

ACETONE
(CAS No. 67-64-1)

VCCEP SUBMISSION

American Chemistry Council Acetone Panel

Sponsors:

Celanese

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GLOSSARY OF TERMS

µg	Microgram
ACGIH	American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists
ATSDR	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry
AUC	Area Under Blood Concentration/Time Curve
BMD	Benchmark Dose
CAA	Clean Air Act
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act
CNS	Central Nervous System
CWA	Clean Water Act
DEP	Department of Environmental Protection
EHC	Environmental Health Criteria
EPCRA	Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act
GRAS	Generally Recognized as Safe
HAP	Hazardous Air Pollutant
IPCS	International Programme on Chemical Safety
IRIS	Integrated Risk Information System
KD	Ketogenic Diet
kg	Kilogram
mg	Milligram
MRL	Minimal Risk Level
NCEA	National Center for Environmental Assessment
NED	No Effect Dose
NHANES	National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey
NOAEL	No Observed Adverse Effect Level
NTP	National Toxicology Program
ODS	Ozone Depleting Substance
OECD	Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
ppm	Parts Per Million
RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
RfC	Inhalation Reference Concentration
RfD	Oral Reference Dose
SCAQMD	(California) South Coast Air Quality Management District
SIAR	Screening Information Assessment Report
SIDS	Screening Information Data Set
STEL	Short-Term Exposure Limit
TLV	Threshold Limit Value
TSCA	Toxic Substances Control Act
TWA	Time-Weighted Average
VOC	Volatile Organic Compound
VCCEP	Voluntary Children's Chemical Evaluation Program
WHO	World Health Organization

1. Executive Summary

Introduction

The sponsors of acetone have compiled the information in this submission to meet the requirements of the Voluntary Children's Chemical Evaluation Program (VCCEP). 65 Fed. Reg. 81,700 (December 26, 2000). Consistent with the Pilot Program announcement, this submission includes a hazard assessment, exposure assessment, risk assessment and data needs assessment. Background information also is provided concerning the current regulatory status of acetone, recent agency assessments, recent peer-reviewed compilations of relevant hazard information, and other topics of interest. The biomonitoring data and indoor air monitoring data that provided the basis for including acetone in the Program also are discussed and put into context of relevant health effects information.

Acetone is unusual among commercial chemicals, in that it is a normal by-product of fatty acid metabolism and is naturally present throughout the human body at measurable levels. Physiological concentrations increase as energy requirements increase (e.g., during exercise, dieting or pregnancy). Acetone also has been extensively studied, and is generally recognized to have low acute and chronic toxicity. All toxicity studies listed in the Pilot Announcement (for all tiers of the program) have been conducted either with acetone or its metabolic precursor, isopropanol.

The Executive Summary provides an overview of the information presented in each section of the submission. Citations are not provided in the Executive Summary, but are found in the main text.

Basis for VCCEP Listing

Acetone was selected for the VCCEP Pilot Program for three reasons: (1) hazard data meeting the requirements of Tier 1 of the VCCEP Pilot are available from an OECD SIDS Screening Information Assessment Report (SIAR); (2) acetone has been reported in human blood in the NHANES study; and (3) acetone has been detected in indoor air. In fact, the available toxicity data for acetone far exceeds the Tier I VCCEP requirements. The blood level findings cited in NHANES are unremarkable, however, as they are well within the range found in normal, healthy humans. The indoor air monitoring data also is unremarkable; acetone has been found in indoor air at an average concentration of 8 ppb, which is far below levels that might be expected to pose any health concerns.

Recent Regulatory Assessments and Other Peer-Reviewed Assessments

Acetone has been the subject of several recent assessments by regulatory agencies or in peer-reviewed publications. These assessments include:

OECD SIDS Dossier and SIAR (1999). The SIDS Initial Assessment Report (SIAR) provides a comprehensive summary of relevant hazard information and concludes that acetone has been "well-studied" and its "health hazards are slight." Acetone was determined to be "a low priority for further work." The United States of America was the sponsoring country, and EPA was the U.S. representative to the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

World Health Organization Environmental Health Criteria Document (1999). The WHO International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) completed an Environmental Health

Criteria (EHC) document for acetone in 1999. The initial draft was prepared by D.J. Reisman, U.S. EPA Office of Research and Development, who served as one of two co-rapporteurs. A panel of independent experts worked on the assessment, which includes a chronic guidance value (analogous to an oral reference dose) of 9.0 mg/kg-day.

EPA EPCRA Delisting (1995). EPA has removed acetone from the list of “toxic chemicals” maintained under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). In making that decision, EPA conducted an extensive review of the available toxicity data on acetone and found that acetone “exhibits acute toxicity only at levels that greatly exceed releases and resultant exposures,” and further that acetone “exhibits low toxicity in chronic studies.”

Patty’s Toxicology (2001). The Acetone Chapter in *Patty’s Toxicology* consists of 81 pages and includes 697 references. Extensive information pertaining to metabolism, toxicokinetics and normal endogenous production is presented, along with thorough discussions of animal and human data pertaining to the various toxicity endpoints of concern to the VCCEP.

ATSDR Toxicological Profile (1994). The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry toxicological profile of acetone includes several minimal risk levels (MRLs), defined as an exposure likely to be without an appreciable risk of adverse health effects (non-cancer) for the general population. These MRLs include: 26 ppm for inhalation exposures up to 14 days; 13 ppm for inhalation exposures from 15 to 364 days; the same value of 13 ppm for inhalation exposures of 365 days or more; and 2 mg/kg-day for oral exposures from 15 to 364 days.

NTP Testing. The National Toxicology Program (NTP) conducted 13-week drinking water studies of acetone at concentrations up to 5.0 percent for male and female rats and female mice and up to 2.0 percent for male mice. Minimally toxic concentrations of acetone were estimated to be 20,000 ppm (1700 mg/kg-day) for male rats, 20,000 ppm (4858 mg/kg-day) for male mice, and 50,000 ppm (11,298 mg/kg-day) for female mice. No toxic effects were identified for female rats at the highest tested concentration of 50,000 ppm (3100 mg/kg-day). After completing these studies, NTP recommended against conducting chronic toxicity or carcinogenicity studies of acetone because “the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents,” and because of “the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential for acetone.”

IRIS Assessment (2003). EPA’s National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) posted an updated IRIS summary and Toxicological Review of Acetone on its website on July 31, 2003. The documents include an oral reference dose of 0.9 mg/kg-day, based on a NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day for male rats reported in the 90-day studies in drinking water sponsored by NTP, and total uncertainty factors of 1000. The oral RfD is more than 10-fold below estimated normal daily endogenous production in healthy persons, and in fact is below levels of exposure nursing infants are likely to receive from the natural presence of acetone in mother’s milk (assuming no exogenous exposure for the mother). No inhalation reference concentration was proposed.

Derivation of Inhalation Reference Concentration (RfC) and Oral Reference Dose (RfD) by Gentry et al. (2003 in press). Because EPA concluded in its draft IRIS assessment that the data were insufficient to derive an inhalation RfC – even though inhalation is the most relevant route of exposure – the Panel commissioned Drs. Harvey Clewell, Robinan Gentry and their colleagues to use a pharmacokinetic model and EPA RfC/RfD methodology to derive an oral RfD and inhalation RfC for acetone. Gentry et al. calculated two oral RfD values of 8.7 and 16.0

mg/kg-day. These values are similar to the guidance value presented in the IPCS EHC document (9.0 mg/kg-day). The inhalation RfC of 29 ppm is similar to but somewhat higher than the intermediate and chronic inhalation MRL values derived by ATSDR (13 ppm).

Regulatory Status

Acetone must be handled carefully because of its flammability, relatively high vapor pressure, and the dangers of fire and explosion. However, acetone generally is not regulated under environmental, health and safety statutes based on toxicity concerns. The following table summarizes acetone's treatment under various environmental, health and safety statutes.

Acetone Regulatory Status

Regulation	Acetone Status
CERCLA Hazardous Substances	Listed because it is a RCRA hazardous waste. RQ = 5,000 lbs. (highest category)
RCRA Listed Wastes	Included in F003 wastes (spent solvents) and listed as a "U" waste (U002) based solely on ignitability
RCRA Toxic Constituents (App. VIII)	Not listed.
EPCRA Extremely Hazardous Substances	Not listed.
EPCRA Toxic Release Inventory	Delisted in 1995.
CAA Hazardous Air Pollutants	Not listed.
CAA Volatile Organic Compounds	Exempted from regulation as a VOC in 1995.
CWA Priority Pollutant List	Not listed.
OSHA Z-Tables (Air Contaminants Standard)	Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) is 1,000 ppm (8-hour TWA).
ACGIH TLVs (non-regulatory)	Recommended exposure limits are 500 ppm (8-hour TWA) and 750 ppm (15-minute STEL)
California Air Resources Board Toxics List	Removed in 1995.

Acetone is also listed as a component in food additives and food packaging and rated as a GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) substance at concentrations ranging from 5 to 8 mg/L.

When EPA exempted acetone from regulation as a volatile organic compound (VOC) in 1995, EPA stated that this exemption would "contribute to the achievement of several important environmental goals and would support EPA's pollution prevention efforts." 60 Fed. Reg. 31,634 (June 16, 1995). EPA noted that acetone could be used "as a substitute for several compounds that are listed as hazardous air pollutants (HAP) under section 112 of the [Clean Air] Act," and "as a substitute for ozone depleting substances (ODSs) which are active in depleting the stratospheric ozone layer."

Production, Use and Release to the Environment

Acetone is manufactured primarily as a co-product of phenol production via cumene peroxidation. The processes and equipment for manufacture, transfer and storage are all continuous and enclosed. U.S. production of acetone was approximately 4 billion pounds in 2002.

Acetone is used in surface coatings, cleaning fluids, pharmaceutical applications, adhesives and a variety of other products, and is sold in small containers (e.g., one liter) in many hardware stores. Acetone also is used in the extraction of fats, oils, waxes and resins from natural products, as a denaturant for ethyl alcohol, and as acetylene absorbent. Acetone also is used

as a solvent in the manufacture of cellulose acetate fibers and as a chemical intermediate in the manufacture of other chemicals such as methyl methacrylate, methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl isobutyl carbinol, hexylene glycol, and isophorone.

In 1993, the last year for which data on environmental releases is available under EPCRA section 313 (before acetone was removed from the list of covered chemicals), total reported acetone releases to the environment were 134 million pounds, most of which was released to air. This figure is small compared to other sources of acetone in the environment. About 97% of the acetone in ambient air comes from natural sources (vegetative releases, forest fires and other natural sources) or the photo-oxidation of alkanes and alkenes.

Hazard Assessment

The toxicological effects of acetone have been well-studied. All of the toxicity tests listed in Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the Pilot Announcement have been conducted for acetone or its metabolic precursor isopropanol, and no endpoints raise specific toxicological concerns that warrant further investigation.

Acute Toxicity. Numerous oral, inhalation, dermal and intraperitoneal acute toxicity tests in multiple species demonstrate that acetone has very low acute toxicity.

Metabolism. The metabolism and pharmacokinetics of acetone have been extensively studied. Isopropanol is readily and quantitatively metabolized to acetone, so that some toxicological studies of isopropanol can be used to address data gaps, or to supplement information, for acetone. In addition, Clewell *et al.* (2001) have published a PBPK model that documents quantitatively the uptake and metabolism of isopropanol and acetone in rats and humans. The SIAR notes that the “ability of humans to naturally produce and dispose of acetone may to a large degree explain its relatively low toxicity following external exposure to moderate amounts of the vapor or liquid.” Metabolism studies show that increases in blood acetone levels are quickly controlled by specific metabolic enzymes that are capable of efficiently handling the excess production; this fact pertains to exogenous exposures as well as fluctuations in endogenous production.

Systemic Toxicity. As discussed above, the National Toxicology Program conducted a 13-week subchronic toxicity test of acetone in rats and mice that found such minimal toxicity at such high doses that the NTP recommended against conducting chronic toxicity or carcinogenicity studies of acetone. The NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day for male rats demonstrates the low systemic toxicity of acetone. No toxic effects were observed in female rats at 3100 mg/kg-day. NOAELs for male and female mice were 2300 and 5900 mg/kg-day, respectively.

Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity. Acetone's potential to cause developmental toxicity has been evaluated in rats and mice. High doses of acetone (6600 ppm in mice; 11,000 ppm in rats) caused reductions in fetal body weight, but there was no evidence of teratogenicity. The NOAEL in each species was 2200 ppm.

A two-generation reproductive toxicity test of isopropanol, the metabolic precursor of acetone, also showed only minimal effects at high doses. Supporting reproductive toxicity studies of acetone confirm that acetone has low potential to cause reproductive effects. As already noted, acetone is produced endogenously, and normal healthy activities (e.g., exercise, diet) can cause endogenous production to increase significantly in healthy individuals. Additionally, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children all have higher blood levels of acetone naturally

due to their higher energy requirements. The medical community has begun using a ketogenic diet as a means to reduce the frequency and severity of epileptic attacks in infants and children with recalcitrant refractory epilepsy.

Immunotoxicity. The Panel recently sponsored a guideline immunotoxicity test which showed no immunological effects.

Genotoxicity. Acetone has been tested in more than two dozen *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays. These studies indicate that acetone is not genotoxic. In fact, acetone has been used as a vehicle for testing water insoluble substances in various mutagenicity assays.

Carcinogenicity. EPA in 1995 concluded, "There is currently no evidence to suggest a concern for carcinogenicity." (EPCRA Review, described in Section 3.3). NTP scientists have recommended against chronic toxicity/carcinogenicity testing of acetone because "the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents," and because of "the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential of acetone." (See Appendix F.) These previous assessments are supported by: (1) numerous assays demonstrating a lack of mutagenic activity or cytogenetic toxicity; (2) negative chronic dermal studies using acetone; and (3) a negative chronic toxicity/carcinogenicity study on isopropanol, the metabolic precursor of acetone, in rats and mice. Thus, the scientific evidence does not support a concern for carcinogenicity for acetone.

Neurotoxicity and Developmental Neurotoxicity. The neurotoxic potential of both acetone and isopropanol, the metabolic precursor of acetone, have been extensively studied. These studies demonstrate that although exposure to high doses of acetone may cause transient central nervous system effects, acetone is not a neurotoxicant. A guideline developmental neurotoxicity study has been conducted with isopropanol, and no developmental neurotoxic effects were identified, even at the highest dose tested.

In sum, the scientific data on acetone and isopropanol strongly support what the Acetone SIAR concluded: acetone has been "well-studied," its "health hazards are slight" and the "hallmark of animal studies with acetone is the extremely high vapor concentrations of long exposure duration needed to produce an adverse effect." (SIAR, pp. 1, 25, 31).

Selection of Health Benchmarks

The key health benchmarks for this risk assessment are the RfD and RfC values derived by Gentry, *et al.* (2003, in press). These values are intended to represent exposures that can be repeated daily for a lifetime without appreciable risk to the general population, including sensitive subgroups. The use of the PBPK model facilitated and improved interspecies and route-to-route extrapolation.

The lower RfD value derived by Gentry *et al.* (8.7 mg/kg-day) will be used as the principal chronic health benchmark for this risk assessment. This RfD value is below normal endogenous production of acetone in healthy individuals, and well below endogenous production in pregnant women, nursing mothers and children. Where appropriate, comparisons also will be made to the RfC of 29 ppm. Single day exposures, such as result from a single use of a consumer product, will be compared to normal endogenous production.

Exposure Assessment

EPA has requested that exposure information be submitted to determine the extent of children's exposure to acetone. The types of exposure information needed for the assessment include the identification and characterization of the population groups exposed, sources of the exposure as well as frequencies, levels, and routes of exposure. A child-centered approach was used to define realistic exposure scenarios for children's interaction with acetone sources including endogenous levels, environmental (ambient) sources, and use of consumer products. Acetone exposure estimates have been made for 4 age ranges: infants less than 1 year, 1 to 5 years old, 6 to 13 years old, and 14 to 18 years old. These age ranges were selected because of the significant activity pattern differences which occur among these groupings (i.e., breastfeeding, school attendance, etc.)

Virtually every tissue and organ in the human body contains measurable levels of acetone. Daily endogenous production for children has been estimated based on blood levels reported in the published literature. Both mean and maximum levels have been estimated for each range as follows:

Endogenous Acetone Production Rates in Children

Age Group	Acetone Production (mg/kg-day)	
	Mean	Maximum
0 to 12 Months	121	387
1 to 5 Years	94	135
6 to 13 Years	72	104
14 to 18 Years	55	83

Acetone occurs naturally in a wide variety of foods such as onions, grapes, cauliflower, tomatoes, milk, cheese, beans, and peas (SIDS, 1999). Acetone is present in raw cow's milk as a result of the animal's normal metabolism. The levels of acetone in the milk of healthy cows range from 0 to 0.2 millimoles (0 to 11.6 mg/l). Thus, all children have acetone exposure via natural sources in the diet. Exposure estimates from dietary sources were quantified and annual average daily doses range from 0.032 to 0.16 mg/kg-day. These results indicated dietary exposures are at least 500 fold lower than daily endogenous production and at least 10 times lower than the RfD derived by Gentry *et al.* of 8.7 mg/kg-day.

Because acetone had been detected in human milk, infants' exposures to acetone via this pathway were considered. No published estimates of acetone concentration were identified in the peer-reviewed literature, thus exposure concentrations were estimated based on acetone blood levels in the mother. For mothers occupationally exposed to acetone, average blood levels were estimated using the PBPK model for acetone, assuming the mother was exposed at the ACGIH TLV of 500 ppm during every working day. The annual average daily dose from the human milk pathway was 1.5 mg/kg-day and 7.9 mg/kg-day for infants of non-occupational and occupationally-exposed mothers, respectively. Both of these doses are less than the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day and on a daily basis the dose is at least 10-fold lower than the infant's average daily endogenous production.

Ambient environmental exposures to acetone can result from exposure to the ambient air and drinking water. Acetone is emitted into the atmosphere from both natural and anthropogenic sources. Acetone levels reported in the outdoor ambient air have ranged from 3 ppb (7.1

$\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in rural areas to approximately 7 ppb ($16.38 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$) in urban areas (ATSDR, 1994). Indoor air levels are similar. Acetone is rarely detected in tap water, although it has been detected at levels ranging from 2 – 7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ in residential well water. Exposures from these sources are negligible, with ambient air concentrations nearly 10,000 fold below the RfC of 29 ppm derived by Gentry *et al.* Drinking water annual average daily doses ranged from $3.0 \text{ E-}05 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}\text{-day}$ to $9.7 \text{ E-}05 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}\text{-day}$, which indicated exposure at least 290,000 times lower than the RfD of $8.7 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}\text{-day}$.

Children's exposures from dietary sources, the ambient environment and human milk have been aggregated. Doses range from $0.04 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}\text{-day}$ for the 14-18 year old to $8 \text{ mg}/\text{kg}\text{-day}$ for the nursing infant of an occupationally-exposed mother.

In addition to ambient exposures via the typical diet, air and water, children may be exposed to acetone from exposure to consumer products. A wide variety of consumer products contain acetone; however, the majority of those products contain acetone at less than 1% by weight and therefore are unlikely to be important sources of exposure. Thus, this assessment has focused on those consumer products with greater than 1% acetone by weight. Each of the products was then considered in the context of how and where they would be used and the likelihood of children being exposed during their use. Based on the acetone weight content and the likelihood of use by or in the presence of children, paint products, nail polish remover and pure solvent were evaluated for acetone exposure in the following four scenarios:

- residential pure solvent use as an acrylic nail tip remover;
- residential nail polish remover use,
- residential spray paint, and
- residential pure solvent use as a spot remover.

For the nail polish remover scenario, it was assumed that children as young as 6 years old might use the product. For all other scenarios, infants and children younger than 13 were assumed to be in the home while the product was used, but only the teenager and adult were assumed to be the product users. Typical and upper bound exposures have been defined by the typical and upper bound amount of the product likely to be used in each scenario.

