

Environmental & Occupational-Related Cancer Prevention in Toronto: Public Health Actions

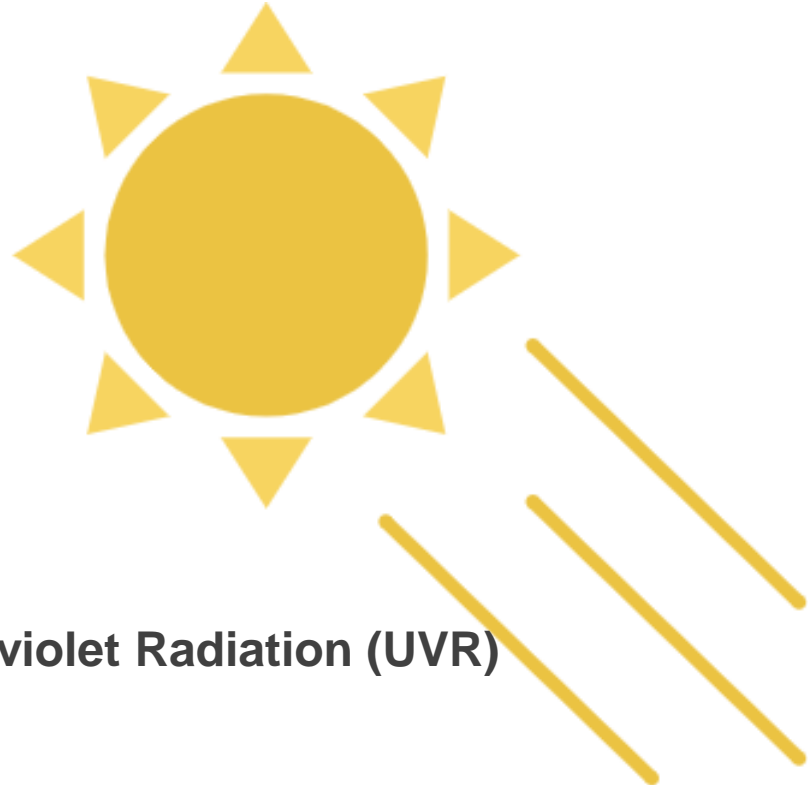
Dr. Howard Shapiro and Loren Vanderlinden

Environmental Carcinogen Exposures

Environmental Carcinogen Exposures

- Environmental causes of cancer exist in air, water, soil, dust and food that Toronto residents are exposed to in their daily lives by breathing, eating, drinking and being in the sun
- 3,540 to 6,510 cancer cases each year in Ontario are attributed to environmental exposures to 23 known cancer-causing agents
- Three carcinogens account for over 90 per cent of the total estimated environmental burden of cancer in Ontario: solar UV radiation (UVR), radon, and fine particulate matter (PM2.5)

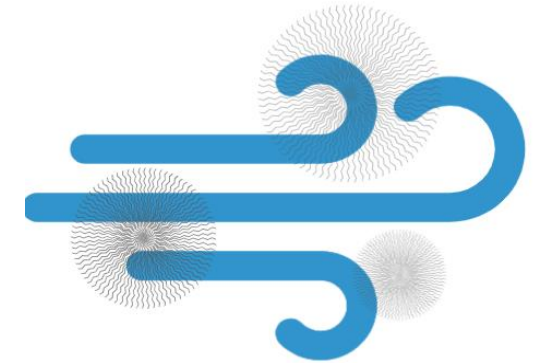
Most Common Environmental Carcinogens for Ontarians



Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR)



