

## CONTENTS

NOTE TO THE READER.....	1
LIST OF PARTICIPANTS.....	3
PREAMBLE .....	9
1. Background.....	9
2. Objective and Scope .....	9
3. Selection of Topics for Monographs .....	10
4. Data for Monographs .....	11
5. The Working Group .....	11
6. Working Procedures .....	11
7. Exposure Data.....	12
8. Studies of Cancer in Humans .....	14
9. Studies of Cancer in Experimental Animals .....	17
10. Other Data Relevant to an Evaluation of Carcinogenicity and its Mechanisms .....	20
11. Summary of Data Reported .....	22
12. Evaluation .....	23
13. References.....	27
GENERAL REMARKS ON MAN-MADE VITREOUS FIBRES.....	33
1. Composition, production and use.....	34
2. Toxicity .....	35
3. Chronic inflammation, fibrosis and cancer .....	35
4. Studies of cancer in humans .....	35
5. Studies of cancer in experimental animals.....	36
6. Administration to experimental animals by inhalation .....	37
7. Administration to experimental animals by intraperitoneal injection .....	37
8. References.....	38
MAN-MADE VITREOUS FIBRES .....	41
1. Exposure data .....	43
1.1 Chemical and physical data .....	43
1.1.1 Nomenclature and general description .....	43
(a) Categorization .....	43

1.1.2	Chemical and physical properties .....	45
(a)	Chemical properties .....	45
(i)	Continuous glass filament .....	48
(ii)	Glass wool .....	52
(iii)	Rock (stone) and slag wool .....	52
(iv)	Refractory ceramic fibres.....	53
(v)	Newly developed fibres .....	54
(b)	Physical properties .....	54
(i)	Fibre diameter .....	54
(ii)	Fibre length .....	57
(iii)	Fibre density.....	58
(iv)	Fibre coatings and binders .....	58
(v)	Structural changes .....	59
1.1.3	Analysis .....	59
(a)	Principle .....	59
(b)	Sampling .....	60
(c)	Gravimetric analysis .....	60
(d)	Fibre counting .....	60
(i)	Counting criteria .....	61
(ii)	Fibre identification.....	61
(iii)	Detection limit .....	62
(iv)	Quality assurance .....	63
(e)	Surface deposition .....	63
(f)	Bulk material .....	63
1.2	Production .....	64
1.2.1	History and production levels.....	64
(a)	Continuous glass filament .....	64
(b)	Glass wool, rock (stone) wool and slag wool .....	64
(c)	Refractory ceramic fibres.....	66
(d)	Newly developed fibres .....	67
1.2.2	Production methods .....	67
(a)	Continuous glass filament .....	70
(b)	Glass wool .....	71
(c)	Rock (stone) wool .....	72
(d)	Slag wool .....	73
(e)	Refractory ceramic fibres.....	74
(f)	Newly developed fibres .....	75
1.3	Uses .....	75
1.3.1	Continuous glass filament.....	75
1.3.2	Glass wool, rock (stone) wool and slag wool .....	76
(a)	Thermal and acoustic insulation, fire protection .....	76
(b)	Other uses.....	78

(c) Special-purpose glass fibres.....	78
1.3.3 Refractory ceramic fibres .....	78
1.3.4 Newly developed fibres .....	80
1.4 Occurrence .....	80
1.4.1 Occupational exposure .....	80
(a) Exposure in production plants .....	82
(i) United States of America.....	82
(ii) Europe .....	98
(iii) Other studies .....	106
(b) Exposure to compounds other than MMVFs in production plants .....	108
(c) Exposure of workers during the installation and removal of MMVF insulation products .....	109
(d) Exposure in residential, commercial and public buildings ..	122
1.4.2 Environmental occurrence .....	125
1.5 Regulations and guidelines .....	127
2. Studies of cancer in humans .....	133
2.1 Glass wool.....	133
2.1.1 United States University of Pittsburgh cohort .....	140
(a) Cohort studies .....	140
(b) Nested case–control studies.....	143
2.1.2 European glass fibre cohort .....	145
(a) Cohort studies .....	145
(b) Nested case–control study .....	147
2.1.3 Other cohort studies .....	147
2.2 Continuous glass filament.....	148
(a) United States University of Pittsburgh cohort.....	148
(b) European cohort.....	152
(c) United States Georgetown University cohort .....	152
(d) Canadian cohort .....	153
2.3 Rock (stone) wool and slag wool .....	154
2.3.1 Cohort studies .....	154
(a) United States University of Pittsburgh cohort.....	154
(b) European study.....	165
2.4 Refractory ceramic fibres .....	169
2.4.1 Cohort study .....	169
2.4.2 Case–control study .....	169
2.5 MMVF (not otherwise specified) .....	169
2.5.1 Cohort studies .....	175
2.5.2 Population-based case–control studies .....	176
(a) Lung cancer .....	176