Age-specific one-day and annual average daily doses (ADD) have been quantified for children's exposures to consumer products. In all scenarios, the teenage product user had the highest dose. The estimated doses are presented on Table ES-1 below:

Table ES-1
Summary of Age-Specific Doses from Consumer Product Use

		Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day)				
Microenvironment / One-Day Dose		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Nail polish remover scenario	Typical (0.45 ACH)	0.13	0.099	0.20	0.14	0.10
	Upper bound (0.45 ACH)	0.26	0.20	0.40	0.27	0.21
Spray paint scenario	Typical (1.34 ACH)	1.3	0.96	0.70	1.5	1.1
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	4.0	3.0	2.2	4.7	3.6
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.38	0.29	0.21	0.44	0.34
	Upper bound (5.04 ACH)	1.3	0.96	0.70	1.4	1.1
Spot remover scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.56	0.43	0.31	0.69	0.53
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	3.0	2.3	1.6	3.7	2.8
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.21	0.16	0.12	0.21	0.16
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	1.1	0.86	0.62	1.1	0.85
Nail tip removal scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.53	0.40	0.29	1.9	1.7
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.79	0.60	0.44	2.5	2.2
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose						
Nail polish remover scenario	Typical (0.45 ACH)	0.011	0.0087	0.018	0.012	0.0091
	Upper bound (0.45 ACH)	0.023	0.017	0.035	0.024	0.018
Spray paint scenario	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.014	0.011	0.0076	0.016	0.012
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.044	0.033	0.024	0.051	0.039
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.0042	0.0032	0.0023	0.0049	0.0037
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	0.014	0.011	0.0076	0.015	0.012
Spot remover scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.025	0.019	0.014	0.030	0.023
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.13	0.10	0.072	0.16	0.12
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.0093	0.0071	0.0051	0.0093	0.0071
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	0.049	0.038	0.027	0.49	0.037
Nail tip removal scenario using pure acetone	Typical	0.0058	0.0044	0.0032	0.021	0.018
	Upper bound	0.0086	0.0066	0.0048	0.028	0.024

Single day exposures from use of each of the consumer products have not been aggregated because 1) two of the scenarios are mutually exclusive (i.e., nail tip remover and nail polish remover), 2) none of the products are meant to be used together or sequentially, and 3) there is no consumer product information available that allows inferences to be made regarding the use of multiple acetone containing products on a single day.

The results of aggregating the background acetone doses with those received for single day exposures from use of an individual consumer product demonstrate that treating the acetone dose received from infrequent consumer product usage in a chronic fashion does not appreciably change the annual average daily dose.

Estimates of short-term exposure to acetone during consumer product usage were made for the spray paint and spot remover scenario. In each case a 1-hour and 8-hour TWA were calculated for the typical and upper bound usage scenarios under various ventilation conditions. The highest short term exposure concentration of 394 ppm as a 1-hr TWA was predicted for the spray paint user for the upperbound usage scenario under open window ventilation conditions.

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment involves the integration of the hazard assessment and the exposure assessment to provide numerical estimates of risk. Risks from both chronic exposures and one-day exogenous exposures have been characterized.

Chronic risks were characterized using EPA's conventional hazard index approach for non-carcinogens. Using this risk paradigm, aggregated ambient environmental and dietary (i.e., background) annual average daily doses were compared to the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day derived by Gentry *et al.* Hazard indices ranged from 0.004 to 0.9, thus indicating no significant health risks are associated with the children's exposures. Additionally, when exposures from the individual consumer product scenarios were aggregated with background doses, hazard indices were still less than 1 for all age ranges.

Health risks from one-day doses were evaluated by comparing them to daily endogenous production of acetone. The single day exposures received from typical exogenous acetone exposure from the use of consumer products in the home are 1 to 3 orders of magnitude lower than endogenous doses, and upper bound exogenous doses are 1 to 2 orders of magnitude lower than endogenous doses. Thus, single day exposure to exogenous acetone from ambient and/or microenvironment exposures will not substantially change the endogenous levels.

Short-term exposure concentrations to which children may be exposed during use of consumer products also were assessed by comparing time weighted air concentrations for two exposure durations (1-hour and 8-hours) to the Draft Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs) for acetone, which are based on potential irritation. The only instances in which the AEGL for acetone may be exceeded are the 1-hr TWAs predicted for the upper bound exposure of the spray paint and spot remover users when mechanical ventilation is not employed. Thus, under typical exposure conditions and when using adequate ventilation under upper bound use conditions, acetone air concentrations are expected to be below levels at which slight irritation symptoms may occur, and well below levels at which more significant irritation would be expected.

The available data do not indicate that children are more susceptible to acetone exposures than adults. For example, a ketogenic diet – resulting in dramatically higher acetone blood concentrations than in untreated children – has been used effectively to treat children with refractory epilepsy with no apparent ill effects. Further, because of their higher energy requirements, children have higher endogenous acetone production than most adults – and the younger the child, the higher the expected endogenous production. These data indicate that children are not uniquely susceptible to acetone exposure. Moreover, potential exposures modeled in this assessment would have little or no impact on acetone blood levels in children, and all exogenous exposures are small by comparison to the exposures associated with the ketogenic diet.

In conclusion, the hazard and exposure assessments demonstrate the following:

- Endogenously produced acetone in children is the dominant source of acetone exposure, resulting in more than 90% of the total acetone exposure;
- Dietary exposure from acetone's natural presence in many food items is likely the second largest source of acetone exposure for all children except those nursing from occupationally-exposed mothers. For the latter group, acetone from mother's milk is the

second largest source of acetone exposure, although even that exposure represents only 10 percent of typical endogenous production, and only about 3 percent of the upper bound estimate of normal endogenous production in infants.

- Very low acetone exposures are received from the ambient sources of exposure, including ambient air and water, with aggregated doses far below the RfD.
- Inhalation doses from acetone-containing consumer products that are used in the presence of or by children do not result in exceedances of the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day derived by Gentry *et al.*, including when combined with background ambient doses, and single day doses from use of these products are one to two orders of magnitude less than the daily endogenous levels.
- Short term air concentrations of acetone to which children may be exposed during use of various consumer products are not expected to exceed draft AEGL-1 values proposed by the USEPA except under conditions where adequate ventilation is not used; and
- The quantitative risk characterization indicates that reasonably anticipated children's exposures to acetone from the ambient background environment and consumer products are unlikely to pose significant health risks.

Data Needs Assessment

Hazard Information. All Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 studies specified in the VCCEP announcement have been conducted for acetone or its metabolic precursor, isopropanol. The SIAR concludes that acetone has been "well-studied" and is a "low priority" for further work. The VCCEP sponsors of acetone agree.

Exposure Information. For a compound like acetone, additional exposure assessment work is always possible. The VCCEP sponsors believe, however, that the information presented in this document is adequate to demonstrate that reasonably anticipated exposures to acetone are not likely to present significant health risks to children. Accordingly, the VCCEP sponsors believe additional exposure assessment work also should be a low priority, and is not necessary to meet the objectives of the VCCEP program.

2. Basis for Inclusion of Acetone in VCCEP Pilot Program

2.1 Introduction

In selecting compounds for the VCCEP Pilot Program, EPA relied on biomonitoring and environmental monitoring databases that it considered relevant to assessing the potential for children's exposure. See VCCEP Federal Register Notice (Dec. 26, 2000), at III.Q. Availability of hazard data was an additional factor that influenced chemical selection decisions; EPA stated that it wanted to select chemicals for which Tier I hazard data was available. Acetone was selected for three reasons: (1) an Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) SIDS Screening Information Assessment Report (SIAR) is available; (2) acetone has been reported in human blood in the NHANES study; and (3) acetone has been detected in indoor air. See Pilot Announcement, Table 1. As described later in this document, the available toxicity data for acetone far exceeds Tier I VCCEP requirements, and in fact satisfies Tier 2 and Tier 3 requirements as well. The availability of extensive hazard information facilitates evaluation of acetone in the Pilot Program. As described in the following sections, however, the blood level data and indoor air monitoring data are unremarkable and should not be considered indicative of a likely concern.

2.2 NHANES Data

Acetone reportedly was detected in greater than 75 percent of 1062 blood samples at a median concentration of 1.8 ppm. See VCCEP Pilot Announcement, Table 2. The mean concentration reportedly was 3.1 ppm, and the 95th percentile was 6 ppm. Ashley *et al.* (1994). These findings are not surprising because acetone is naturally present in virtually all tissues of the human body.

As described in greater detail in section 6, acetone is produced naturally in the liver following the utilization of stored fats and lipids as a source of energy. Healthy adult humans have endogenous acetone concentrations up to 10 mg/L (10 ppm), while children and adolescents, because of their higher energy expenditure, typically have higher levels of acetone in their blood. Blood levels can vary substantially as a result of normal activities such as exercise and dieting. The blood level findings cited in NHANES are well within the range that is present in healthy humans.

EPA considered biomonitoring data as providing a strong rationale for identifying a chemical for this VCCEP Pilot Program. See VCCEP Pilot Announcement, section III.B. In the case of acetone, however, measurable blood levels are expected, and the levels reported do not provide a basis for concern.

2.3 Indoor Air Monitoring Data

EPA cited one study that reported an average acetone concentration of 8 ppb based on 4 indoor air samples (Shah and Singh, 1988). Another study included in EPA's list of citations also reports concentrations of acetone (Brown *et al.*, 1994). However, the latter report was a survey of other literature and the values reported for acetone are identical to the values reported in Shah and Singh, leading to the conclusion that this study merely summarized the results of the Shah and Singh analysis. When evaluating the indoor air data, one must keep in mind that humans exhale acetone with every breath. The SIAR concludes that acetone does not cause even transient central nervous system (CNS) effects in humans until exposures reach over 2,000 mg/m³ – or more than 5 orders of magnitude higher than the reported indoor air

concentrations. (p. 30) Further, the reported indoor air levels are more than a thousand-fold below the inhalation RfC derived by Gentry *et al.* (29 ppm) and the chronic inhalation MRL calculated by ATSDR (13 ppm), both of which are intended to represent a daily exposure that may be continued for a lifetime without appreciable risk of health effects (see sections 3.5 and 3.8). The acetone VCCEP sponsors are not aware of any data that would suggest that indoor air levels of acetone in the low ppb range present a health concern.

In summary, the available biomonitoring data and environmental monitoring data for acetone are not indicative of significant human exposures and do not provide a basis for concern for children's health. Thus, while the robustness of the available hazard data facilitates evaluation of acetone in the VCCEP Pilot, the biomonitoring data and indoor air data should not be viewed as presumptively indicating a need for further testing or any risk management actions.

3. Previous Assessments

Acetone has been the subject of several recent assessments by government agencies and in peer-reviewed publications. While none focused exclusively on children, they nonetheless are relevant. This section provides a brief overview of some of the more comprehensive reviews, and provides electronic links where available.

3.1 OECD SIDS Dossier and SIAR

Acetone has been sponsored through the “Screening Information Data Set” (SIDS) process. The SIAR concludes that acetone has been “well-studied” and its “health hazards are slight.” Acetone was determined to be a “low priority” for further work. Copies of the SIDS Dossier and SIAR are included with this VCCEP submission in Appendix A. The Dossier and SIAR include summaries of key studies. (Expanded robust summaries of selected studies also are included in Appendix B.) The following paragraphs provide an overview of the OECD SIDS assessment process, and summarize key conclusions for acetone.

The SIDS process is part of an international program for collecting and sharing information on certain high production volume chemicals. The SIDS program is sponsored by the OECD. Once a chemical has been selected for SIDS, a sponsor country collects available data and determines if additional testing is needed to complete the SIDS data set. The SIDS data set includes information on chemical identity, physical characteristics, sources and levels of exposure, environmental fate and pathways, and ecotoxicological and toxicological data. Once a SIDS data set is completed, a SIDS Initial Assessment Report (SIAR) is prepared and discussed at an OECD meeting. The SIAR includes a detailed assessment of all relevant hazard and exposure information, not just the base SIDS data set. Based on the information in the SIAR, OECD makes a determination regarding the need for additional work. EPA represents the United States in the SIDS program.

The United States was the sponsor country for acetone. As part of the SIDS process, the American Chemistry Council Acetone Panel sponsored preparation of a SIDS Dossier summarizing the available human health and environmental toxicity data on acetone, as well as information on manufacturing, production and use, metabolism, and environmental fate and degradation. EPA reviewed and commented on this document, which then formed the basis for the acetone SIAR. The SIAR was approved by EPA, and EPA sponsored the SIAR to the OECD. As of July 1, 1999, the SIAR had been approved by the full OECD as well.

Overall, the EPA-approved SIAR concludes, “The human health and environmental effects of acetone have both been well studied.” (p. 31) The SIAR reports that the most significant health effects of acetone are eye irritation and “an acute effect on the central nervous system,” but notes that “high exposures are required and health hazards are slight,” making acetone “a low priority for further work.” (p. 2)

According to the SIAR, the “hallmark of animal studies with acetone is the extremely high vapor concentrations of long exposure duration needed to produce an adverse effect.” (p. 25) The SIAR describes acetone as an “extremely weak sensory irritant,” and notes that “[v]apor concentrations in excess of 24,000 mg/m³ are generally required to elicit any sign of acute acetone intoxication in laboratory animals.” (pp. 24, 25) For transient effects on the nervous system, the SIAR finds that “[c]linical case studies, controlled human volunteer studies, animal research and occupational field evaluations all indicate that the NOAEL for this effect is 2,375 mg/m³ [approximately 1000 ppm] or greater.” (p. 3) The SIAR finds that acetone has “low

potential for systemic toxicity” and that acetone “showed minimal reproductive and developmental effects in animals exposed either by inhalation or via drinking water.” (pp. 26-27) From lifetime dermal studies in mice and other relevant information, the SIAR concludes that acetone is not likely to be carcinogenic. (p. 28) Similarly, the SIAR reports, “Acetone has been repeatedly tested in a variety of prokaryotic and eukaryotic test systems without causing genotoxic effects.” (p. 28)

The SIAR also includes exposure information. As a preliminary matter, the SIAR concludes, “Vegetative releases, forest fires, and other natural events account for nearly half (47%) of the estimated annual emissions of acetone, with another 50% resulting from the tropospheric photooxidation of propane and other alkanes and alkenes.” (p. 9) The SIAR estimates that the releases of acetone by chemical manufacturers and end users account for only about 1% of total releases. (*Id.*)

The SIAR also evaluates a worst-case consumer exposure scenario – an assumed 45-minute exposure through unventilated indoor application of a spray contact adhesive that contained 21% acetone, resulting in a peak exposure during use of 907 mg/m³ in the “zone of release.” (pp. 21-22) The SIAR reports that although some consumer products (such as nail polish remover) contain a higher percentage of acetone, “the resulting air acetone concentrations are generally much lower . . . because of the small volumes of liquid typically applied.” (p. 21)

Health and exposure data were considered together in an “Initial Assessment for Human Health.” Evaluating the estimated NOAEL for central nervous system (CNS) effects (2,375 mg/m³) against worst case estimates of occupational and consumer exposures, the SIAR found that acetone has “a low potential for neurological risk to humans.” (p. 30) Similarly, evaluations of the NOAELs for renal toxicity (found to be the most sensitive target tissue) and developmental toxicity against worst case occupational and consumer exposures led to a finding that acetone has “a low potential for renal damage and developmental effects in humans.” (p. 30) Similarly, the SIAR concludes that “acetone does not pose a neurotoxic, carcinogenic, or reproductive health hazard at the concentrations found anywhere in the environment.” (p. 31) The SIAR states that the “ability of humans to naturally produce and dispose of acetone may to a large degree explain its relatively low toxicity following external exposure to moderate amounts of the vapor or liquid.” (p. 20)

3.2 World Health Organization Environmental Health Criteria Document

The WHO International Programme on Chemical Safety (IPCS) completed and published an Environmental Health Criteria (EHC) document for acetone in 1999. (WHO 1998). The document is available on-line at <http://www.inchem.org/document/ehc/ehc207.htm>. IPCS EHC documents are the product of a rigorous scientific review process (described in the publication). In the case of acetone, the first draft was prepared by D.J. Reisman of U.S. EPA’s Office of Research and Development. A panel of independent experts reviewed and commented on the draft report, and also attended a multi-day meeting to discuss the draft document. The final document (EHC No. 207) includes a chronic guidance value of 9.0 mg/kg-day. (p. 110)

3.3 EPA EPCRA Review

In 1995, EPA removed acetone from the list of “toxic chemicals” for which annual emissions reporting is required under Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). See 60 Fed. Reg. 31,643 (June 16, 1995). In making that decision, EPA

conducted an extensive review of the available toxicity data and made the following findings (among others):

1. Acetone can cause eye, nose and throat irritation at 500 to 1,000 ppm (1,188 to 2,376 mg/m³), and acute CNS depression at concentrations in excess of 10,000 ppm.
2. “There is currently no evidence to suggest a concern for carcinogenicity.”
3. “The weight of the evidence indicates that acetone is not mutagenic in several mutagenicity assay systems.”
4. “A NOAEL of 2,200 ppm [5,220 mg/m³] by inhalation has been reported for developmental toxicity of acetone in rats and mice.”
5. “There are no data sufficient to support a chronic concern for significant irreversible neurotoxicity.”

EPA concluded that: (1) “acetone exhibits acute toxicity only at levels that greatly exceed releases and resultant exposures”; (2) “acetone exhibits low toxicity in chronic studies”; and (3) “acetone causes adverse environmental effects only at relatively high dose levels.” 60 Fed. Reg at 49,889-49,890.

3.4 Patty’s Toxicology

The Acetone Chapter in *Patty’s Toxicology* was updated in 2001 and provides a comprehensive discussion of the available animal and human data on acetone’s potential health effects (Morgott 2001). The acetone chapter consists of 81 pages and includes 697 references. All toxicity endpoints of concern to the VCCEP are discussed at length. Extensive information also is presented concerning metabolism, toxicokinetics and normal endogenous production, among other relevant subjects. The acetone chapter contains a number of excellent tables that summarize relevant studies addressing particular toxicity endpoints, and several are reproduced here with permission. Further, with permission, a copy of the entire acetone chapter has been included with this submission as Appendix C.

3.5 PBPK Modeling

Information on the toxicokinetics of acetone and isopropanol, whose major metabolite is acetone (Nordmann *et al.*, 1973), has been used to develop physiologically-based, pharmacokinetic (PBPK) models to compare the uptake, distribution and metabolism of the chemicals in rats and humans by different routes of exposure (Clewell *et al.*, 2001; Gentry, *et al.*, 2002; Kumagai and Matsunaga, 1995). The tissues described in the models include those associated with uptake (lungs and skin), metabolism (liver) and fat storage with slowly- and rapidly-perfused compartments. The models have been validated for human exposure for the inhalation pathway, but not the oral pathway. However, this PBPK model successfully described a large body of pharmacokinetic data for IPA and acetone from different species, administered by different routes of administration, including orally administered acetone in rats. The successful description of several data sets collected by several different investigators indicates that the model is a valid mathematical description of the pharmacokinetics of both IPA and acetone in mammals and can be used to accurately describe the fate of inhaled or orally

administered acetone to humans. See additional discussion in section 7.3 – Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics.

3.6 ATSDR Toxicological Profile

The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) published a toxicological profile of acetone in 1994. (ATSDR 1994). Though somewhat dated, the toxicological profile includes information on potential exposures as well as an assessment of hazard data. The ATSDR document also includes minimal risk levels (MRLs) for acute, intermediate and chronic exposures. An MRL is defined as an estimate of daily exposure to a substance that is likely to be without an appreciable risk of adverse health effects (non-cancer) for the general population over a specified period of time. The ATSDR MRL values for acetone include: an acute inhalation MRL of 26 ppm for exposures up to 14 days; an intermediate duration inhalation MRL of 13 ppm for exposures from 15 to 364 days; the same inhalation MRL of 13 ppm for chronic-duration exposure of 365 days or more; and an intermediate oral MRL of 2 mg/kg-day for oral exposures from 15 to 364 days.

3.7 NTP Testing

The National Toxicology Program (NTP) conducted 13-week subchronic studies of acetone administered in the drinking water of male and female B6C3F1 mice and Fischer-344 rats (Dietz, 1990; Dietz *et al.*, 1991). Acetone concentrations in the drinking water went up to 5.0 percent for male and female rats and female mice, and up to 2.0 percent for male mice. The high concentrations correspond to 50,000 ppm for male and female rats and female mice, and 20,000 ppm for male mice. Minimally toxic concentrations of acetone were estimated to be 20,000 ppm (1700 mg/kg-day) for male rats, 20,000 ppm (4858 mg/kg-day) for male mice, and 50,000 ppm (11,298 mg/kg-day) for female mice. No toxic effects were identified for female rats at the highest concentration of 50,000 ppm (3100 mg/kg-day).

