

Xylene

Australia | Safework Australia

Manufacturing

Xylene (mixed isomers; CAS 1330-20-7) is a natural part of petroleum and coal tar. It is colourless, flammable and has a sweet smell.



Examples of work activities involving xylene include:

- blending and distilling petrol
- making chemicals, plastics and synthetic fibre, paints, pesticides and perfumes
- printing, rubber and leather industries
- cleaning
- Making and restoring furniture and wood processing
- biomedical laboratory work
- automobile garage workers
- metal workers



Baseline Testing

A baseline xylene health monitoring medical contains the following tests:

- Demographic, medical and occupational history
- Past exposure questionnaire
- Medical Examination with emphasis on the central nervous system (CNS) and respiratory system
- Urinalysis – Blood, Protein and Sugar
- Spirometry
- Pathology
 - Full Blood Count (FBC)
 - MBA20 (Full blood examination, serum creatinine) (non-fasting)
- KINNECT Dr Review and Sign off



Periodic Testing

Biological Monitoring for Xylene should be conducted as per risk assessment and at a minimum annual frequency. The medical contains the following items:

- Spirometry
- KINNECT Dr review and sign off

*May trigger an early periodic health assessment



Post Exposure

A Post Exposure Medical for Xylene contains the following tests:

- Pathology – Urinary toluric (methyl hippuric) acid
- KINNECT Dr Review and Sign off

May trigger an early periodic health assessment



Exit Testing

Final Examination (Termination of work in a Xylene process)

A final xylene health monitoring medical contains the following tests:

- Demographic, medical and occupational history
- Past exposure questionnaire
- Medical Examination with emphasis on the central nervous system (CNS) and respiratory system
- Spirometry
- Pathology
 - Full Blood Count (FBC)
 - MBA20 (Full blood examination, serum creatinine) (non-fasting)
 - Urinary toluric (methyl hippuric) acid
- KINNECT Dr Review and Sign off



Further Information

Safework Australia health monitoring guidance for Xylene:

<https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-and-publications/guidance-materials/health-monitoring-xylene>

Book & Pay

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Set up your Program

Book a discovery session to discuss scoping requirements.

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