	(b) Mesothelioma.....	177
	(c) Cancer at sites other than the lung and pleura.....	178
	2.5.3 Registry-based studies .....	178
3.	Studies of cancer in experimental animals.....	181
3.1	Continuous glass filament.....	181
3.1.1	Intraperitoneal injection .....	181
3.2	Glass wool.....	181
3.2.1	Inhalation exposure.....	181
	(a) Rat .....	181
	(b) Hamster .....	190
3.2.2	Intraperitoneal injection .....	191
	(a) Rat .....	191
	(b) Hamster .....	193
3.3	Special-purpose glass fibres .....	193
3.3.1	Inhalation exposure.....	193
	(a) Rat .....	193
	(b) Hamster .....	195
	(c) Guinea-pig .....	196
3.3.2	Intraperitoneal injection .....	196
3.3.3	Intratracheal instillation .....	201
	(a) Rat .....	201
	(b) Hamster .....	201
3.3.4	Intrapleural injection.....	202
	(a) Mouse.....	202
	(b) Rat .....	203
3.4	Rock (stone) wool .....	204
3.4.1	Inhalation exposure.....	204
3.4.2	Intratracheal instillation .....	208
	(a) Rat .....	208
	(b) Hamster .....	210
3.4.3	Intraperitoneal injection .....	210
3.4.4	Intrapleural injection.....	222
3.5	Slag wool .....	223
3.5.1	Inhalation exposure.....	223
3.5.2	Intraperitoneal injection .....	224
	(a) Rat .....	224
	(b) Hamster .....	225
3.5.3	Intrapleural injection.....	226
3.6	Refractory ceramic fibres .....	226
3.6.1	Inhalation exposure.....	226
	(a) Rat .....	226
	(b) Hamster .....	233



(b) Cell toxicity .....	293
(c) Cell activation .....	294
(d) Other effects .....	294
4.3.2 Rock (stone) and slag wool .....	295
(a) Inflammation and fibrosis .....	295
(b) Cell activation .....	297
(c) Other effects .....	297
4.3.3 Refractory ceramic fibres .....	297
(a) Inflammation .....	297
(b) Fibrosis .....	298
(c) Cell proliferation .....	299
(d) Cellular toxicity .....	299
(e) Cell activation .....	300
(f) Oxidant generation .....	301
(g) Other effects .....	301
4.4 Effects on gene expression .....	301
4.4.1 Continuous glass filament and glass wool .....	301
4.4.2 Rock (stone) wool, slag wool and refractory ceramic fibres .....	306
(a) Pulmonary epithelial cells .....	306
(b) Mesothelial cells .....	307
4.5 Genetic and related effects .....	307
4.5.1 Continuous glass filament and glass wool .....	307
4.5.2 Rock (stone) wool and slag wool .....	314
4.5.3 Refractory ceramic fibres .....	318
5. Summary of data reported and evaluation .....	327
5.1 Exposure data .....	327
5.2 Human carcinogenicity data .....	328
5.3 Animal carcinogenicity data .....	331
5.4 Other relevant data .....	334
5.5 Evaluation .....	338
6. References .....	341
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS VOLUME .....	375
GLOSSARY .....	379
SUPPLEMENTARY CORRIGENDUM TO VOLUMES 1–80 .....	383
CUMULATIVE INDEX TO THE <i>MONOGRAPHS</i> SERIES .....	385

## NOTE TO THE READER

The term ‘carcinogenic risk’ in the *IARC Monographs* series is taken to mean the probability that exposure to an agent will lead to cancer in humans.

Inclusion of an agent in the *Monographs* does not imply that it is a carcinogen, only that the published data have been examined. Equally, the fact that an agent has not yet been evaluated in a monograph does not mean that it is not carcinogenic.

The evaluations of carcinogenic risk are made by international working groups of independent scientists and are qualitative in nature. No recommendation is given for regulation or legislation.

Anyone who is aware of published data that may alter the evaluation of the carcinogenic risk of an agent to humans is encouraged to make this information available to the Unit of Carcinogen Identification and Evaluation, International Agency for Research on Cancer, 150 cours Albert Thomas, 69372 Lyon Cedex 08, France, in order that the agent may be considered for re-evaluation by a future Working Group.

Although every effort is made to prepare the monographs as accurately as possible, mistakes may occur. Readers are requested to communicate any errors to the Unit of Carcinogen Identification and Evaluation, so that corrections can be reported in future volumes.