After completing these subchronic drinking water studies, the NTP recommended against conducting chronic toxicity or carcinogenicity studies of acetone because “the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents,” and because of “the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential for acetone.” (NTP, 1989) (Appendix F). This recommendation was accepted by the Hazardous Waste Information Evaluation Subcommittee (HWIES) of the Public Health Service Committee to Coordinate Environmental Health and Related Programs. The recommendation of HWIES in turn was accepted by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), which had been considering proposing acetone for possible chronic toxicity testing. See 54 Fed. Reg. 42,042 (Oct. 13, 1989); 55 Fed. Reg. 34,966 (Aug. 27, 1990).¹ In other words, no two-year cancer bioassay has been conducted for acetone because NTP determined chronic toxicity studies were not necessary, and ATSDR agreed.

3.8 IRIS Assessment

EPA's National Center for Environmental Assessment (NCEA) recently completed updating the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) database entry for acetone. A “preliminary draft” IRIS

¹ ATSDR is required under CERCLA to conduct health assessments of sites on EPA's National Priorities List. Where gaps in toxicological information exist, ATSDR may sponsor studies at the NTP to address the data gaps. ATSDR seeks advice and recommendations from HWIES on which hazardous substances should be studied and the types of studies to be performed by NTP.

summary (13 pages) and Toxicological Review (45 pages) were posted on NCEA's website on August 16, 2001. Final documents were posted on July 31, 2003 and may be found at <http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/>. The final documents include an oral reference dose (RfD) of 0.9 mg/kg-day, based on a NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day for male rats reported in the 90-day drinking water studies sponsored by NTP, and total uncertainty factors of 1000. NCEA had proposed an RfD of 0.3 mg/kg-day, based on the same study and NOAEL but using total UFs of 3000. No inhalation reference concentration was proposed or included in the final documents.

The American Chemistry Council Acetone Panel submitted scientific comments on the draft documentation and proposed RfD, explaining why a total uncertainty factor of 3000 was excessive in the case of acetone. The Panel explained why it believed that it was not scientifically reasonable to suggest that increasing the level of acetone in blood by less than 1 percent above normal endogenous levels might pose health risks. The Panel cited the inherent variability of acetone blood levels in healthy individuals, the fact that endogenous production can greatly increase during normal, healthy exercise and can more than double during fasting, and the fact that acetone is naturally present in many commonly consumed foods.² The Panel further demonstrated that: (1) an uncertainty factor of 10 to extrapolate from subchronic to chronic exposures was not necessary for acetone; (2) an uncertainty factor of 10 for database insufficiency was excessive; and (3) an interspecies uncertainty factor of 3 was sufficient in light of similarities between the endogenous background levels of acetone in humans and rats and the pharmacokinetic similarities in the disposition of acetone by both species. In sum, the Panel demonstrated that combined uncertainty factors of 100, or at most 300, were ample in the case of acetone.

In the final IRIS documents, NCEA agreed that an UF of 10 for extrapolation from subchronic exposures was excessive, and reduced that UF to 3, resulting in the final RfD of 0.9 mg/kg-day. NCEA did not make any other changes to the RfD calculation. As a result, NCEA has released a final RfD that is still more than 10-fold below estimated normal endogenous production in healthy adults. Further, the final IRIS RfD is 100-fold below estimated average daily endogenous acetone production in children 1 to 5 years old (94 mg/kg-day, with an estimated maximum value of 135 mg/kg-day – see Table 8.4 in section 8), and more than 120-fold below estimated average daily endogenous production in infants less than a year old (121 mg/kg-day, with an estimated maximum value of 387 mg/kg-day). Still further, NCEA's final RfD is below estimated daily exposures to acetone in mother's milk, assuming no exogenous sources of exposure (1.5 mg/kg-day). See section 8.2.4 and Table 8-12. Hence the EPA's RfD for acetone currently implies that the acetone exposure due to the ingestion of normal amounts of human mother's breast milk through nursing represents some incremental increase in health risk to the infant. Additionally, as described in section 7.12, a ketogenic diet (KD) has been used in recent years to treat children with recalcitrant refractory epilepsy with no apparent ill effects, and KD-based infant formulas have been administered to newborns. Acetone concentrations in the breath of children on a ketogenic diet have been shown to be more than 100-fold greater than levels in the breath of untreated children, indicating that blood levels have been raised significantly without evidence of adverse consequences. In light of that experience, it is not plausible to believe that exogenous exposures in the range of the IRIS RfD, or approximately 1 percent of normal endogenous production for healthy children, might pose health hazards.

² The acetone content of foods is described in sections 6 and 8 of this submission.

In sum, the Panel believes the IRIS RfD is the product of too many conservative choices which collectively produce a scientifically implausible result.

3.9 Derivation of Inhalation RfC and Oral RfD by Gentry *et al.*

Because inhalation is the most relevant route of exposure, yet EPA in its draft IRIS documents concluded that there was insufficient data to calculate an RfC for acetone, the American Chemistry Council Acetone Panel sponsored Drs. Harvey Clewell, Robinan Gentry and their colleagues to use a pharmacokinetic model to derive an oral reference dose (RfD) and inhalation reference concentration (RfC) for acetone. Their manuscript has been accepted for publication by the *Journal of Toxicology and Environmental Health* (Gentry *et al.*, in press), and a copy is included with this submission in Appendix D.

Gentry *et al.* conducted a risk assessment for acetone based on the systemic toxicity observed in subchronic and developmental toxicity studies for acetone and its metabolic precursor isopropanol. Using a validated PBPK model for isopropanol that included a full submodel reflecting acetone pharmacokinetics, the researchers were able to evaluate numerous oral and inhalation studies on acetone and isopropanol, determining actual tissue dosages rather than simply external exposures. The approach enabled route-to-route extrapolation (derivation of an RfD from inhalation data, or an RfC from oral data), and also allowed for a reduction in the uncertainty factor for interspecies extrapolation based on the ability of the PBPK model to simulate both human and animal dosimetry. The Mast (1988) developmental toxicity study was determined to provide the lowest health benchmark for both oral and inhalation exposures. The RfD derived from this study by Gentry *et al.* is 8.7 mg/kg-day, which is comparable to the guidance value presented in the IPCS EHC document. The RfC derived by Gentry *et al.* is 29 ppm, which is similar to but somewhat higher than the intermediate and chronic inhalation MRL values derived by ATSDR. Gentry *et al.* also calculated a RfD based on the NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day observed in NTP's 90-day drinking water studies in rats and mice. That value is 16.0 mg/kg-day.

4. Regulatory Status

This section provides a brief overview of acetone's current U.S. regulatory status. Acetone must be handled carefully because of its flammability and relatively high vapor pressure, and the associated dangers of fire or explosion. However, acetone generally is not regulated by the federal government based on toxicity concerns. The following table summarizes acetone's status under several environmental, health and safety statutes and regulatory programs.

Acetone Regulatory Status

Regulation	Acetone Status
CERCLA Hazardous Substances	Listed because it is a RCRA hazardous waste. RQ = 5,000 lbs. (highest category)
RCRA Listed Wastes	Included in F003 wastes (spent solvents) and listed as a "U" waste (U002) based solely on ignitability
RCRA Toxic Constituents (App. VIII)	Not listed.
EPCRA Extremely Hazardous Substances	Not listed.
EPCRA Toxic Release Inventory	Delisted in 1995.
CAA Hazardous Air Pollutants	Not listed.
CAA Volatile Organic Compounds	Exempted from regulation as a VOC in 1995.
CWA Priority Pollutant List	Not listed.
OSHA Z-Tables (Air Contaminants Standard)	Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) is 1,000 ppm (8-hour TWA).
ACGIH TLVs (non-regulatory)	Recommended exposure limits are 500 ppm (8-hour TWA) and 750 ppm (15-minute STEL)
California Air Resources Board Toxics List	Removed in 1995.

Acetone is also listed as a component in food additives and food packaging and rated as a GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) substance at concentrations ranging from 5 to 8 mg/L (Oser and Ford, 1973).

EPA has recognized that acetone can potentially play a significant role in pollution prevention. When excluding acetone from the federal definition of a volatile organic compound (VOC), EPA stated that this exemption would "contribute to the achievement of several important environmental goals and would support EPA's pollution prevention efforts." 60 Fed. Reg. 31,634 (June 16, 1995). EPA noted that because acetone is not a HAP, it "can be used as a substitute for several compounds that are listed as hazardous air pollutants (HAP) under section 112 of the [Clean Air] Act." *Id.* Further, EPA stated, "Acetone can also be used as a substitute for ozone depleting substances (ODSs) which are active in depleting the stratospheric ozone layer." *Id.* EPA has explicitly approved acetone as a substitute for ODSs in several use sectors, including: (1) polyurethane foam blowing; (2) metals, electronics, and precision cleaning; (3) adhesives, coatings, and inks; and (4) aerosol solvents. See 59 Fed. Reg. 13,044 (Mar. 18, 1994).

Other regulatory authorities have recognized that use of acetone may facilitate progress toward important environmental goals. The California South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) has stated, "use of acetone as an available substitute for ODS and HAPs is important to the AQMD's efforts to require manufacturers to use negligibly reactive substances

in lieu of the ODS and HAPs that are currently in use.³ SCAQMD stated further that acetone's VOC exempt status would assist that Agency's efforts in "reducing ozone formation by providing an acceptable alternative," which "could be very beneficial to the aerospace, foam blowing and electronics industries located in Southern California." *Id.* Similarly, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) when exempting acetone from regulation as a VOC stated, "By adopting the proposed revision, Massachusetts will promote cleaner air and public health through [encouraging] the substitution of acetone for more hazardous compounds, or the continued use of acetone over more hazardous compounds. . . ."⁴

³ Letter from J.M. Lents, Executive Officer of SCAQMD, to EPA Docket (Nov. 21, 1994) (supporting VOC-exempt status for acetone).

⁴ Background Document for the Proposed Exemption of Acetone from the List of VOCs, at p. 1 (Feb. 1996).

5. Product Overview

This section presents an overview of: (1) production processes; (2) production volume; (3) physical and chemical properties; (4) principal uses; and (5) releases to the environment.

5.1 Production Processes

Acetone can be manufactured by several routes: (a) as a co-product of phenol via cumene peroxidation, (b) via dehydrogenation of isopropyl alcohol, (c) as a byproduct of hydroquinone production, and (d) as a byproduct of propylene oxide production. The predominant route to production of acetone is the cumene peroxidation process. In this process, benzene is alkylated to cumene which is oxidized to cumene hydroperoxide, which in turn is cleaved to phenol and acetone. Distillation columns are employed to attain desired purity, which is typically greater than 99%. The processes and equipment for manufacture, transfer and storage are all continuous and enclosed. Equipment and tanks are customarily vented to water scrubbers or through conservation vents to prevent atmospheric loss via evaporation. These practices keep environmental acetone losses during production to a minimum.

5.2 Volume

In 2002, actual annual acetone production was approximately 4 billion pounds. (Chemical Data Inc., *Monthly Petrochemical & Plastics Analysis*, April 2003.)

5.3 Physical and Chemical Properties

A summary of selected chemical and physical properties of acetone is presented in Table 5.3.1. Additional information on chemical and physical properties is found in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Table 74.1) (Morgott 2001), the SIAR (p. 4), and a product brochure prepared by Dow (included in Appendix E).

Table 5.3.1. CHEMICAL AND PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF ACETONE*

CHEMICAL NAME:	Acetone
EMPIRICAL FORMULA:	C ₃ H ₆ O
SYNONYMS:	Dimethyl Ketone, 2-Propanone
CAS NUMBER:	67-64-1
APPEARANCE AND ODOR:	Clear, colorless liquid with characteristic odor
MOLECULAR WEIGHT:	58.08
DENSITY:	0.774 g/cm ³ at 25° C
BOILING POINT:	56.2° C at 760 mmHg
FREEZING POINT:	-94.7° C
VAPOR PRESSURE:	185 mmHg at 20° C
SOLUBILITY:	miscible in water
LOWER EXPLOSION LIMIT:	2.5% (v/v) at 25°C

*Reference: *Patty's Toxicology*, Acetone Chapter, Table 74.1 (Morgott 2001).

5.4 Uses

Acetone is one of the most widely used industrial solvents. Acetone is used in surface coatings, cleaning fluids, pharmaceutical applications, adhesives and numerous other consumer and commercial products. It also is sold in small containers (e.g., one liter) in many hardware stores. Acetone is used in the extraction of fats, oils, waxes and resins from natural products, as a denaturant for ethyl alcohol, and as acetylene absorbent. Acetone is used in the manufacture of cellulose acetate fibers. Acetone also is widely used as a chemical intermediate. Numerous chemicals are produced starting with the self-condensation of acetone to diacetone alcohol, including methyl isobutyl ketone, methyl isobutyl carbinol, hexylene glycol, and isophorone. At least 75% of the acetone consumed in 1995 was used in captive processes for preparing downstream chemicals; only about 12% was used as a formulating solvent for commercial products. Additional information on uses of acetone is provided in section 8 of this document (Exposure Assessment).

5.5 Releases to the Environment

In 1993, the last year for which emissions data was made available under EPCRA section 313 (before acetone was removed from the list of chemicals for which emissions reporting is required), total reported acetone releases to the environment were 134 million pounds. Approximately 97 percent of this amount was released to air.

Man-made releases are quite small compared to natural sources of acetone in the environment. Releases to the environment by producers, processors and users of acetone have been estimated to represent only about 1-2 percent of total annual environmental loading. Approximately 97 percent of annual environmental loading comes from natural sources (vegetative releases, forest fires and other natural sources) and the photo-oxidation of alkanes and alkenes. The remainder comes from anthropogenic biomass burning. (Singh *et al.* 1994).

Ambient concentrations in the environment typically are quite low. Additional discussion of man-made and natural sources of acetone in the environment and ambient concentrations is found in the SIAR at section 2 (General Information on Exposure) and section 3.1 (Environmental Exposure), and in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001) at section 1.3 (Exposure Assessment). This subject also is addressed further in section 8 of this VCCEP submission (Exposure Assessment).

6. Natural Presence in the Human Body and Diet

Acetone occurs naturally throughout the body as a result of its production during fatty acid catabolism. It is normally produced and eliminated from the human body in large amounts (2,000-3,000 mg/day) and at a very rapid rate (ca. 300 mg/hr). The typical plasma concentration of acetone is in the range of 10 mg/L for adult human beings, with large fluctuations occurring in response to an individual's energy needs (Teitz 1983). These facts show that the human body is capable of producing and eliminating acetone in large amounts without adverse health effects. Infants and young children typically have higher acetone blood levels than adults due to their higher energy expenditure (Peden 1964). Vigorous exercise, dieting, pregnancy, and lactation can also lead to normal fluctuations in the blood levels of acetone without any ill effect (Williamson and Whitelaw 1978, Walther and Neumann 1969). Blood levels as high as 140 mg/L are commonly observed in post-partum infants (Peden 1964).

Acetone has a normal physiological role in the body and serves as an important source of energy when carbohydrate reserves are depleted. Circulating levels of endogenous acetone fluctuate greatly depending on a person's age, nutritional status, and degree of physical activity. When the body is temporarily depleted of other readily available carbohydrates, any of these physiological states which place high energy demands upon the body typically result in increased fatty acid catabolism and higher than normal blood levels of acetone (*Patty's Toxicology, Acetone Chapter*). Conditions such as diabetes can result in significantly higher blood levels of acetone when this disease is uncontrolled. However, diabetes is typically controlled through appropriate medical treatment resulting in blood acetone levels within the normal range (Mason and Hutson 1975, Levey *et al.* 1964, Pecllet *et al.* 1994, Sulway and Mullins, 1970).

Extensive information on normal endogenous production of acetone and associated blood levels is presented in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001), sections 1.3.5.1 and 1.4.2.2.3. See also section 7.3 of this document (Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics).

Acetone also is present naturally in a wide variety of food items, including fruits, vegetables and dairy products. See *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001), section 1.3.2 for additional information on the natural presence of acetone in the diet. See also related discussion in section 8 of this document (Exposure Assessment).

7. Hazard Assessment

7.1 Introduction

There are literally hundreds of references on the potential health effects from exposure to acetone. The following text summarizes those studies deemed most pertinent to the VCCEP Pilot Program. Where appropriate, studies of isopropanol have been included to supplement the information available from studies of acetone. Because isopropanol is readily and quantitatively metabolized to acetone, studies of the former can be used as surrogates and to supplement the hazard assessment for acetone.

All toxicity tests listed in Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the Pilot Announcement have been conducted for acetone and/or isopropanol. In some cases, multiple studies are available to support an assessment of the toxicity endpoint identified. Further, repeated-dose studies provide supporting information for assessments of several toxicity endpoints, including potential reproductive toxicity, neurotoxicity and immunotoxicity.

The specific studies that correspond to each test listed in each tier of the Pilot Announcement are identified in Table 7.1. Individual studies are described further in separate sections of the hazard assessment organized by VCCEP category.

At the end of the hazard assessment, a summary table (Table 7.14.1) provides a listing of the key study(ies) for each VCCEP toxicity endpoint, with the following information: a description of the test species/sex; exposure concentration or dose; route of administration; duration of exposure; observed effects; journal reference; and robust summary number. Additional details concerning individual studies can be found in the OECD SIDS Dossier and SIAR (Appendix A) and in the robust summaries for key studies (Appendix B).

Table 7.1 Data Requirements for VCCEP Tiers 1-3 and Data Available for Acetone

TIER	TEST	DATA/ RESULTS
1	Acute Oral or Acute Inhalation Toxicity.	Oral LD50 in rats, rabbits and mice. Inhalation LC50 in rats. Dermal LD50 in rabbit and guinea pig. i.p. LD50 in mice and rats. Numerous other acute toxicity studies in mice, rats, rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, cats and monkeys. Data demonstrate low acute toxicity.
1	<i>In Vitro</i> Gene Mutation (bacterial reverse mutation assay).	Numerous <i>In Vitro</i> gene mutation assays, including mammalian cell mutagenesis studies. Generally demonstrating lack of mutagenic activity.
1	Reproductive Toxicity: Repeated-dose oral toxicity and one-generation reproductive toxicity.	Multiple oral, subchronic toxicity studies in rats and mice. One-generation reproduction study in rats. NOAEL for reproductive effects: 1,300 mg/kg in drinking water.

1	<i>In Vitro</i> or <i>In Vivo</i> Chromosomal Aberrations or <i>In Vivo</i> Micronucleus.	Numerous cytogenetics studies in cultured mammalian cells. Studies demonstrate a lack of activity.
2	90-day Subchronic Toxicity.	Subchronic drinking water studies in rats and mice. Minimally toxic concentrations ranged from 1700 mg/kg-day (male rats) to 11,298 mg/kg-day (female mice). Low systemic toxicity, with NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day in drinking water studies.
2	Developmental Toxicity (two species).	Inhalation developmental toxicity in rats and mice. No increase in fetal malformations at doses up to 11,000 ppm (rats) and 6600 ppm (mice). NOAEL: 2200 ppm (mice and rats). Supporting data available for isopropanol.
2	<i>In Vivo</i> Mammalian Bone Marrow or Erythrocyte Micronucleus (if <i>in vitro</i> Tier 1 tests positive).	Multiple studies examining potential chromosomal toxicity under a variety of dosing routes, regimens and target cells. Generally demonstrating a lack of cytogenetic toxicity.
2	Immunotoxicity.	Guideline study in mice. Histopathological examination of immune system tissues also conducted as part of subchronic studies. No evidence of immunotoxicity at any dose level.
2	Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics.	Numerous studies of absorption, metabolism, distribution and excretion in animals and humans. Demonstrated rapid absorption, metabolism and excretion of acetone. Pharmacokinetic model has been published.
2	Reproductive Toxicity: Reproduction and fertility effects.	No two-generation reproductive study in acetone. Two-generation oral rat reproduction study in isopropanol. BMDL ₅ of 449 and 418 mg/kg-day isopropanol for F ₁ and F ₂ generations, respectively.