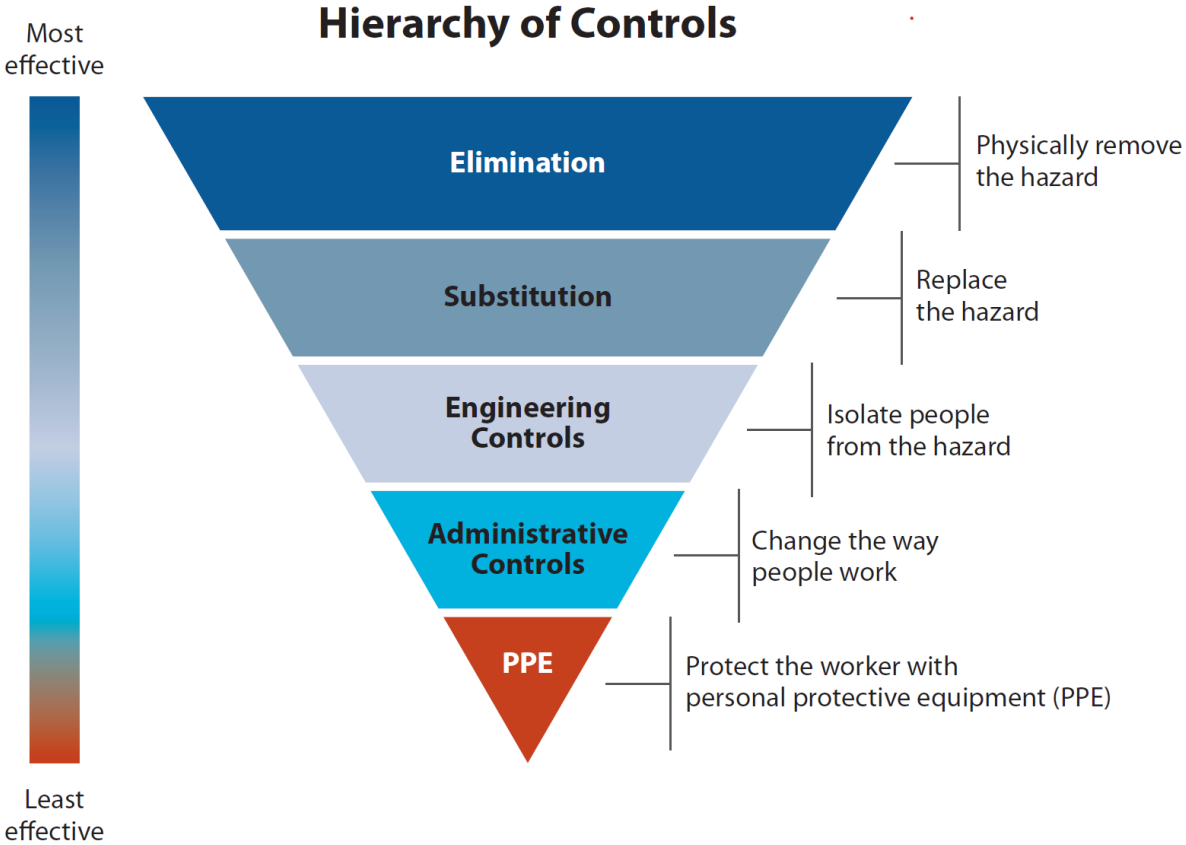
Radon



PM2.5
(fine particulate matter including from diesel exhaust)

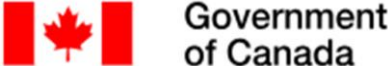
Occupational Carcinogen Exposures

Reducing Workplace Carcinogen Exposures



Jurisdictions and Responsibilities

Regulatory Authority for Reducing Environmental Exposures



CEPA
NPRI



EPA
Reg. 419/05
OHSA
Reg. 833



COTA (ON)
COHSP



HPPA (ON)
OPHS (ON)

Legislation

Policy

Standards

TPH Cancer Prevention Strategies

TPH's Efforts to Reduce Exposures to Carcinogens

**Collaboration
& Advocacy**

**Monitoring Data
& Evidence**

**Health
Promotion**

**Inspection &
Enforcement**

ChemTRAC

- Came into effect January 1, 2010
- Requires annual reporting on 25 toxic substances
- Reported data is available to the public
- Applies to hundreds of Toronto businesses
- Program suspended in March 2020 and re-activated in 2025



Environmental Cancer Prevention - Public Health Strategies & Actions

- TPH strategies that reduce exposures to environmental carcinogens include:
 - Understanding the evidence related to exposures and harms for Toronto residents
 - Applying that evidence to identify ways to reduce risks, within the role and mandate of local public health and in collaboration with others, and
 - Raising awareness of primary cancer prevention measures by facilitating access to clear evidence-based information for individual members of the public and stakeholders with consideration of the needs of equity deserving populations

Thank you

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