

## GENERAL REMARKS ON THE SUBSTANCES CONSIDERED

This seventy-third volume of *IARC Monographs* covers 20 individual compounds and three groups of compounds (cyclamates, saccharin and its salts, and nitrilotriacetic acid and its salts). All but two of these, *meta*-dichlorobenzene and methyl *tert*-butyl ether, were evaluated by previous IARC working groups (Table 1).

Since the previous evaluations, new data have become available, and the Preamble to the *IARC Monographs* has been modified to permit more explicit inclusion of mechanistic considerations and of data on aspects other than cancer in the evaluation process (Vainio *et al.*, 1992). In particular, evidence has accumulated concerning certain pathological processes that lead to tumour development in the kidney and urinary bladder of rats exposed to some chemicals. These include specifically the role of alpha-2 urinary ( $\alpha_{2u}$ ) globulin-associated nephropathy in the development of epithelial neoplasms of the renal cortex in male rats, and the roles of bladder stones and certain amorphous urinary precipitates in carcinogenesis in the urinary bladder of rats. Specific guidelines have been developed on the use of information on the mechanisms of induction of tumours of the kidney, urinary bladder and thyroid gland in rodents in evaluating the carcinogenicity of certain chemicals (Capen *et al.*, 1999), and these guidelines were used where appropriate in making the current evaluations.

### References

- Capen, C.C., Dybing, E., Rice, J.M. & Wilbourn, J.D., eds (1999) *Species Differences in Thyroid, Kidney and Urinary Bladder Carcinogenesis* (IARC Scientific Publications No. 147), Lyon, IARC
- Vainio, H., Magee, P., McGregor, D. & McMichael, A.J., eds (1992) *Mechanisms of Carcinogenesis in Risk Identification* (IARC Scientific Publications No. 116), Lyon, IARC

**Table 1. Previous evaluations of agents considered in this volume**

Agent	<i>IARC Monographs</i> volume		Degree of carcinogenicity		Overall evaluation of carcinogenicity to humans
	Number	Year	Human	Animal	
Allyl isothiocyanate	36, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	L	3
<i>ortho</i> -Anisidine	27, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	S	2B
Atrazine	53	1991	I	L	2B <sup>a</sup>
Butyl benzyl phthalate	29, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	I	3
Chloroform	20, Suppl. 7	1987	I	S	2B
Chlorothalonil	30, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	L	3
Cyclamates	22, Suppl. 7	1987	I	L	3
<i>ortho</i> -Dichlorobenzene	29, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	I	3
<i>para</i> -Dichlorobenzene	29, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	S	2B
Hexachlorobutadiene	20, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	L	3
Hexachloroethane	20, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	L	3
<i>d</i> -Limonene	56	1993	I (ND)	L	3
Melamine	39, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	I	3
Nitrilotriacetic acid and its salts	48	1990	I (ND)	S	2B
Paracetamol (Acetaminophen)	50	1990	I	L	3
<i>ortho</i> -Phenylphenol	30, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	I	3
Potassium bromate	40, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	S	2B
Quercetin	31, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	L	3
Saccharin	22, Suppl. 7	1987	I	S	2B
Simazine	53	1991	I	I	3
Sodium <i>ortho</i> -phenyl- phenate	30, Suppl. 7	1987	I (ND)	S	2B

I, inadequate evidence; ND, no data; L, limited evidence; S, sufficient evidence; 2B, possibly carcinogenic to humans; 3, not classifiable as to its carcinogenicity to humans (see also Preamble, pp. 23–27)

<sup>a</sup> Mechanistic data were taken into account in making the overall evaluation.