3	Carcinogenicity or Combined Chronic Toxicity/Carcinogenicity.	<p>Chronic dermal studies in acetone show no carcinogenic effects.</p> <p>No oral or inhalation acetone chronic studies. NTP determined such studies were unnecessary. Chronic studies of isopropanol have been conducted in rats and mice, and were negative.</p> <p>Totality of scientific evidence demonstrates a lack of carcinogenic potential.</p>
3	Neurotoxicity Screening Battery.	<p>Numerous studies of acetone under a variety of protocols in multiple species have been conducted. Subchronic studies have included examination of central and peripheral nervous system tissues.</p> <p>A guideline neurotoxicity study has been conducted with isopropanol in rats.</p> <p>No indication of the nervous systems as primary target tissues.</p>
3	Developmental Neurotoxicity.	<p>Guideline study has not been conducted with acetone. Other acetone data is not indicative of a likely concern.</p> <p>Guideline study has been conducted with isopropanol in rats, with no evidence of developmental neurotoxicity.</p> <p>NOAEL: 1,200 mg/kg-day isopropanol for developmental neurotoxicity (highest dose tested).</p>

7.2 Acute Toxicity (Tier 1)

The potential acute toxicity of acetone has been extensively studied. Animal studies have focused primarily on lethality, narcosis and sensory irritation, and have been conducted in numerous species (rats, mice, rabbits, guinea pigs, dogs, cats, monkeys) and by multiple routes of administration (oral, inhalation, dermal, parenteral exposure). The available data demonstrates that acetone has low acute toxicity. No further evaluation of potential acute oral or inhalation toxicity of acetone in animals is warranted at this time.

Animal Studies

Estimates of the acute oral LD₅₀ of acetone range from 7,100 to 15,900 mg/kg in rats over 14 days of age (Pozzani, *et al.*, 1959; Smyth *et al.*, 1962; Kimura *et al.*, 1971), and 5,300 mg/kg in rabbits (Krasavage *et al.*, 1982). Tanii *et al.*, (1986) examined the acute lethality of 13 ketonic solvents and reported that acetone was among the least toxic (LD₅₀ of 5,250 mg/kg). Newborn rats, 1 to 2 days old, are also remarkably resistant to the lethal effects of acetone with the LD₅₀ being 2,800 mg/kg (Kimura *et al.*, 1971).

Bruckner and Peterson (1978) showed no toxic effects in rats exposed 3 hours/day, 5 days/week for 8 weeks to 19,000 ppm of acetone. Pozzani *et al.* (1959) reported an 8-hour inhalation LC₅₀ value of about 21,150 ppm for female rats. Smyth *et al.*, (1962) reported that five of six rats survived a 4-hour exposure to 16,000 ppm (38.0 mg/L) of acetone, but that all remaining rats died when the concentration was doubled to 32,000 ppm. Mashbitz *et al.*, (1936) reported that mice exposed to acetone at concentrations ranging from 42,200 to 84,400 ppm (100 to 200 mg/L) became unconscious after about 35 minutes.

Acute lethality studies of acetone are summarized in Table 7.2 (based on Table 74.13 in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001)).

Table 7.2 Acute Lethality Studies*

Table 74.13. Acute Lethality of Acetone to Laboratory Animals by Different Routes of Exposure

Strain & Species	Sex	Exposure Route	LD ₅₀ or LC ₅₀ Value (ppm or mg/kg)	Reference
Carworth-Nelson rat	F	Inhalation	21,150	Pozzani <i>et al.</i> 1959
Carworth-Wistar rat	F	Oral	8,500	Smyth <i>et al.</i> 1969
Carworth-Wistar rat	F	Oral	10,000	Pozzani <i>et al.</i> 1959
Rat	Unk	Oral	9,800	Clothier <i>et al.</i> 1987
Sprague-Dawley rat	M	Oral	9,750	Kanada <i>et al.</i> 1994
Sprague-Dawley rat	M&F	Oral	7,300	Kimura <i>et al.</i> 1971
Rabbit	Unk	Oral	5,300	Krasavage <i>et al.</i> 1982
ddY mouse	M	Oral	5,200	Tanii <i>et al.</i> 1986
New Zealand rabbit	M	Dermal	>15,800	Smyth <i>et al.</i> 1969
Rabbit	Unk	Dermal	20,000	Nishimura <i>et al.</i> 1994
Harley guinea pig	M	Dermal	>7,400	Roudabush <i>et al.</i> 1965
CF-1 mouse	M	Intraperitoneal	3,100	Zakhari 1977
CR rat	Unk	Intraperitoneal	620	Mikolajczak <i>et al.</i> 1993
Rat	Unk	Intraperitoneal	1,300	Clothier <i>et al.</i> 1987

*Based on Table 74.13 in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001) (with permission).

Animal studies demonstrate that the narcotic effects of acetone are dependent upon both the length and magnitude of the exposure. Vapor concentrations in excess of 10,000 ppm are generally required to elicit any sign of acetone intoxication. Likewise, the data show a progression in CNS involvement with increases in either the exposure concentration or the exposure duration. Regardless of the species examined, the narcotic effects of acetone proceed through several distinct phases that can be described as follows: drowsiness,

incoordination, loss of autonomic reflex, narcosis, respiratory failure, and death. (Haggard *et al.*, 1944; Specht, 1939; Kagen, 1934; Flury and Wirth, 1934).

Some studies in laboratory animals have focused on the irritative properties of acetone following acute inhalation exposures. In a series of experiments described by Kane, *et al.*, (1980), the RD₅₀ value for eleven organic solvents ranged from about 600 to over 77,000 ppm. Of the compounds tested, acetone was shown to have the highest RD₅₀ (over 77,000 ppm). The RD₅₀ is the air concentration required to produce a 50 percent decrease in the initial respiration rate, which is a reflection of the degree of sensory irritation. Measurement of the RD₅₀ value in mice has been shown to have predictive value in estimating the relative irritant effects of inhalation exposures in humans. Using very similar methods and criteria, De Ceaurriz *et al.*, (1981) found that acetone was the least potent of 22 solvents evaluated in their version of the assay. These authors reported an RD₅₀ value for acetone of 23,480 ppm.

Additional discussion of acute toxicity studies in animals is found in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter*, section 1.4.1.1. Acute toxicity inhalation studies are summarized in Table 7.3 (based on Table 74.14 in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter*).

Table 7.3 Acute Toxicity Studies – Inhalation*

Table 74.14. Acute Toxicity of Acetone to Laboratory Animals Following Inhalation Exposure

Species	Exposure conc (ppm)	Duration (h)	Observed effects	Reference
Mice	8,440	4.0-7.75	Loss righting reflex	Browning 1953
	8,440	7.75	Narcosis in some animals	
	20,256	1.5	Deep narcosis	
	20,256	1.0-1.2	Loss righting reflex	
	46,420	0.6-1.0	Deep narcosis	
Rats	46,420	1.0	Lethal	Haggard <i>et al.</i> 1944
	2,100	8.0	None	
	4,220	8.0	None	
	10,550	1.7-4.2	Incoordination	
	21,100	2.2-2.7	Loss righting reflex	
	42,200	1.75-1.9	Loss corneal reflex	
	42,200	4.5-5.5	Respiratory failure	
	84,400	2.5-3.0	Respiratory failure	
	84,400	0.35-0.83	Loss corneal and righting reflex	
	126,600	1.75-2.25	Respiratory failure	
	126,600	0.17-0.42	Loss corneal and righting reflex	
Cats	16,880	3.75-4.0	Loss righting reflex	Kagan 1924
	45,108	1.5	Loss righting reflex	
	75,116	1.0-1.25	Deep narcosis	
Cats	3,375-4,220	5.0	Eye and nose irritation	Flury & Wirth 1934
Guinea pigs	8,440-21,100	3.0-4.0	Drowsiness and stupor	Specht <i>et al.</i> 1939
	33,760-42,200	4.0	Narcosis with convulsions	
	52,750	1.5	Narcosis with convulsions	
	10,000	47-48	Some lethality	
pigs	20,000	9.0	Narcosis	
	50,000	3.0-4.0	Lethal	

*Based on Table 74.13 in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001) (with permission).

Additional acute animal studies are discussed in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter*, section 1.4.1.1.

7.3 Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics (Tier 2)

The rates and routes of acetone formation and elimination have been extensively examined in both humans and laboratory animals. This topic is addressed at length in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001), section 1.4.2.2.3.

Acetone is a normal byproduct of mammalian metabolism, and virtually every organ and tissue within the body contains some acetone. Measurable amounts of acetone are continuously being excreted in the breath and urine of humans. Normal levels of acetone in the blood of healthy adult humans have a mean value of 10 mg/L or less (Trotter *et al.*, 1971; Teitz, 1983;

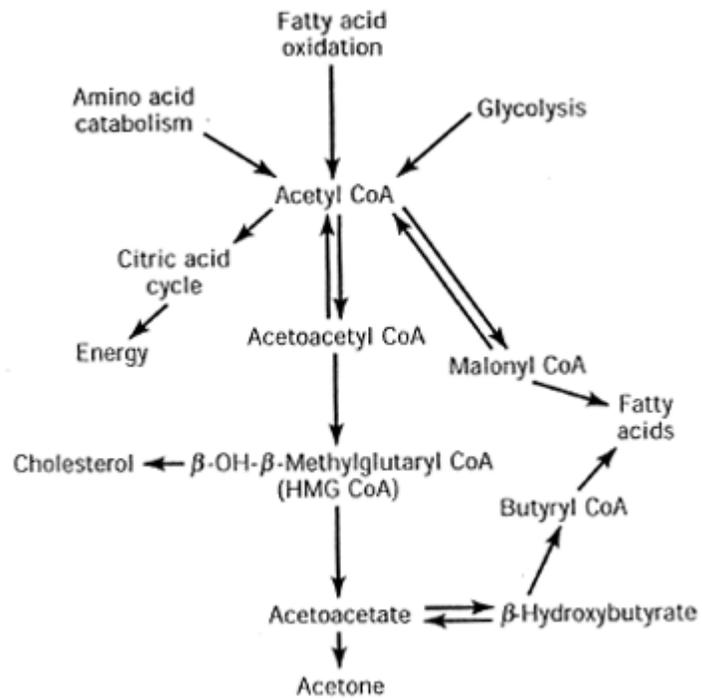
Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter at section 1.4.2.2.3). Because it is nonionic and miscible with water, endogenously produced acetone is capable of passively diffusing across cell membranes and distributing throughout the body fluid. Detectable background levels of acetone have been measured in several different types of biological specimens including whole blood, exhaled air, and breast milk (Trotter *et al.*, 1971; Conkle *et al.*, 1975; Pellizzari *et al.*, 1982). Acetone levels in the blood can range as high as 150 mg/L in humans fasting for 3 weeks (Reichard *et al.*, 1979). Sporadic increases in blood acetone levels are quickly controlled by specific metabolic enzymes that are capable of efficiently handling the excess production.

Since acetone formation within the body is closely linked with the rate of utilization of stored fats as a source of energy, tissue levels can fluctuate dramatically, depending upon a person's health, nutrition, and level of physical activity. Acetone is only one of three ketone bodies that arises from the production of acetyl coenzyme A within the liver (Vance, 1984). Two of these ketone bodies, acetoacetate and 8-hydroxybutyrate, are organic acids that can cause metabolic acidosis when produced in large amounts. Acetone, in contrast, is nonionic and is derived from both the spontaneous and enzymatic breakdown of acetoacetate. Endogenous and exogenous acetone are eliminated from the body either by excretion into urine and exhaled air or by enzymatic metabolism. Under normal circumstances, metabolism is the predominant route of elimination and handles nearly 70 percent of the total body burden (Price and Rittenberg, 1950; Mourkides *et al.*, 1959; Bergman *et al.*, 1960). However, the first enzymatic step in the metabolism of acetone, a cytochrome P450-dependent oxidation to acetol, appears to be capacity limited and is saturated when the acetone blood concentration rises much above 300 mg/L (Koehler *et al.*, 1941; Owen, 1982). Once saturation occurs, the elimination half-life increases greatly and secondary excretion pathways are called upon to handle the excess acetone within the body.

The subsequent metabolism of acetol normally occurs by two pathways, an extrahepatic propanediol pathway and an intrahepatic methyl glyoxal pathway (Argiles, 1986; Kosugi *et al.*, 1986a and 1986b). The end-products of acetone metabolism include lactate and pyruvate which can be used to synthesize glucose and other important macromolecules by entering the general carbon pool of the body (Casazza *et al.*, 1984).

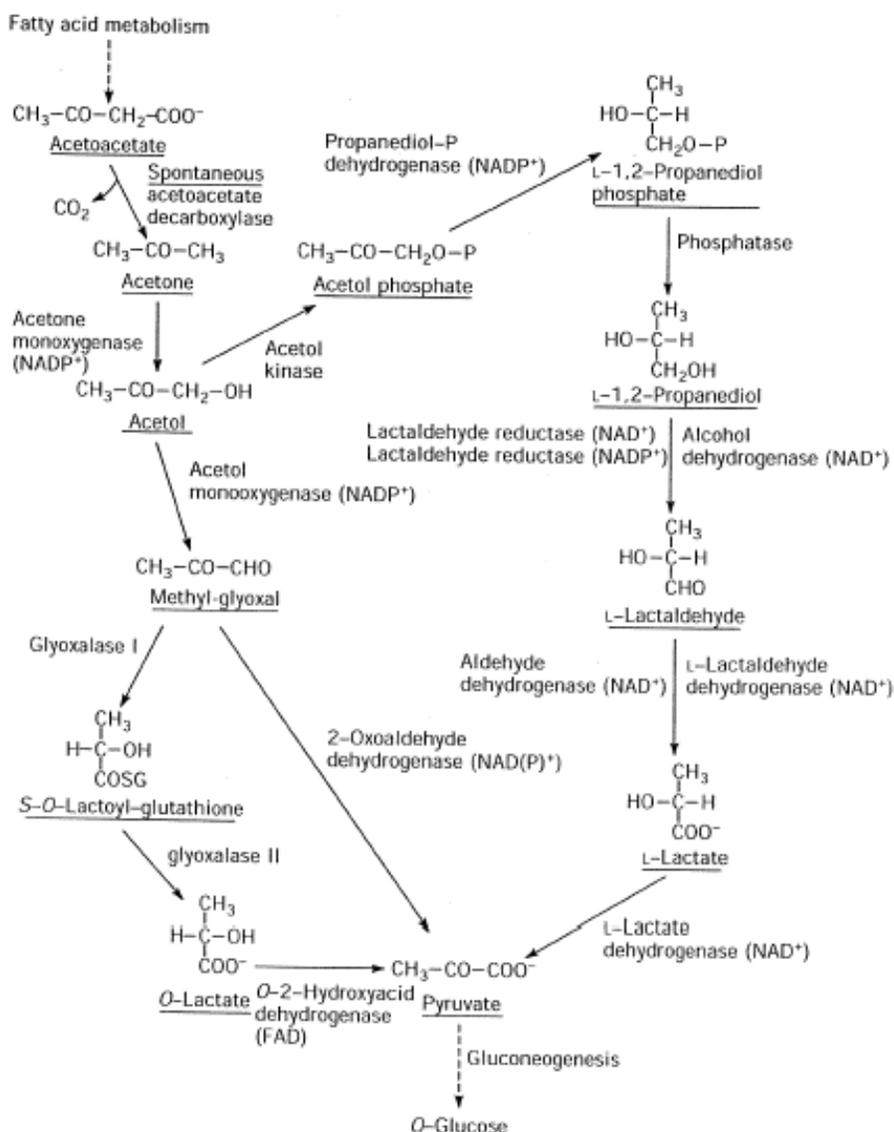
The processes by which acetone is created in the body and metabolized are depicted in Figures 7.3.1 and 7.3.2, below.

Figure 7.3.1: Endogenous Production of Acetone



Source: Patty's Toxicology (Morgott 2001), Figure 74.1, p. 35.

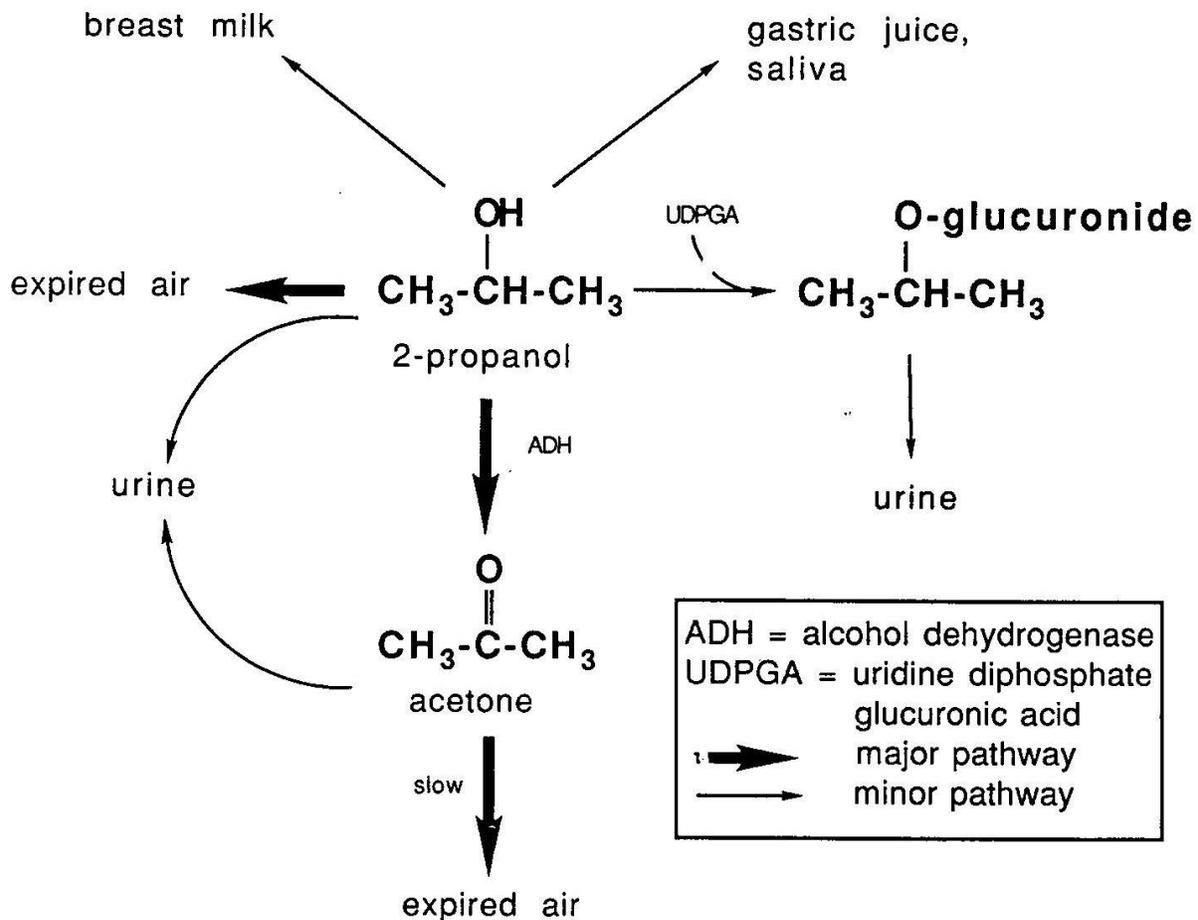
Figure 7.3.2 : Metabolism of Acetone



Source: Patty's Toxicology (Morgott 2001), Figure 74.2, p. 36.

Isopropanol Metabolism to Acetone

Isopropanol is metabolized via alcohol dehydrogenase (ADH) to acetone, although like many secondary alcohols, it is a relatively poor substrate for ADH (Light *et al.* 1992). Numerous studies in multiple species, including rats, dogs and rabbits, have confirmed this conclusion (Abshagen & Reitbrock, 1969; Idota, 1985; Laham *et al.* 1980, 1979; Nordmann *et al.* 1973; Savolainen *et al.* 1979; Siebert *et al.* 1972; Jerrard *et al.* 1992). The metabolism and elimination of isopropanol is illustrated in Figure 7.3.3, below.



Source: WHO (1990), Figure 1.

Jerrard *et al.* (1992) dosed dogs intravenously with 60 mL of 70% aqueous isopropanol (approximately 2 mL/kg) and measured blood levels of isopropanol and acetone for 6 hours. Peak isopropanol levels occurred 3 hours after exposure, but acetone concentrations continued to increase throughout the 6-hour period. Similarly, Slauter *et al.* (1984) evaluated isopropanol and acetone kinetics in rats following inhalation exposure. In this study, groups of rats were exposed to 476 or 4960 ppm IPA for 6 hours, and venous blood concentrations of both isopropanol and acetone were analyzed during exposure and for 6 hours post-exposure. Boatman *et al.* (1995) conducted a comparable study via dermal exposure, applying 1056 mg/kg isopropanol to a rat skin area in a sealed cell, which was left in place for 4 hours after which the unabsorbed IPA was removed. The researchers measured venous blood time courses of isopropanol and acetone during exposure, as well as at 20 hours post-exposure.

