Quinoline also occurs in the processing of petroleum and shale oil, and is found in groundwater and soil at sites contaminated by coal tar and creosote. Quinoline and styrene are high production volume chemicals. Quinoline is used to produce various drugs and dyes. Styrene is primarily used in the production of polystyrene polymers. Styrene-7,8-oxide is primarily used to produce epoxy resins. Styrene-7,8-oxide is the primary metabolite of styrene in humans. Styrene and styrene-7,8-oxide are found in workplace air, particularly in the reinforced plastics industry and the rubber industry. Exposure to these agents may occur in the general population as well as in various occupational settings.

An *IARC Monographs* Working Group reviewed epidemiological evidence, animal bioassays, and mechanistic and other relevant data to reach conclusions as to the carcinogenic hazard to humans of environmental or occupational exposure to these agents.