Two controlled studies in which subjects ingested isopropanol demonstrate the kinetics of isopropanol and acetone metabolism in humans following oral exposure to isopropanol (Monaghan *et al.* 1995; Lacouture *et al.* 1989). The Monaghan *et al.* study involved three healthy male subjects ingesting 0.6 ml/kg of 70% isopropanol in 240 ml of water over a five-minute period. The researchers collected venous blood samples at baseline and 0.16, 0.33, 0.66, 1, 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, and 24 hours post-ingestion. The data demonstrate the correlation between isopropanol ingestion and acetone blood levels. The Lacouture *et al.* study was similar, with three male subjects ingesting 0.4 ml/kg of 70% isopropanol in 210 ml of apple juice over 10 minutes. Clewell *et al.* (2001) used these animal and human data to develop their

quantitative PBPK model of isopropanol and acetone, which models the conversion of isopropanol to acetone both in rats and in humans.

In sum, the available data demonstrate that the principal route of metabolism of isopropanol is to acetone via ADH. As such, data on isopropanol can be used to analyze the toxicological effects of acetone. The availability of the isopropanol/acetone PBPK model furthers allows for quantitative usage of the isopropanol data to estimate acetone effect levels.

7.4 Gene Mutation and Cytogenetics (Tiers 1 and 2)

The potential genotoxicity of acetone has been extensively studied in numerous *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays. Acetone has been shown to be negative in the Ames *in vitro* assay for gene mutation in *Salmonella typhimurium* strains TA98, TA100, TA1535, TA1537 and TA1538 (NTP, 1984; De Flora *et al.*, 1984) and yeast, *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* (Abbondandolo *et al.*, 1980). Acetone is similarly inactive as a mutagen in mammalian cells in culture such as V79 Chinese hamster cells (Tates and Kriek, 1981; Latt *et al.*, 1981; NTP, 1989) and mouse lymphoma cells (Amacher *et al.*, 1980; McGregor *et al.*, 1988). Acetone has failed to cause an increase in sister chromatid exchanges in human lymphocyte cells in culture (Norppa, 1981). These studies indicate that acetone is not genotoxic. In fact, acetone has been shown to be compatible for use as a vehicle for testing water insoluble substances in *in vitro* mutagenicity assays, such as *S. pombe*, V79 Chinese hamster cells and the Ames assay both with and without metabolic activation. (Abbondandolo *et al.*, 1980; McCann *et al.*, 1975).

Additional studies are listed in Tables 7.4.1 and 7.4.2. These tables are based on *Patty's Toxicology* Acetone Chapter, Table 74.23 (Genotoxicity Studies with Acetone Using Prokaryotic and Eukaryotic Organisms) and Table 74.24 (Genotoxicity Studies with Acetone in Mammalian Cell Systems) (used with permission). No further evaluation of acetone's mutagenic potential or cytogenetic toxicity potential is warranted at this time.

Table 7.4.1. *In Vitro* Genotoxicity Studies of Acetone

Assay	Indicator System	Highest Conc Tested	Metabolic Activation	Results (with/with-out S9)	Reference
<i>Prokaryotic organisms – In Vitro Tests</i>					
Reverse mutation (Ames assay)	<i>S. typhimurium</i> TA98, TA 100, TA 1535, & TA 1537	10 mg/plate	Rat liver S9	-/-	McCann <i>et al.</i> 1975
Reverse mutation (Ames assay)	<i>S. typhimurium</i> TA98, TA 100, TA 1535, & TA 1537	10 mg/plate	Rat & hamster liver S9	-/-	Zeiger <i>et al.</i> 1992
Reverse mutation (Ames assay)	<i>S. typhimurium</i> TA98, TA 100, TA 1535, TA 1537, & TA 1538	73 mg/plate	None	/-	De Flora <i>et al.</i> 1984
Reverse mutation (Ames assay)	<i>S. typhimurium</i> TA92, TA94, TA98, TA100, TA 1535 & TA 1537	10 mg/plate	Rat liver S9	-/	Ishidate <i>et al.</i> 1984
Lambda prophage WP2s(λ) induction (microscreen assay)	<i>E. coli</i> TH-008	10% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/-	DeMarini <i>et al.</i> 1991
Lambda prophage WP2s (λ) induction (microscreen assay)	<i>E. coli</i> SR714	10% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/-	Rossmann <i>et al.</i> 1991
β -Galactosidase activation (SOS chromotest)	<i>E. coli</i> PQ37	100 mM	Rat liver S9	-/-	Von der Hude <i>et al.</i> 1988
Colitis phage DNA transfection assay	<i>E. coli</i> CR63	0.1 mL	Rat liver S9	-/	Vasavada and Padayatty 1981
DNA binding assay	<i>E. coli</i> Q13	0.05% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/-	Kubinski <i>et al.</i> 1981
Recombination assay	<i>B. subtilis</i> H-17 & M-45	10 mg/well	Rat liver S9	-/-	McCarroll <i>et al.</i> 1981
β -Galactosidase activation (SOS chromotest)	<i>S. typhimurium</i> TA 1535/pSK1002	33 mg/mL	Rat liver S9	-/-	Nakamura <i>et al.</i> 1987
<i>Eukaryotic organisms – In Vitro Tests</i>					
Chromosomal malsegregation	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D61.M	7.8% (v/v)	None	+	Zimmermann <i>et al.</i> 1985
Point mutations & mitotic recombination	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D61.M	7.8% (v/v)	None	-	Zimmermann <i>et al.</i> 1985
Chromosomal malsegregation	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D61.M	50 mg/mL	None	\pm	Whittaker <i>et al.</i> 1989
Chromosomal malsegregation	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D61.M	8% (v/v)	None	\pm	Albertini 1991
Reverse mutation	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D7	10% (v/v)	None	\pm	Yadav <i>et al.</i> 1982
Forward mutation	<i>S. pombe</i> P ₁	3.7% (v/v)	Mouse liver S10	-/	Abbondandolo <i>et al.</i> 1980
Forward mutation	<i>S. cerevisiae</i> D4	5% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/	Barale <i>et al.</i> 1983
Plant mitotic index	<i>A. cepa</i>	1%	None	-	Fiskesjo 1981
Plant seed gene mutation	<i>A. thaliana</i>	500mM	-	-	Redei 1982

Table 7.4.2. Genotoxicity Studies with Acetone in Mammalian Cell Systems

Assay	Indicator System	Highest Conc Tested	Metabolic Activation	Results (with/with-out S9)	Reference
<i>Eukaryotic organisms – In Vitro Tests</i>					
Cell transformation assay	Syrian hamster embryo cells	135 µg/m ³	None	-	Hatch <i>et al.</i> 1983
Cell transformation assay	Syrian hamster embryo cells	8% (v/v)	None	-	Pienta 1980
Cell transformation assay	Rat embryo cells	100 µg/mL	None	-	Freeman <i>et al.</i> 1973
Cell transformation assay	Rat embryo cells	0.1% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/-	Mishra <i>et al.</i> 1978
Transformation assay	Asynchronous mouse embryo fibroblasts	0.5% (v/v)	None	-	Peterson <i>et al.</i> 1981
Cell transformation assay	Mouse embryo fibroblasts	0.5% (v/v)	None	-	Lillehaug and Djurhuus 1982
Cell transformation assay	Mouse prostate fibroblasts	0.5% (v/v)	None	-	Gehly and Heidelberg 1982
Sister chromatid exchange (SCE)	Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts	100 mM	Rat liver S9	-/-	Von der Hude <i>et al.</i> 1987
Chromosomal aberration	Chinese hamster fibroblasts	5% (v/v)	None	+	Ishidate <i>et al.</i> 1984
Sister chromatid exchange (SCE)	Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts	8.6 mM	None	/-	Latt <i>et al.</i> 1981
Chromosomal aberration & SCE	Chinese hamster ovary cells	1 mg/mL	Rat liver S9	-/-	Tates and Kriek 1981
Chromosomal aberration & SCE	Chinese hamster ovary cells	5 mg/mL	Rat liver S9	-/-	Loveday <i>et al.</i> 1990
Chromosomal aberration & SCE	Human lymphocytes	20.9 mM	None	-	Norppa 1981
Mouse lymphoma mutation assay	L5178Y mouse lymphoma cells	470 mM	None	-	Amacher <i>et al.</i> 1980
Mouse lymphoma mutation assay	L5178Y mouse lymphoma cells	1% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	-/	McGregor <i>et al.</i> 1988
Mouse lymphoma mutation assay	S49 mouse lymphoma cells	140 mM	Rat liver S9	-/	Friedrich and Nass 1983
Reverse mutation Ouabain resistance	Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts	0.2% (v/v)	None	/-	Lankas 1979
Forward mutation thioguanine resistance	Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts	0.5% (v/v)	Rat liver S9	/-	Cheng <i>et al.</i> 1981
Micronucleus test	Human lymphocytes	5mM	Rat liver S9	-	Zarani <i>et al.</i> 1999
Unscheduled DNA synthesis	Bovine lymphocytes	0.4 mg/mL	None	-	Targowski and Klucinski 1984
Unscheduled DNA synthesis	Human skin cells	10% (v/v)	None	-	Lake <i>et al.</i> 1978
Metabolic cooperation assay	Chinese hamster lung fibroblasts	5% (v/v)	None	+	Chen <i>et al.</i> 1984
Alkaline elution assay	Rat hepatocytes	1% (v/v)	None	-	Sina <i>et al.</i> 1983
Two-stage cell transformation assay	Mouse 3T3 cells	0.5% (v/v)	None	-	Sakai and Sato 1989

Eukaryotic Cells – In Vivo Tests

Micronucleus Test	Chinese hamster bone marrow cells	865 mg/kg	-	-	Basler 1986
Host-mediated assay	Hamster fetal cells	2.3 g/kg	-	-	Quarles <i>et al.</i> 1979

7.5 Subchronic Studies (Tier 2)

The National Toxicology Program conducted 13-week subchronic studies of acetone administered in the drinking water of male and female B6C3F1 mice and Fischer 344 rats (Dietz, 1990, Dietz *et al.*, 1991). Acetone concentrations in the drinking water were 0, 0.25%, 0.5%, 1.0%, 2.0% and 5.0% for male and female rats and female mice, and 0, 0.125%, 0.25%, 0.5%, 1.0% and 2.0% for male mice. The highest concentrations correspond to 50,000 ppm for male and female rats and female mice, and 20,000 ppm for male mice. Minimally toxic concentrations of acetone were estimated to be 20,000 ppm (1700 mg/kg-day) for male rats (increased relative liver weights without any accompanying morphological alterations, minimal to mild hemosiderosis, and a decline in some hematologic indices), 20,000 ppm (4858 mg/kg-day) for male mice (increase in absolute liver and decrease in absolute spleen weight), and 50,000 ppm (11,298 mg/kg-day) for female mice (increase in absolute liver and decrease in absolute spleen weight, and centrilobular hepatocellular hypertrophy). No toxic effects were identified for female rats at the highest concentration of 50,000 ppm (3100 mg/kg-day).

NTP recommended against conducting chronic toxicity or carcinogenicity studies of acetone because “the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents,” and because of “the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential of acetone.” See Memo by Study Director, included in Appendix F. This recommendation was accepted by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), which had been considering proposing acetone for possible chronic toxicity testing. See Federal Register notices, also included in Appendix G. Additional details concerning this study are found in the SIDS Dossier and SIAR (Appendix A) and in an expanded robust summary found in Appendix B.

Mayhew and Morrow (1988) conducted a ninety-day oral gavage study in male and female albino rats using acetone at doses of 0, 100, 500, or 2500 mg/kg-day. Red blood cell parameters were significantly increased in males and females dosed with 2500 mg/kg-day. Statistical analysis of the organ weight and ratio data revealed significantly increased kidney weights for females in the 500 and 2500 mg/kg-day groups and increased kidney-to-body and brain weight ratios for males in the 2500 mg/kg-day group. Liver weight and liver/body weight ratios were also increased relative to control values in males and females dosed with 2500 mg/kg-day. Histopathologic studies revealed a dose-related increase in the severity of renal tubular degeneration and hyaline droplet accumulation. This accumulation was significant in male rats dosed with 500 and 2500 mg/kg-day and female rats dosed with 2500 mg/kg-day. The no effect level for the study was reported as 100 mg/kg-day.

Because the study by Mayhew and Morrow was conducted by oral gavage involving single, large daily dosages, the findings are not as relevant to likely human exposure scenarios as are the findings of the NTP drinking water study. In fact, NTP conducted its drinking water studies because of the perceived limitations of the gavage dosing in the earlier study:

The usefulness of the data from these [oral gavage] studies, however, is limited because of the pharmacokinetic considerations of a bolus administration and the consequent need to more closely mimic human exposure.

(Dietz, 1991, p. 1). The NTP therefore conducted drinking water studies utilizing a dosing regime that more closely approximates human exposure pathways to provide a more relevant assessment of potential toxic effects in humans. The NTP drinking water studies have been used to derive the chronic oral values described in section 3 of this document, including the oral RfD developed by EPA ORD for IRIS, the ATSDR intermediate duration oral MRL value, and the guidance value in the IPCS EHC document.

Absorption of acetone through the skin does not appear to cause systemic toxicity based on chronic studies in mice (Misumi and Nagamo, 1984; Van Duuren *et al.*, 1978; Ward *et al.*, 1986). Repeated dermal or subcutaneous administration of acetone to guinea pigs, though, has been reported to cause cataracts in some of the exposed animals (Rengstorff *et al.*, 1972). Follow-up studies in rabbits and guinea pigs failed to confirm this finding (Rengstorff *et al.*, 1976; Taylor, 1993). Cataracts have not been reported to be associated with acetone exposure in any human situation and were not observed in the mice and rats used in the subchronic studies discussed above.

Several other shorter-duration subchronic studies also have been conducted (Naruse, 1984; Simmons *et al.*, 1994; Sollman, 1921; Skutches *et al.*, 1990; Sinclair *et al.*, 1989; Bruckner and Petersen, 1981; Rao *et al.*, 1993; Hetu and Joly, 1988). These studies are summarized in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone Chapter* (Morgott 2001), Section 1.4.1.2.

Subchronic repeated-dose studies of acetone are listed in Table 7.5.1, and key studies are denoted in bold. There does not appear to be any need for further subchronic testing of acetone at this time.

Table 7.5.1. Subchronic Repeated-Dose Testing of Acetone*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Mice	4858 mg/kg-day	drinking water	male	13-week	Mild/minimal increase in liver weight; mild/minimal decrease in spleen weight	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
	11,298 mg/kg-day	drinking water	female	13-week		
	1 % w/5-aminolevulinic acid	drinking water	male	35-days	high uroporphyrin levels in liver and urine	Sinclair <i>et al.</i> 1989
Rats	1700 mg/kg-day	drinking water	male	13-week	mild/minimal increased relative liver weights (no morphological	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991

	3100 mg/kg-day	drinking water	female	13-week	alternations); minimal/mild hemosiderosis; hematological indices none	
	2500 mg/kg-day	gavage	male	90-day	mild/minimal increased kidney-to-body, liver, liver-to-body & brain weight; red blood cell parameters	Mayhew & Morrow 1988
	500 mg/kg-day	gavage	male	90-day	mild/minimal renal tubular degeneration; hyaline droplet accumulation	
	2500 mg/kg-day	gavage	female	90-day	mild/minimal increased liver, liver-to-body weights; red blood cell parameters; renal tubular degeneration; hyaline droplet accumulation	
	500 mg/kg-day	gavage	female	90-day	mild/minimal increased kidney weight	
	3.0%	drinking water	male	7-day	reversible lowering of rate of glucose oxidation	Skutches 1990
	19,000 ppm	inhalation	both	3 hr/day, 8 weeks	slight, reversible decrease in brain & kidney weights	Bruckner & Petersen, 1981
	2.5%	drinking water	female	18-weeks	decrease in water, food consumption; decrease in weight gain	Sollman 1921
	1%	drinking water	female	2-weeks	elevated cytochrome P-450 levels, increase in p-nitrophenol hydroxylase, aniline hydroxylase, 7-ethoxycoumarin O-deethylase activity	Hetu & Joly, 1988
Guinea pigs	5%	cutaneous, subcutaneous	both	3 days/week, 3-weeks	cataracts	Rengstorff <i>et al.</i> , 1972
	1%	dermal	both	twice daily, 5 days/week, 4 or 8 weeks	cataracts	
	0.5 mL	dermal	both	5 days/week, 6 weeks	cataracts	Rengstorff <i>et al.</i> , 1976
	0.5 mL	dermal	both	5 days/week, 6 months	no cataracts, including during 2-year follow up	Taylor <i>et al</i> 1993
Rabbits	1 mL	dermal	both	3 days/week, 3 weeks	no cataracts, including during 6-month follow up	Rengstorff <i>et al.</i> , 1976

*Key studies are denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.6 Reproductive Toxicity (Tiers 1 and 2)

Available acetone data are not indicative of a reproductive hazard. The data include a study showing no effect on the number of pregnancies, number of fetuses or testicular toxicity in which male rats were mated with untreated females after receiving 0.5% acetone in drinking water for six weeks (Larsen *et al.* 1991). A more recent study reported no reproductive effects

for male rats following doses up to 1000 mg acetone/kg body weight administered by gavage for nine weeks. Additionally, no male or female reproductive effects were observed following the administration of 0.5% acetone in drinking water to both sexes for nine weeks (dose equivalent to 1300 mg/kg) (Dalgaard *et al.* 1999). Subchronic studies also do not indicate reproductive organs are a target of acetone toxicity (Dietz 1990, Dietz *et al.* 1991). In addition, isopropanol has been shown to be extensively metabolized to acetone and the key study, a guideline 2-generation reproduction study for isopropanol, shows only minimal effects at very high doses (Bevan *et al.*, 1995). Several supporting studies confirm this conclusion (Larsen *et al.* 1991, Dalgaard *et al.* 1999, BIBRA 1986a, Cox *et al.* 1975, Chapin *et al.* 1989, Heindel *et al.* 1991). A physiologically-based pharmacokinetic model for acetone and isopropanol also has recently been published, which supports the use of isopropanol data in this assessment (Clewell *et al.* 2001).

Larsen *et al.* (1991) reported on a reproduction study in which male Wistar rats were administered 0.5% acetone in their drinking water for 6 weeks. The study was designed to examine the effects of acetone pre-treatment on 2,5-hexanedione-induced testicular damage and included both a water and an acetone control group. On the fifth week of the treatment regimen, the rats were allowed to mate with untreated females and the number of matings were recorded together with the number of pregnancies and the number of fetuses per pregnancy. The male rats were sacrificed after treatment and the absolute weight of the left testis was measured along with diameter of the seminiferous tubule. Semi-quantitative histopathological scoring was performed on the testis for the following possible effects: vacuoles, chromatic margination, epithelial disruption, multi-nucleated giant-cells, intertubular debris, and atrophy. A separate group of animals from each treatment category was allowed to complete a 10 week recovery period before being examined as described above. The authors reported that the acetone exposure did not produce any testicular toxicity when compared to the tap water control group. Acetone exposure also did not affect any measure of reproductive toxicity.

A recently published study showed no effect of acetone on male fertility or testes histopathology at doses up to 1% in the drinking water (Dalgaard, *et al.*, 1999). The study was designed to evaluate the hypothesis the acetone might potentiate the testicular toxicity of di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and included groups treated with acetone only for comparison to non-treated controls. Treatment with acetone at 1% in the drinking water for four weeks did not affect the body weight or organ weights including the seminal vesicle, testes, epididymides weights. In addition, acetone did not produce testicular atrophy or histopathological alterations in the testes nor did it significantly alter the number of males mating or number of females impregnated as compared to controls. A nine week study conducted prior to the four week study with treatment of males with 0.5% acetone in the drinking water produced no treatment-related changes in animals treated with acetone only.

Reproduction studies have also been performed with a mixture of acetone and 24 other contaminants commonly found in ground water. The mixture was administered via the drinking water at three levels by diluting a stock concentrate to obtain 1%, 5%, or 10% mixture. The concentration of acetone in the 10% mixture was amongst the highest of the 25 compounds tested (ca. 50 ppm). The three mixtures were used in two different reproduction studies. B6C3F₁ mice were treated for 90 days to study the effects on gametogenesis (Chapin *et al.*, 1989), and CD-1 mice were treated for about 18 weeks in a continuous breeding study (Heindel *et al.*, 1991). The first study did not reveal any effects of the mixture on spermatogenesis and in the second study, only minimal effects were noted in the F₀ and F₁ generations. Details regarding the conduct of these experiments can be obtained from the original reports.

The subchronic drinking water study discussed above also evaluated certain reproductive parameters (Dietz, 1991; Dietz *et al.* 1991). The study researchers reported some mild adverse spermatogenic effects in male rats, but not mice, that consumed 5% acetone (3.1 g/kg/day) in their drinking water for 13 weeks. Rats showed a relative decrease in testicular weight, along with depressed sperm motility, increased epididymal weight, and an increased incidence of abnormal sperm at this dose. No histopathological changes were observed in the testis of the test animals.

Acetone's metabolic precursor compound, isopropanol, also has been well-tested for reproductive toxicity. A one-generation drinking water study in rats reported reduced pup weight gain and decreased survival to offspring of parental rats receiving 2% IPA (BIBRA, 1986a). At this dosage, the parental rats exhibited decreased body weights and increased liver and kidney weights, but no effects were reported on reproductive parameters. Lehman *et al.* (1945) reported that a study administering 2.5% IPA in drinking water to rats for two successive generations found no effects on reproductive function or embryonic and postnatal development. Another one-generation drinking water study reported significant parental toxicity at 3% IPA with associated effects on fertility, litter size and pup weights (Cox *et al.*, 1975). When the dose was decreased to 2% IPA and the parental animals were remated to provide litters for a developmental toxicity evaluation, no parental or reproductive toxicity was reported.

The most recent IPA reproductive toxicity study is a two-generation oral gavage study in rats (Bevan *et al.*, 1995) in which animals were exposed to 100, 500 and 1000 mg/kg-day. The only reproductive parameter apparently affected by IPA exposure was a small but statistically significant decrease in the male mating index of the high dose F₁ males. It is possible that the change in this reproductive parameter was treatment-related and significant, although the mechanism of the effect could not be discerned from the results of the study. The lack of any significant changes in the female mating index in either generation, the absence of any adverse effect on litter size, and the lack of histopathological findings in the testes of the high-dose males suggest that the observed reduction in male mating index may not be biologically meaningful. This conclusion is supported by the fact that most of the females became pregnant. Furthermore, the male and female fertility and the female fecundity indices of rats dosed with IPA were not statistically different from those of the controls. Nonetheless, the US EPA (1996) and Tyl (1996) concluded the reductions were treatment- and dose-related, a conservative interpretation that supports a NOAEL of 100 mg/kg-day, while alternatively, Bevan *et al.* (1995) deemed the observations not to be biologically significant and identified a NOAEL of 500 mg/kg-day. In order to clarify this issue, a benchmark dose (BMD) assessment was conducted on the study's developmental and reproductive findings (Shipp *et al.*, 1997). Based upon the decrease in male mating index observations in the F₁ males, a BMDL₁₀ of 416 mg/kg-day was estimated for reproductive effects. These benchmark doses are reported in the SIAR for IPA, and therefore have received EPA review and concurrence.

The acetone and isopropanol reproduction studies are summarized in Table 7.6.1, and key studies are denoted in bold. No further reproduction studies of acetone are warranted at this time.

Table 7.6.1. Reproduction Studies of Acetone and Isopropanol*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Rats	0.5% acetone	drinking water	males	6-weeks (one generation)	no testicular toxicity	Larsen <i>et al.</i> 1991
	1.0% acetone with 10,000 mg/kg-day DEHP	drinking water	both	4-weeks	no effect on reproductive toxicity	Dalgaard <i>et al.</i> 1999
	0.5% acetone with 1000 mg/kg-day DEHP	drinking water	both	9-weeks (one generation)	no effect on reproductive toxicity	
	3,100 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water	both	13-weeks	mild adverse spermatogenic effects; no histopathological changes	Dietz, 1990; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
	2% isopropanol	drinking water	both	one generation	reduced pup weight, decreased survival; decreased body weight & increased liver & kidney weight in parental rats, but no effects on reproductive parameters	BIBRA 1986a
	2.5% isopropanol	drinking water	both	two generation	no effects on reproductive function, embryonic or postnatal development	Lehman 1945
	3% isopropanol	drinking water	both	one generation	effects on fertility, litter size, pup weights	Cox <i>et al.</i> , 1975
	500 mg/kg-day isopropanol	gavage	both	two generation	decrease in male mating index, F₁ males only	Bevan <i>et al.</i>, 1995
Mice	50 ppm acetone (plus 24 other compounds)	drinking water	both	90-days	no effects on spermatogenesis	Chapin <i>et al.</i> 1989
	50 ppm acetone (plus 24 other compounds)	drinking water	both	18-weeks (2 generation)	minimal effects in F ₀ and F ₁ generations	Heindel <i>et al.</i> 1991
	1,700 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water	both	13-weeks	no adverse effects on reproductive parameters or organs	Dietz, 1990; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991

*Key studies are denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.7 Developmental Toxicity and Teratogenicity (Tier 2)

Available acetone data are not indicative of a developmental toxicity hazard. The developmental toxicity of acetone to rats and mice has been assessed in one guideline inhalation study (Mast *et al.* 1988). In addition, because of its favorable properties as a treatment vehicle, acetone has been tested in a wide array of *in vitro* test systems designed to

assess adverse effects on developing embryos. Furthermore, the developmental toxicity of acetone's metabolic precursor, isopropanol, has been tested in several supporting oral and inhalation studies (Cox *et al.* 1975, BIBRA 1986b, Nelson *et al.* 1988, Tyl *et al.* 1994). As noted above, physiologically-based pharmacokinetic model for acetone and isopropanol also has recently been published, which supports the use of isopropanol data in this assessment (Clewell *et al.* 2001).

Mast *et al.*, (1988) studied the potential for acetone vapors to cause developmental toxicity in Sprague-Dawley rats and Swiss CD-1 mice. Groups of 32 positively mated rats were exposed by inhalation to 0, 440, 2200, or 11,000 ppm of acetone on days 6 through 19 of gestation. The groups of mice were exposed at concentrations of 0, 440, 2200 or 6600 ppm of acetone on days 6 through 17 of gestation. The exposure sessions lasted 6 hrs/day and were performed 7 days/week. Groups of ten virgin female mice and rats were included for comparison purposes. The rats were sacrificed on day 20 of gestation and the mice on day 18. The authors concluded that 2200 ppm of acetone was the no-observable-effect level (NOEL) for developmental toxicity in both rats and mice.

In the rats, the only clinical signs observed were a statistically significant reduction in maternal body weight gain starting at gestation day 14 and a decrease in the uterine and extra-gestational weight gain. In addition, the fetal weights were found to be significantly lower for the 11,000 ppm group relative to the 0 ppm group. Mean body weights of treated virgin females were also reduced, but not significantly. No effect was seen in the mean liver or kidney weights of pregnant dams, the organ to body weight ratios, the number of implantations, mean percent of live pups per litter, the mean percent of resorptions per litter, or the fetal sex ratio. The incidence of fetal malformations was not significantly increased by gestational exposure to acetone vapors, although the percent of litters with at least one pup exhibiting malformations was greater for the 11,000 ppm group than for the 0 ppm group, 11.5 and 3.8%, respectively.

In mice, no treatment-related effects were seen on maternal or virgin body weight, or maternal uterine weight. There was a treatment-related increase in liver to body weight ratio in pregnant dams. A statistically significant reduction in fetal weight, and a slight, but statistically significant increase in the percent incidence of late resorptions, was seen in mice of the 6600 ppm exposure group. The increase in the incidence of late resorptions did not affect the mean number of live fetuses per litter. The incidence of malformations in mice was not altered by gestational exposure at any of the exposure levels.

As noted by Gentry *et al.* (2003, in press), a higher NOAEL could very likely have been demonstrated by Mast *et al.* for both mice and rats, had additional doses or a higher mid-dose been used. This possibility is supported by the mild effects seen at the highest exposures of 6600 ppm in mice and 11,000 ppm in rats.

Because of its favorable properties as a treatment vehicle, acetone has been tested in a wide array of *in vitro* test systems designed to detect any adverse effects on a developing embryo. These tests have generally focused on the chick and hamster embryos as a target system for measuring adverse effects of a chemical on growth or structural development. In many cases, acetone was used as a treatment vehicle for administering water insoluble compounds, and was therefore examined in a vehicle-treated control group. In all cases, adverse effects from acetone were observed only at very high concentrations. (McLaughlin *et al.*, 1963, 1964; Swartz, 1981; Quarles *et al.*, 1979; Strange *et al.*, 1976; Kitchin and Ebron, 1984a, 1984b).

The two-generation IPA reproductive toxicity study in rats (Bevan *et al.*, 1995) also evaluated developmental parameters. As noted above, animals were exposed to 100, 500 and 1000 mg/kg-day. Offspring body weight was reduced during the early postnatal period in the 1000 mg/kg-day F₁ males and the 1000 mg/kg-day F₂ pups of both sexes. Exposure to 1000 mg/kg-day and, to a lesser extent, 500 mg/kg-day resulted in a reduction in postnatal survival in both F₁ and F₂ litters. The biological significance of the postnatal effects in the 500 mg/kg treatment group is uncertain, but the US EPA (1996) and Tyl (1996) concluded the reductions were treatment- and dose-related, a conservative interpretation that supports a NOAEL of 100 mg/kg-day, while Bevan *et al.* (1995) deemed the observations not to be biologically significant and identified a NOAEL of 500 mg/kg-day. In order to clarify this issue, a benchmark dose (BMD) assessment was conducted on the study's developmental and reproductive findings (Shipp *et al.*, 1997). For the offspring developmental effects, BMD dosages (BMDL₅) of 449 and 418 mg/kg-day were estimated for the F₁, and F₂ generations, respectively. These benchmark doses are reported in the SIAR for IPA, and therefore have received EPA review and concurrence.

Acetone developmental toxicity studies and additional isopropanol studies are summarized in Table 7.7.1, and key studies are denoted in bold. Further developmental toxicity testing for acetone appears unnecessary at this time.

Table 7.7.1. Developmental Toxicity Studies*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Rats	11,000 ppm acetone	inhalation	gd 6-19	reduction in maternal body weight gain; reduction in fetal weight	Mast <i>et al.</i> 1988
	449 mg/kg-day isopropanol (F ₁ BMDL ₅); 418 mg/kg-day (F ₂ BMDL ₅)	drinking water	two generation	postnatal survival	Shipp <i>et al.</i> 1996
Mice	6600 ppm acetone	inhalation	gd 6-17	increase in maternal liver to body weight ratio; reduction in fetal weight; slight increase in incidence of late resorptions	Mast <i>et al.</i> 1988

*Key studies are denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.8 Immunotoxicity (Tier 2)

An immunotoxicity study of acetone has recently been conducted using the test guideline specified in the VCCEP Pilot Announcement. This study exposed CD-1 mice to 0, 600, 3000 or 6000 ppm acetone via drinking water for 28 days (equating to approximately 0, 100, 500 and 1000 mg/kg-day). The study evaluated anti-SRBC antibody response (including spleen weights and spleen cell counts), as well as hematology parameters and thymus weights. Acetone produced no immunotoxic effects in this study. A robust summary of this study is provided in Appendix B. (A full copy of the study will be provided upon request.)

No further immunotoxicity testing for acetone is needed at this time.

7.9 Carcinogenicity (Tier 3)

A two-year chronic bioassay of acetone via the oral or inhalation routes of exposure has not been performed to date. As previously described, NTP decided against conducting chronic studies because of the minimal toxicity seen at high doses in the subchronic studies, and because of "the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential for acetone."

The EPA-approved SIAR states that acetone is not likely to be carcinogenic. Similarly, when EPA scientists reviewed available acetone information in 1994-95, in connection with the decision to remove acetone from the TRI, EPA expressly stated, "There currently is no evidence to suggest a concern for carcinogenicity." See 60 Fed. Reg. 31,643 (June 16, 1995). Chronic studies of isopropanol, the metabolic precursor of acetone, in rats and mice support this conclusion, and support the conclusion that separate chronic toxicity testing of acetone is not necessary.

Acetone has been used as the vehicle in numerous chronic skin painting studies in mice which have not provided evidence of a likely cancer hazard from acetone exposure. Acetone or acetone/water (90/10) has been applied to the shaved skin of female ICR mice (0.1 ml, 3 times/wk for over a year) without any increase in skin or systemic tumors (Van Duuren *et al.*, 1978). In a study designed to examine the skin carcinogenicity of a technical grade epoxy resin, acetone was used as the vehicle and was tested alone as the solvent control group. A total of 150 male and 150 female CF1 mice were treated with 0.2 ml acetone dermally once per week for 2 years and no tumors were observed as a result of treatment with acetone (Zakova *et al.*, 1985). These studies support the conclusion that acetone does not possess a carcinogenic potential.

Chronic inhalation studies of acetone's metabolic precursor, isopropanol, have been conducted in rats and mice (Burleigh-Flayer *et al.*, 1997). Inhalation exposure consisted of 0, 500, 2500 or 5000 ppm IPA vapor administered 6 hours/day, 5 days/week for 18 and 24 months to mice and rats, respectively. Results from the mouse bioassay indicated there were no oncogenic effects associated with any IPA concentration. In the rat study, the only neoplastic lesion observed was an increase in interstitial (Leydig) cell tumors in male rats. Interstitial cell tumors of the testis are typically the most frequently observed spontaneous tumors in aged male Fischer 344 rats (Haseman and Arnold, 1990). Nearly all male Fischer rats will develop these proliferative tumors if they are allowed to complete their lifespan (Boorman *et al.*, 1990). EPA has concluded that the finding of interstitial tumors in the IPA rat study has low relevance to human cancer risk. (EPA, 1996). Support for this conclusion was provided in a workshop that evaluated the mechanisms and human health relevance of Leydig cell hyperplasia and adenoma formation (Clegg *et al.*, 1997).

The key animal studies pertaining to a potential carcinogenicity hazard are summarized in Table 7.9.1. Epidemiology studies assessing acetone are discussed in section 7.12 (Human Studies and Experience). Based on the totality of this evidence, further carcinogenicity testing for acetone appears unnecessary at this time.

Table 7.9.1. Carcinogenicity and Related Studies of Acetone and Isopropanol*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Mice	4858 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	mild/minimal increase in liver weight; mild/minimal decrease in spleen weight	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
Mice	11,298 mg/kg-day	drinking water	female	13-week	mild/minimal increase in liver weight; decrease in spleen weight; mild/minimal centrilobular hepatocellular hypertrophy	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
Rat	1700 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	mild/minimal increased relative liver weights (no morphological alternations); minimal/mild hemosiderosis; hematological indices	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
Rat	3100 mg/kg-day	drinking water	female	13-week	none	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
Mice	0.2 mL acetone	dermal	both	two years	no carcinogenic effects	Zakova <i>et al.</i> 1985
Mice	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	18 months	no carcinogenic effects	Burleigh-Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994
Rat	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	two years	increase in Leydig cell tumors (males only); EPA has concluded these are not relevant to humans; no other carcinogenic effects	Burleigh-Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994

*Key studies are denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.10 Neurotoxicity (Tier 3)

It is well-known that high acute exposures to acetone can cause transient effects on the central nervous system. See discussion in section 7.2. Available data demonstrate a low potential for effects on the nervous system for repeated exposures at lower doses. As noted previously, in 1995 EPA concluded, "There are no data sufficient to support a chronic concern for significant irreversible neurotoxicity." (See section 3.3). Similarly, the EPA-approved SIAR concludes that acetone has "a low potential for neurological risk to humans." (p. 30) These conclusions are supported by a substantial body of information, including several guideline studies conducted with isopropanol, the metabolic precursor of acetone. Additional neurotoxicity testing of acetone therefore is not warranted at this time.

The subchronic studies (discussed in section 7.5) provide important information on the neurotoxic potential of acetone (Mayhew and Morrow, 1988; Dietz, 1990, Dietz *et al.*, 1991). Both studies required daily clinical observation of the animals, including close examination for signs of physical and neurological decrements. The Mayhew and Morrow study in rats also included a histological analysis of spinal cord (mid-thoracic), sciatic nerve, and brain (cerebrum, cerebellum, and brainstem) in all dead, moribund, and high-dose rats. In the NTP study in rats and mice, the brain and spinal cord were examined histologically in the control and high dose groups, and the sciatic nerves from animals where neurological signs were observed also were examined. A review of the results from both of these studies showed no evidence of adverse neurological effects from acetone exposure.

Goldberg *et al.* (1964) recorded mild neurobehavioral changes in female Carworth rats exposed for two weeks (5 days/wk, 4 hr/day) to 3000, 6000, 12,000 or 16,000 ppm of acetone. Repeated exposures to 6000 ppm acetone inhibited avoidance behavior but did not produce any signs of motor imbalance. Acetone concentrations of 12,000 or 16,000 ppm produced ataxia in several animals on the first exposure date. However, rapid tolerance developed, and ataxia was not seen on subsequent days. Kurnayeva *et al.* (1986) studied the combined effect of vapors and noise on the immune, cardiovascular, endocrine and nervous systems of Wistar rats exposed for 1.5 to 2.0 months. The animals were exposed (5 days/wk, 4 hr/day) to 2000 mg/m³ (843 ppm) of acetone and 85 Db of noise. The combined exposure was reportedly without effect on the various measures of physiological function.

In addition to the studies cited above, Spencer *et al.* (1978) performed a structure-activity study with ten ketone, dione, or diol-type solvents to determine the molecular structure necessary to cause central-peripheral distal axonopathy, also known as dying-back neuropathy. A small group of rats received 5000 ppm of acetone in their drinking water for over eight weeks; the concentration was then increased to 10,000 ppm for another four weeks. Upon termination of treatment, tissue from the central and peripheral nervous system was removed and examined histologically for pathological changes. Unlike several of the solvents used in this study, acetone was not found to cause any evidence of dying-back neuropathy in rats.

Misumi and Nagano (1984) performed a neurophysiological study of mice treated subcutaneously with acetone. Male mice treated for 15 weeks (5 days/wk) with a 400 mg/kg-day dose of acetone showed no evidence of neurological dysfunction relative to control animals. The acetone treatment did not cause any difficulty in walking or dullness in movement, and there were no significant changes in motor or sensory nerve conduction velocities. The authors concluded that acetone was not neurotoxic to the peripheral nervous system.

Since the SIAR was prepared, a scheduled control operant behavior (SCOB) study was conducted under an enforceable consent agreement and submitted to EPA. The study showed no adverse neurological effects at the highest dose tested, 1,500 ppm (3,560 mg/m³) (Christoph, 1997).

Dick *et al.* (1988, 1989) performed a series of neurobehavioral studies on groups of about 20 male and female volunteers who were exposed to either 250 ppm of acetone for 4 hours or to a combination of 125 ppm acetone and 200 ppm methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) for 4 hours. Four psychomotor tests, one sensorimotor test, and one psychological test were performed on the subjects before, during and after the exposure session. The acetone-exposed subjects had statistically significantly different responses in a dual auditory tone discrimination compensatory tracking test and a profile of mood states (POMS) test. Relative to pre-exposure control values, 250 ppm acetone exposure caused an increase in both the response time and the percentage of incorrect responses in the auditory tone portion of the dual discrimination task when the stimuli were presented in series. The response measurements were not affected by the exposure when both portions of the dual task were presented simultaneously. Male subjects who took the POMS test showed an increase in the anger-hostility score. Except for a small change in the percentage of incorrect responses in the dual auditory discrimination test, none of these effects were noted when the subjects were exposed to the acetone-MEK mixture. The authors noted that the results of their study needed careful interpretation and that additional research was needed to detect more distinct declines in human performance.

Stewart *et al.* (1975) examined the neurotoxic effects of repetitive exposures to acetone vapors in male and female volunteers using a variety of treatment regimens. Two series of experiments were performed. In the first series, two small groups of male subjects were exposed to each of four vapor concentrations (0, 200, 1000 or 1250 ppm) for either 3.0 or 7.5 hours per day for 4 days/week (the first day of each week was a control exposure at 0 ppm). The groups were exposed to progressively higher vapor levels of acetone in each succeeding week of treatment. Following the fourth week of exposure at 1250 ppm of acetone, the two groups were given a fifth week of exposure at 0 ppm, and then a final week where the vapor concentration was allowed to fluctuate between 750 and 1250 ppm (1000 ppm, average) on each of four exposure days. The second series of studies was performed on groups of female subjects who were exposed to 1000 ppm of acetone for either 1.0, 3.0 or 7.5 hours per day for 4 days/week. A battery of neurophysiological and neurobehavioral tests were performed at various times throughout the exposures. The neurophysiological tests included spontaneous electroencephalograms, visually evoked response using a strobe light, and a Romberg heel-to-toe equilibrium examination. Cognitive neurobehavioral testing included an arithmetic test, a coordination test, and a visual inspection test. Male subjects exposed to 1250 ppm acetone for 7.5 hours/day showed a statistically significant increase in the amplitude of the visually evoked response compared to background values. However, these results do not implicate an effect at concentrations below 1000 ppm.

The neurotoxic potential of acetone's metabolic precursor, IPA, also has been assessed in several studies, including guideline studies conducted under a TSCA test rule. Burleigh-Flayer *et al.* (1994a) conducted a subchronic neurotoxicity study with rats exposed to 0, 100, 500, 1500 or 5000 ppm IPA vapor for 6 hours per day, 5 days per week for 13 weeks. Narcosis was reported during exposure for some of the high dose rats but no changes were observed in any of the parameters of the functional observational battery (FOB) or in the neuropathological examination for any treatment level. An increase in motor activity was detected at 5000 ppm, but only for the females on weeks 9 and 13. Evidence of hyperexcitability was not present

during clinical observations (just prior to exposure and immediately following exposure) or approximately 42 hours following exposure during the FOB tests.

An additional subchronic neurotoxicity study (Burleigh-Flayer and Hurley, 1994) was conducted in female rats to determine the significance of the increased motor activity findings. Female rats were exposed to 0 or 5000 ppm IPA vapor 6 hours per day, 5 days per week for 9 or 13 consecutive weeks. Motor activity was assessed 18-20 hours following exposure and after cessation of all exposures. Total motor activity counts were increased following 4, 7, 9, 11 and 13 weeks of exposure. For the rats exposed for 9 weeks, the effect was reversible within 2 days following the cessation of exposure. Subtle changes in the shape of the motor activity versus test session time curve were noted during the recovery period in both the 9-week and 13-week exposed animals, although it was unclear whether these changes were treatment-related. Complete reversibility of these subtle changes did not occur until 1 and 6 weeks following the last IPA exposure in the 9- and 13-week exposure groups, respectively. The significance of these changes, which were observed at very high vapor concentrations, is unclear.

The acetone and isopropanol neurotoxicity studies are summarized in Table 7.10.1, and key studies are denoted in bold. Based on these data and consistent with the conclusion of the EPA-sponsored SIAR, acetone has a low potential for neurological risk to humans. Additional neurotoxicity testing is not warranted at this time.

Table 7.10.1. Neurotoxicity Studies of Acetone and Isopropanol*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Rats	6000 ppm acetone	inhalation	female	4 hrs/day, 5 days/wk, 2 weeks	inhibited avoidance behavior	Goldberg <i>et al.</i> 1964
	12,000 ppm acetone	inhalation	female	4 hrs/day, 5 days/wk, 2 weeks	ataxia, day 1 only	
	843 ppm acetone and 85Db noise	inhalation	ns	4 hr/day, 5 days/wk, 1.5 to 2 months	no effects	Kurnayeva <i>et al.</i> 1986
	5000-10,000 ppm acetone	drinking water	ns	5000 ppm for 8 weeks then 10,000 ppm for 4 weeks	no dying-back neuropathy	Spencer <i>et al.</i> 1978
	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	6 hrs/day, 5 days/week, 13 weeks	narcosis in some rats, but no change in FOB or histopathology; increase in motor activity (females only, weeks 9 & 13 only)	Burleigh-Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994a
	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	female	6 hrs/day, 5 days/week, 9 or 13 weeks	reversible increase in motor activity	Burleigh-Flayer and Hurley 1994
	1700 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	no histological effects on nervous system	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
	3100 mg/kg-day acetone 2500 mg/kg-day acetone	drinking water gavage	female both	13-week 90-day	no neurological effects no neurological effects	Mayhew & Morrow 1988
1,500 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	13-week	no neurological effects	Christoph, 1997	
Mice	400 mg/kg-day acetone	subcutaneous	male	5 days/wk, 15 weeks	no effects	Misumi & Nagano 1984
	11,298 mg/kg-day	drinking water	both	13-week	no histological effects on nervous system	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991
Human volunteers	250 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	4 hours	difference in dual auditory tone discrimination compensatory test & POMs (males only)	Dick <i>et al.</i> 1988, 1989
	125 ppm acetone and 200 ppm MEK	inhalation	both	4 hours	none	
	1250 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	7.5 hrs/day, 4 days/week	increase in amplitude of visually evoked response (males only)	

*Key studies are denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.11 Developmental Neurotoxicity (Tier 3)

Acetone has not been the subject of a separate developmental neurotoxicity study. The totality of scientific evidence available for acetone is not suggestive of a likely developmental neurotoxicity hazard. This conclusion is supported by a negative developmental neurotoxicity study of isopropanol in rats.

The potential of IPA, the metabolic precursor of acetone, to induce neurotoxicity was evaluated in developing rats in a guideline study conducted under a TSCA test rule. 64 timed pregnant CD (Sprague-Dawley) rats per dose were given IPA by gavage on gestation day 6 through postnatal day (pnd) 21. The dose levels were 0, 200, 700 and 1200 mg/kg-day. Dams were sacrificed pnd 22. One male and one female pup from each litter were assigned to each of 3 behavioral tests: motor activity pnd 13-58, auditory startle response pnd 22 and 60, and learning and memory pnd 60-64. There was one maternal death in the 1200 mg/kg-day group. The only effect noted, mean food consumption, was seen in females in the 700 mg/kg-day group and was significantly increased only for pnd 0-3. There were no exposure-related clinical signs apparent in maternal animals and the length of gestation was equivalent across all the groups. There was no evidence of developmental neurotoxicity. The NOAEL was 700 mg/kg for maternal toxicity and 1200 mg/kg for developmental neurotoxicity. In conclusion, there was no developmental neurotoxicity even at maternity toxic doses. (Bates, 1991). Based on the PBPK model for IPA of Clewell et al., (2001) this dose of 1200 mg/kg-day would deliver an AUC for acetone blood concentrations approximately equivalent that of an oral dose of 800 mg/kg-day dose of acetone alone.

The key developmental neurotoxicity study is summarized in Table 7.11.1. The results of that study, coupled with the extensive neurotoxicity data on acetone and IPA, demonstrate that acetone is unlikely to be a developmental neurotoxicant. Additional developmental neurotoxicity testing on acetone appears not to be warranted at this time.

Table 7.11.1 Developmental Neurotoxicity*

Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference
Rat	1200 mg/kg-day isopropanol	gavage	both	gd 6 – pnd 21	no developmental neurotoxic effects	Bates, 1991

*Key study is denoted in bold. Robust summaries of the key studies are provided at Appendix B.

7.12 Human Studies and Experience

The human data show that acetone is a low toxicity chemical and that the human body can readily assimilate external acetone exposures, in addition to its own endogenous production. The principal adverse acute human health effects associated with exposure to high concentrations of acetone vapor are sensory irritation of the eyes, nose, throat and central nervous system. If the exposure involves an extremely large amount of the chemical, such as in an accidental ingestion scenario, an individual may experience temporary fatigue, irritability, dizziness, breathing irregularities, gastrointestinal disturbances and a temporary loss of consciousness. Available data and human experience does not indicate greater sensitivity to acetone among children.

Gamis and Wasserman (1988) presented a case report describing the accidental ingestion of acetone by a young child. A 2.5-year-old child consumed nearly all of a six-ounce bottle of fingernail polish remover that contained 65% acetone and 10% isopropanol. The child was unconscious when found in his home and began having a seizure while being taken to a hospital. Phenobarbital was used to control the seizure, but the patient was still unresponsive when examined at the hospital approximately 45 minutes after being discovered. Notable clinical findings during the first 24 hours included acetonuria, acetonemia, metabolic acidosis, respiratory depression, hypothermia, and hyperglycemia. The patient gradually regained consciousness by the second day; however, evidence of acetonuria, hyperglycemia, and an acid-base imbalance were still detected. These conditions returned to normal three days after arrival, and the patient was discharged on the fourth day after a neurological examination showed no abnormalities. Acetone blood levels at 1, 18, 48, and 72 hours after the onset of symptoms were 4450, 2650, 420, and 40 mg/L, respectively. These initial blood levels are among the highest ever found in any human, and their decline tended to closely follow the course of recovery. A six-month follow-up examination showed no signs of neurodevelopmental complications.

Recently, the medical community has begun to investigate the use of ketogenic diets (KD) as a mechanism to reduce the frequency and severity of epileptic attacks in infants and children with recalcitrant refractory epilepsy. The KD is a high protein/high fat - low carbohydrate diet and KD based infant formulas have been administered to newborns. Researchers have shown that epileptic children on KD had no negative health impacts other than transient digestive system effects, and that they continued to develop normally even while on the diet for several years (Kossoff, *et al.*, 2002).

During the administration of KD, measurements of acetone in blood, urine and exhaled breath are made to confirm that the diets have placed the infants and children into a ketogenic state (Kossoff *et al.*, 2002; DiMario and Holland, 2002, Musa-Veloso *et al.*, 2002). Musa-Veloso *et al.* measured fasting breath acetone levels in epileptic children on the KD, epileptic children not on the KD and healthy controls. The average breath acetone levels were 2530 +/- 600 nmol/L (146 µg/L +/- 35 µg/L), 19 +/- 9 nmol/L (1.1 µg/L, +/- 0.52 µg/L), and 21 +/- 4 nmol/L (1.2 µg/L +/- 0.23 µg/L), for each group respectively. The levels of acetone in the healthy controls and the untreated epileptic children are similar to those reported in other studies (Nelson *et al.*, 1998). In contrast, the levels in the children on the KD were 125 fold higher (Musa-Veloso, *et al.*, 2002).

These data support the conclusion that children are not more sensitive to acetone. Rather, acetone production occurs in all children and adults, and the endogenous levels of acetone in the body vary from child to child and over time. Elevated production rates of acetone are associated with normal physiologic conditions and therapeutic diets intended to induce high levels of acetone production are not associated with adverse effects.

Epidemiology Studies

Ott *et al.*, (1983a, 1983b, and 1983c) conducted two occupational studies that are relevant to acetone. In the first study, the causes of mortality were determined for workers from a fibers plant. The study was designed to examine the health of employees occupationally exposed to methylene chloride, but population comparison groups were used that were exposed to acetone. Comparative mortality between the acetone exposed workers and the general U.S. population is shown in Table 7.12.1. These data indicate a lower than expected mortality from all causes and a lower than expected mortality from cancer and cardiovascular disease.

Table 7.12.1. A Comparison of the Observed and Expected Mortality Rates for Men and Women Occupationally Exposed to Acetone

Cause of Death	Men		Women	
	Observed	Expected	Observed	Expected
All Causes	24	53.8	3	6.7
Malignant Neoplasms	5	10.0	2	2.3
Cardiovascular Disease	15	40.4	2	2.8

Reference: Ott *et al.*, 1983b

Although the mortality study is limited in statistical power, it may provide useful information for assessing mortality for all causes, cardiovascular disease, and total malignant neoplasms. Observed deaths were below expectation by 55%, 61%, and 43%, respectively, for these three causes of death.

In the second study, a cohort of 948 employees exposed to time weighted averages of 380, 770 and 1070 ppm of acetone over a 23 year period had samples submitted for clinical laboratory evaluation. There were no abnormal findings in the liver enzymes (alkaline phosphatase, alanine aminotransferase and aspartate aminotransferase), other clinical chemistry determinations or selected hematological parameters that were examined. These two studies provide no indication that occupational exposure to acetone had an adverse impact on selected hematologic and clinical chemistry determinations or on mortality from any cause, including cancer and heart disease.

These results are consistent with those of Grampella *et al.*, (1987), who examined the possibility that long-term occupational exposures to acetone could cause systemic organ damage. A group of 60 volunteers employed for at least five years in an acetate fiber manufacturing facility were divided into two equal groups according to their level of exposure. The high exposure group received personal TWA exposures (time not stated) ranging from 948 to 1048 ppm (2251 to 2488 mg/m³) and had an average urine acetone level of 93 mg/L (measurements recorded on a spot urine specimen collected midway through the work shift). In contrast, the low exposure group had TWA acetone exposures that ranged from 549 to 653 ppm (1303 to 1550 mg/m³) and a mid shift urine acetone value of 62 mg/L. The two subgroups of test subjects were compared to a single group of 60 controls that had never been exposed to acetone. Blood specimens were collected from all of the subjects and submitted for the following hematological and clinical analyses: glucose, glutamic-pyruvic transaminase (alanine aminotransferase), glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase (aspartate aminotransferase), gamma glutamyl transpeptidase, protein electrophoresis, blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine, platelet count, and red and white blood cell counts. After taking into consideration various risk factors, such as smoking, alcohol consumption, age and past medical histories (liver and kidney damage), no statistically significant difference was noted between the different test groups for any of the clinical measurements.

Soden (1993) summarized the health files of employees who participated in a health monitoring program at a triacetate fiber plant to determine whether occupational exposures to methylene chloride, acetone and methanol adversely affected hematology or blood chemistry results. The test values for 150 acetone-exposed employees who had average 8-hr TWA exposures of 900

ppm were compared with the results from a group of 260 non-exposed controls. A comparison of the frequency distributions for the exposed and nonexposed populations failed to show any significant difference in ALT, AST, total bilirubin, or hematocrit in the two groups. Likewise, no differences were found in the response rate for symptoms such as loss of memory, headache or dizziness.

7.13 Other Information – Potentiation of Toxicity of Other Compounds

High acute exposures to acetone have been shown potentiate the toxicity of several classes of compounds in mice and rats. Several studies have demonstrated a threshold effect. These mixed exposure scenarios are beyond the scope of this assessment. Additional information about potentiation of the toxicity of other compounds is provided in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone* Chapter, section 1.4.1.1 (Morgott 2001).

7.14 Hazard Summary

The toxicological effects of acetone have been extremely well-studied. All of the toxicity tests listed in Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the Pilot Announcement have been conducted for acetone or its metabolic precursor isopropanol, and no endpoints raise specific toxicological concerns that warrant further investigation at this time. The following paragraphs address in summary fashion each toxicity endpoint covered by the VCCEP. Following the narrative summary, Table 7.14.1 identifies the key study for each endpoint and provides the following information: species/sex of test animals; route of administration, dose and duration of exposure; observed effects; reference; and robust summary number.

Acute Toxicity

Animal and human data demonstrate that acetone has low acute toxicity. This assessment is consistent with previous reviews cited in this document (see Section 3.0).

Metabolism

The rates and routes of acetone formation and elimination have been extensively examined in both humans and laboratory animals. This topic is addressed at length in *Patty's Toxicology Acetone* Chapter (Morgott 2001), section 1.4.2.2.3.

In addition, Clewell *et al.* (2001) have published a PBPK model that documents quantitatively the uptake and metabolism of isopropanol and acetone in rats and humans. The SIAR notes that the “ability of humans to naturally produce and dispose of acetone may to a large degree explain its relatively low toxicity following external exposure to moderate amounts of the vapor or liquid.” Metabolism studies show that increases in blood acetone levels are quickly controlled by specific metabolic enzymes that are capable of efficiently handling the excess production; this fact pertains to exogenous exposures as well as fluctuations in endogenous production.

Repeated Dose (Systemic) Toxicity

The extensive data available for acetone demonstrates “low potential for systemic toxicity.” (SIAR, p. 26). The key studies are the 90-day drinking water studies in rats and mice sponsored by NTP which “only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses.” (Memo by NTP Study Director, Appendix F.) Minimally toxic concentrations and associated effects are presented at Table 7.14.1. Based on the minimal effects seen at doses of 1700

mg/kg-day and higher, 900 mg/kg-day was determined to be the NOAEL for male rats in the NTP studies. NOAELs for female rats, male mice and female mice were considerably higher: >3100 mg/kg-day, 2300 mg/kg-day, and 5900 mg/kg-day, respectively. These very high NOAELs, and the very mild responses seen at even higher doses, provide strong evidence of acetone's low potential to cause systemic toxicity.

Genotoxicity

Acetone has been tested in more than two dozen *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays. These studies indicate that acetone is not genotoxic. In fact, acetone has been used as a vehicle for testing water insoluble substances in various mutagenicity assays.

Carcinogenicity

The SIAR concludes that "acetone is not likely to be carcinogenic." (SIAR, p. 28). EPA in 1995 concluded, "There is currently no evidence to suggest a concern for carcinogenicity." (EPCRA Review, described in Section 3.6). NTP scientists have recommended against chronic toxicity/carcinogenicity testing of acetone because "the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents," and because of "the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential of acetone." (See Appendix F.) These previous assessments are supported by: (1) numerous assays demonstrating a lack of mutagenic activity or cytogenetic toxicity; (2) negative chronic dermal studies using acetone; and (3) negative chronic toxicity/oncogenicity studies of isopropanol in rats and mice. Thus, the scientific evidence does not support a concern for carcinogenicity for acetone.

Neurotoxicity and Developmental Neurotoxicity

High acute exposure to acetone can cause reversible pharmacologic effects, but available studies do not provide any evidence of injury to the nervous system following repeated exposures. The available studies include numerous acetone studies using a variety of test protocols in multiple species, as well as TSCA guideline studies with isopropanol in rats. A guideline developmental neurotoxicity study also has been conducted with isopropanol in rats, and no evidence of developmental neurotoxicity was seen at the highest dose (1200 mg/kg-day). Thus, the nervous system does not appear to be a target organ following repeated exposures to acetone.

Immunotoxicity

No evidence of potential immunotoxicity was observed in a recent guideline study of acetone in mice. Available subchronic studies of acetone also are not indicative of a likely concern for potential immunotoxic effects.

Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity

Inhalation developmental toxicity studies in rats and mice have shown either no effects or slight effects following exposure to the highest concentrations of acetone studied (Mast *et al.* 1988). In the rat study, acetone had no effect on the number of implantations, the mean percent live pups/litter or the mean percent of resorptions/litter. The number of live fetuses/litter and the percent intrauterine deaths/litter for all groups were within the range of controls. Fetal body weights were reduced approximately 15% at the highest exposure (11,000 ppm) as compared to the controls but at 440 or 2,200 ppm were not different from controls. Neither fetal sex ratios

nor the incidences of fetal malformations were altered in the acetone-exposed groups as compared to the controls. The percent of litters with at least one pup with malformations was greater at 11,000 ppm than for control (11.5 vs. 3.8%) with this index at 5% in controls in other contemporary studies at the same laboratory. However, at 11,000 ppm 366 fetus were examined and only nine minor malformations were observed in four fetuses. Of these, four malformations were found in a single fetus and two other fetuses each had two malformations. Hence, these data provided no compelling evidence that acetone acts as a teratogen *in vivo*.

In the mouse study, there were no maternal deaths and no overt signs of toxicity evident in any of the groups after the highest exposure level was reduced to 6,600 ppm. There were no effects on maternal body weight although absolute and relative liver weights in the high exposure group were significantly greater than control. A slight but significant increase in the percent of late resorptions occurred at 6,600 ppm. Acetone exposure had no effect on the number of implantations/litter, the mean percent live pups/litter or the mean percent of total intrauterine deaths. Both male and female fetal weights were significantly reduced (approximately 8%) at 6,600 ppm compared to control. Fetal weights at 440 and 2,200 ppm were unremarkable. Fetal sex ratios were not affected by gestational exposure to acetone. The incidence of fetal malformations was not significantly increased in the acetone-exposed groups compared to control. No fetal malformations were observed that had not previously been found in control fetuses.

In conclusion, a well conducted developmental toxicity study in rats and mice established a NOAEL of 2200 ppm and produced no compelling evidence to indicate that acetone is a teratogen. As noted by Gentry, *et al.* (2003, in press) a higher NOAEL could very likely have been demonstrated given the mild effects reported at the highest exposures of 6600 ppm in mice and 11,000 ppm in rats.

Reproductive studies on acetone on include an oral (drinking water) one-generation study in rats (only males exposed), which showed no testicular toxicity or effects on reproduction at 0.5 percent acetone in the drinking water. In another one-generation study, male rats were exposed to acetone (0.5 and 1.0 percent in the drinking water) along with DEHP, with no evidence of toxicity to the testes or adverse effect on reproduction.

The reproductive toxicity studies of isopropanol (IPA) also support that acetone does not represent a reproductive toxicity hazard since a major metabolite of IPA is acetone. A guideline two-generation study has been conducted for isopropanol by gavage at doses of 100, 500 or 1000 mg/kg-day. Increased mortality was observed in the F1 and F2 offspring from postnatal days 0-4 receiving the highest dose of IPA as compared to controls. This result was likely due to lag in the ontogeny of the enzymes responsible for metabolism of IPA to acetone and hence a direct effect of IPA. In addition, high dose male F1 body weights were statistically lower than control on postnatal days 0 and 1 and F2 high dose male and female body weights were statistically significantly lower than control on postnatal Days 0, 1 and 4 compared with control. Several F1 weanlings died or were euthanized prior to P2 selection, one each in the low and mid-dose groups and 18 in the high dose group. No treatment related post-mortem findings were observed in the offspring of either generation. In addition, no treatment related microscopic changes in reproductive tissues or biologically meaningful differences in other reproductive parameters were observed in adults of either generation.

The existing data support that the exogenous exposure to acetone does not pose a developmental or reproductive hazard. This is not surprising considering that the endogenous production of acetone is so much greater than typical exogenous exposures (see discussion in

Section 9.3). Normal activities (e.g., exercise, diet) can cause endogenous production of acetone to increase significantly in healthy individuals; and pregnant women, nursing mothers and children all have higher blood levels of acetone naturally due to their higher energy requirements. As described in Section 7.12, the medical community has begun using a ketogenic diet as a means to reduce the frequency and severity of epileptic attacks in infants and children with recalcitrant refractory epilepsy. The SIAR notes that the “ability of humans to naturally produce and dispose of acetone may to a large degree explain its relatively low toxicity following external exposure to moderate amounts of the vapor or liquid.” (p. 20). Studies described in Section 7.3 also show that increases in blood acetone levels are quickly controlled by specific metabolic enzymes that are capable of efficiently handling the excess production; this fact pertains to exogenous exposures as well as fluctuations in endogenous production. The draft IRIS Toxicological Review of Acetone describes three processes by which the human body tends to “buffer” acetone blood levels.⁵

Taken as a whole, the scientific evidence is not indicative of a likely reproductive or developmental toxicity hazard from acetone exposure.

⁵ EPA, Toxicological Review of Acetone in Support of Summary Information on the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS). (CAS No. 67-64-1) External Review Draft (August 2001), pp. 28-29.

Table 7.14.1. Key Hazard Studies of Acetone and Isopropanol

Toxicological Endpoint	VCCEP Tier	Species	Exposure conc	Dosing	Sex	Duration	Observed effects	Reference	Robust Summary Number
Acute Toxicity	1	Rat	7300 mg/kg	oral	both	single dose	LD ₅₀	Kanada <i>et al.</i> 1994	
In Vitro Gene Mutation	1			Not applicable, see Table 7.4.1 for summary of studies					
Chromosomal Aberrations/Micronucleus	1 & 2			Not applicable, see Table 7.4.1 for summary of studies					
Reproductive Toxicity	1 & 2	Rat	0.5% acetone	drinking water	males	6-weeks (one generation)	no testicular toxicity	Larsen <i>et al.</i> 1991	9
		Rat	500 mg/kg/day isopropanol	gavage	both	two generation	decrease in male mating index, F ₁ males only	Bevan <i>et al.</i> , 1995	4
90-Day Subchronic Toxicity	2	Mice	4858 mg/kg/day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	mild/minimal increase in liver weight; mild/minimal decrease in spleen weight	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	6
		Mice	11,298 mg/kg/day	drinking water	female	13-week	mild/minimal increase in liver weight; decrease in spleen weight; mild/minimal centrilobular hepatocellular hypertrophy	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	6
		Rat	1700 mg/kg/day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	mild/minimal increased relative liver weights (no morphological alternations); minimal/mild hemosiderosis;	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	7

Developmental Toxicity	2	Rat	3100 mg/kg/day	drinking water	female	13-week	hematological indices none	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	7
		Rat	11,000 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	gd 6-19	reduction in maternal body weight gain; reduction in fetal weight	Mast <i>et al.</i> 1988	1
		Mice	6600 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	gd 6-17	increase in maternal liver to body weight ratio; reduction in fetal weight; slight increase in incidence of late resorptions	Mast <i>et al.</i> 1988	10
Immunotoxicity	2	Mice	1000 mg/kg/day acetone	drinking water	males	28 days, 30 day recovery period	no immunological effects	Woolhiser, <i>et al.</i> 2003	8
Metabolism and Pharmacokinetics	2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	PBPK model that documents quantitatively the uptake and metabolism of isopropanol and acetone in rats and human	Clewell <i>et al.</i> 2001	
Carcinogenicity	3	Mice	0.2 mL acetone	dermal	both	two years	no carcinogenic effects	Zakova <i>et al.</i> 1985	11
		Mice	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	18 months	no carcinogenic effects	Burleigh-Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994	
		Rat	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	two years	increase in Leydig cell tumors (males only); EPA has concluded these are not relevant to humans; no other carcinogenic effects	Burleigh-Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994	
Neurotoxicity	3	Rat	5000-10,000 ppm acetone	drinking water	ns	5000 ppm for 8 weeks then 10,000 ppm for 4	no dying-back neuropathy	Spencer <i>et al.</i> 1978	

		Rat	5000 ppm isopropanol	inhalation	both	weeks 6 hrs/day, 5 days/week, 13 weeks	narcosis in some rats, but no change in FOB or histopathology; increase in motor activity (females only, weeks 9 & 13 only)	Burleigh- Flayer <i>et al.</i> 1994a	3
		Rat	1700 mg/kg/day acetone	drinking water	male	13-week	no histological effects on nervous system	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	7
		Rat	1,500 ppm acetone	inhalation	both	13-week	no neurological effects	Christoph, 1997	
		Mice	11,298 mg/kg/day acetone	drinking water	both	13-week	no histological effects on nervous system	Dietz 1991; Dietz <i>et al.</i> 1991	6
Developmental Neurotoxicity	3	Rat	1200 mg/kg/day isopropanol	gavage	both	gd 6 – pnd 21	no developmental neurotoxic effects	Bates, 1991	2

7.15 Robust Summaries of Toxicology Studies

The OECD SIDS Dossier and SIAR (Appendix A) contain summaries of most of the key toxicological studies on acetone. Expanded robust summaries for eleven studies are found in Appendix B.

7.16 Selection of Health Benchmarks

Historically, the evaluation of chronic exposures of noncarcinogens has been based on the RfD. The RfD is a product of science and science policy. The goal of the RfD is:

... an estimate (with an uncertainty spanning perhaps an order of magnitude) of a daily exposure to the human population (including sensitive subgroups) that is likely to be without appreciable risk of deleterious effects during a lifetime. (EPA, 1988)

Swartout et al. (1998) demonstrated that the approach used to set most RfDs (use of animals models and safety factors) results in estimates that are overly conservative for the vast majority of chemicals and that the RfD is best viewed as the lower bound of the true but unknown “safe level”. They further demonstrated that the true threshold for adverse effects for the “typical” chemical could be 10 to 100 times higher than the RfD. This finding does not prevent the use of the RfD in screening assessments. Since the RfD is a conservative measure of the “safe level”, a comparison to the RfD is still a valid tool for screening out chemical exposures that are of low concern.

In the case of acetone, the oral RfD of 0.9 mg/kg/day derived by EPA is more than 10-fold below the normal endogenous production in healthy adults and children and is below the levels of exposure nursing infants receive from the presence of acetone in non-occupationally exposed mother’s milk. Thus, all children exceed this RfD as a result of endogenous exposures. This finding clearly shows that the methodology used by EPA to set the RfD has underestimated the doses of acetone that can be tolerated without adverse effects in adults and children. As such, comparisons of doses from total acetone exposure (exogenous and endogenous) to the RfD do not provide any guidance or insight on the risks posed by the chemical. Therefore, the Task Force has not compared the total acetone doses to the EPA-derived RfD.

The toxicity assessment presented in Section 7 demonstrates that acetone has low acute and repeated dose toxicity. The key health benchmarks for this risk assessment are the RfD and RfC derived by Gentry, *et al.* (2003, in press). Like RfCs and RfDs derived by EPA, these values are intended to represent exposures that can be repeated daily for a lifetime without appreciable risk to the general population, including sensitive subgroups.

Gentry *et al.* used a PBPK model to derive two RfD values for acetone. See discussion in Section 3.9. The first value was derived from the NOAEL of 900 mg/kg-day for male rats in the NTP subchronic drinking water studies. Gentry *et al.* applied a composite uncertainty factor of 60 to this NOAEL (6 for database insufficiency and a factor of 10 for human variability). The RfD derived from the NTP subchronic studies is 16.0 mg/kg-day. This value is similar to but slightly higher than the chronic value recommended in the WHO IPCS Environmental Health Criteria document (9.0 mg/kg-day).

Gentry *et al.* also derived an oral RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day based on inhalation developmental toxicity studies in rats and mice. In this case, the NOAEL was 2200 ppm, and a composite UF of 30 was applied. As noted by Gentry *et al.*, it is likely that a higher NOAEL would have been defined if an intermediate dose had been added between 2200 ppm and 11,000 ppm in rats, and between 2200 and 6600 in mice, given the minimal effects seen at the high doses in each species. This artifact of dosing caused the RfD derived from the developmental toxicity studies to be slightly lower than the value derived from the subchronic drinking water studies. The lower RfD is essentially identical to the value recommended by WHO (9.0 mg/kg-day - see previous paragraph).

The lower RfD value derived by Gentry, *et al.* will be used as the chronic oral health benchmark for this risk assessment, even though acetone is not believed to pose a developmental toxicity hazard in humans.

Gentry *et al.* also used the PBPK model to derive an RfC of 29 ppm. This value is based on the NOAEL of 2200 ppm in the mouse and rat inhalation developmental toxicity studies, applying the same composite UF of 30. This value is similar to the chronic inhalation MRL of 13 ppm derived by ATSDR.

Use of a PBPK model to derive the RfD and RfC values improved the interspecies extrapolation, allowed maximum use of acetone data (via route-to-route extrapolation), and facilitated use of relevant isopropanol data. It is important to recognize that the values derived by Gentry *et al.* are still very conservative (i.e., health protective). They are based on extensive toxicity information, are derived from relatively high NOAELs (that in turn are based on very mild responses reported at even higher doses) and are still below normal endogenous production of acetone in healthy individuals, and much lower than endogenous production in pregnant women, nursing mothers and children.

In deriving its acetone RfD of 0.9 mg/kg-day, EPA discounted the use of the existing PBPK model for acetone (Gentry *et al.*, 2002) on the basis that: "The models have been validated for human exposure for the inhalation pathway, but not the oral pathway." However, this PBPK model successfully described a large body of pharmacokinetic data for IPA and acetone from different species, administered by different routes of administration, including orally administered acetone in rats. The successful description of several data sets collected by several different investigators indicates that the model is a valid mathematical description of the pharmacokinetics of both IPA and acetone in mammals and can be used to accurately describe the fate of inhaled or orally administered acetone to humans. Merely because it was not directly used to describe human pharmacokinetic data on orally administered acetone does not mean it could not or has not provided such a description accurately. In fact, the parameterization of the model for this purpose is trivial and does not alter or invalidate its use by Gentry *et al.*, for the purpose of determining an appropriate RfD and RfC for acetone.⁶

In addition to using 8.7 mg/kg-day to characterize children's risk from chronic exogenous acetone exposures, single day exposures, such as result from a single use of a consumer product, will be compared to normal endogenous production.

⁶ See discussion in sections 3.8 and 3.9 for additional discussion of the VCCEP sponsors' reasons for concluding that the RfD value derived by EPA is overly conservative and the values derived by Gentry *et al.* provide a more scientifically sound basis for assessing potential health risks from exposure to acetone.

Because acetone is not believed to present a developmental or reproductive toxicity hazard, the focus of the risk assessment will be on exposure to children.

8. Exposure Assessment

This section summarizes the methodology, results and conclusions of the exposure assessment for acetone under VCCEP. As part of this pilot program, EPA has requested that exposure information be submitted to determine the extent of children's exposure to acetone. The types of exposure information needed for the assessment includes the identification and characterization of the population groups exposed, sources of the exposure, as well as frequencies, levels, and routes of exposure.

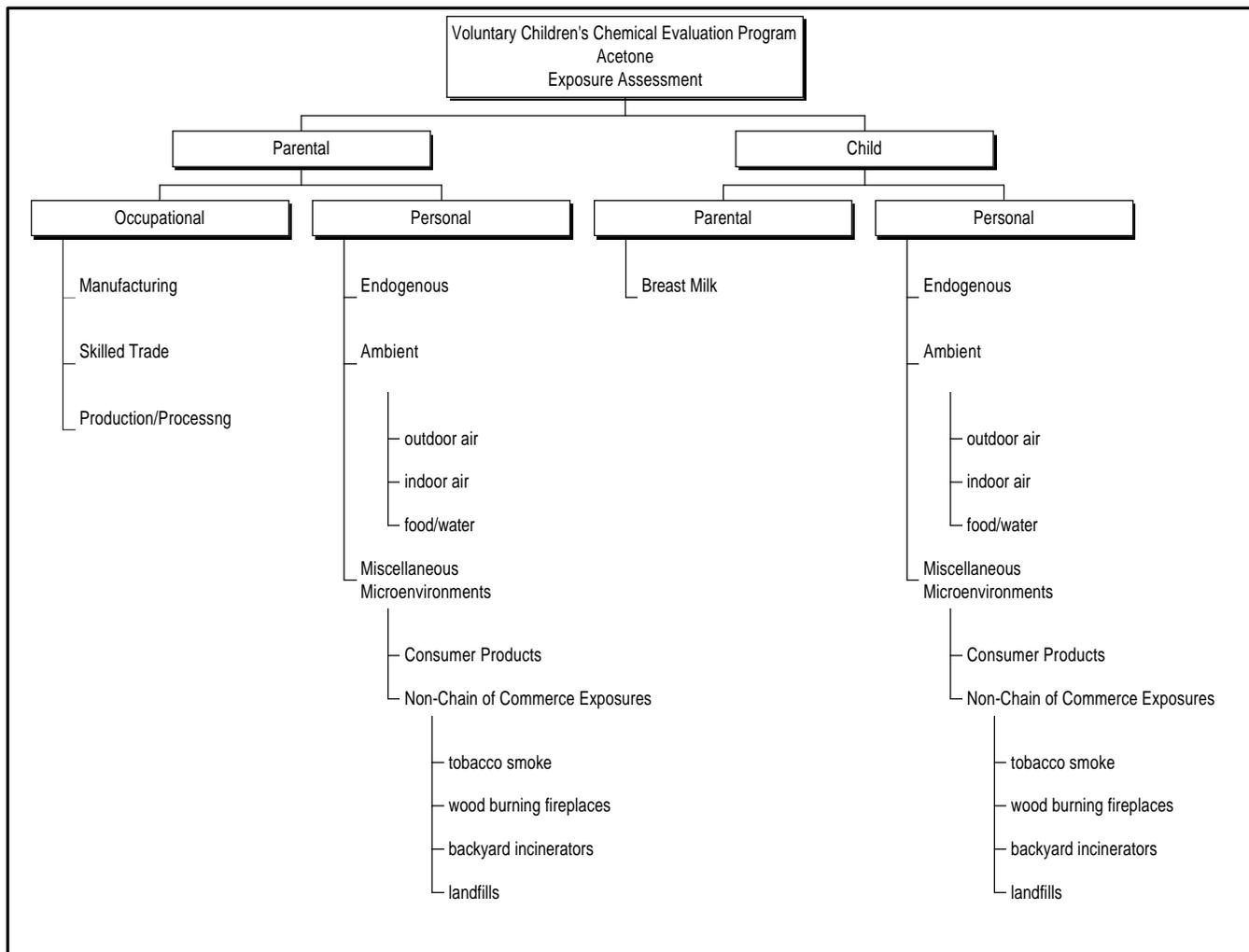
The methodology employed in this assessment provides a comprehensive analysis of childhood exposures to acetone and uses the available data to focus on those sources of exposure that are likely to have the most significant impact on children's total acetone exposures.

8.1 Methodology/ Scope of Assessment

As suggested by EPA, exposure assessments for both children and prospective parents were conducted. As indicated in Figure 8-1, sources of exposure to acetone in the ambient environment can come from both chain-of-commerce and non-chain-of-commerce sources. In accordance with the notice of the program published in the Federal Register (2000), exposures for the chains of commerce sources were quantified. Exposures to acetone from non-chain of commerce sources such as wood burning stoves and other sources of combustion, landfills, and tobacco smoke have been assessed qualitatively. Additionally, the exposure assessments did not include exposures from accidents or intentional misuse of acetone containing products.

A child-centered approach was used to define realistic exposure scenarios for children's interaction with acetone sources including endogenous levels, environmental (ambient) sources, and use of consumer products. Figure 8-1 is a flowchart depicting the child-centered approach that was followed for acetone.

**Figure 8-1:
Children's Exposure Summary**



8.2 Sources of Acetone Exposure

This section provides a summary of sources of acetone to which children and prospective parents may be exposed. Acetone exposure has been quantified based on information provided in the scientific peer-reviewed literature or through exposure modeling using various EPA exposure models. The sources of acetone are defined in terms of three general source categories: endogenous production, ambient sources of exposures, and exposures resulting from the use of consumer products.

8.2.1 Endogenous Levels

Virtually every tissue and organ in the human body contains measurable levels of acetone, which is endogenously produced when fats and lipids are metabolized as a source of energy. Endogenous acetone can be measured in a variety of biological media and are routinely measured in the blood, urine and exhaled breath. Morgott (2001) summarized the normal adult values of acetone in these specimens from various published studies as follows:

**Table 8-1:
Normal Endogenous Acetone Levels**

Type of Specimen	No. of Subjects	Average Concentration		Std. Dev. or Range
		mg/L	mg/L	
Plasma	20	4.35		1.31
Plasma	20	1.74		11.6
Plasma	31	0.41		0.17
Serum	11	2.9		0.3
Whole blood	6	0.93		0.06
Whole blood	216	1.25		0.0 – 17.4
Whole blood	88	0.84		0.56
Whole blood	16	1.56		? – 5.21
Whole blood	1062	1.8		0.64 - >6.0
Whole blood	288	1.59		0.15 – 15.4
Spot urine	20	3.02		1.25
Spot urine	49	0.84		0.13 – 9.35
Spot urine	15	0.76		0.63
Spot urine	10	0.8		0.2
Expired air	9		1.52	0.36
Expired air	88		0.71	0.02 – 3.32
Expired air	187		1.45	0.29 – 8.25
Expired air	13		1.19	0.52 – 2.07
Expired air	23		1.04	0.29
Expired air	67		1.10	0.88
Expired air	40		1.1	0.5
Expired air	14		0.97	0.07

* Table reproduced from Patty's Toxicology Fifth Edition, Volume 6 with permission from John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

Acetone is primarily formed in the liver but is also formed in other tissues. Normal healthy adults produce acetone at levels ranging from 20 to 72 mg/kg-day with a typical rate of 2.9 g/day. This range of acetone production was derived from the relationship of blood acetone levels and acetone “turnover rates” as reported by Reichard et al (1979) and Owen et al (1982). Appendix H provides the details of the endogenous production derivation. The studies conducted by Reichard et al. and Owen et al. demonstrated that there is a direct linear relationship between plasma acetone concentrations and rates of endogenous production when the plasma acetone concentrations are less than 5mM.

Morgott (2001) characterized the normal endogenous acetone production for adults for various physiological conditions, which result in acetone levels beyond the levels estimated above. The acetone production in normal and ketotic humans is presented on Table 8-2.

Table 8-2
Acetone Blood Levels and Production Rates in Normal and Ketotic Humans

Subject Type	Blood Level (mg/L)	Production Rate (mg/kg-day)
Normal Adult	11	41
Fasting Adult	44	105
Moderate Diabetic	90	81
Severe Diabetic	189	637

While acetone is produced in all individuals, the amount of acetone production is increased when glycogen concentrations in the liver are lowered. This can occur because of diet, exercise, fasting or other factors. Morgott identified a number of normal physiological conditions and disease states that lead to elevated acetone production.

**Table 8-3:
Human Physiological and Clinical Conditions that Lead to an
Increase in Acetone Production (Morgott, 2001)**

Physiological conditions

- Pregnancy
- Postnatal growth
- High fat consumption
- Dieting
- Lactation
- Vigorous physical exercise
- Perinatal development
- Physical exertion

Disease states

- Starvation
- Alcoholism
- Diabetes mellitus
- Hypoglycemia
- Eating disorders
- Prolonged vomiting
- Prolonged fasting
- Acute trauma
- Inborn errors in metabolism

* Table reproduced from Patty's Toxicology Fifth Edition, Volume 6 with permission from John Wiley & Sons, Inc.

The overall effect of these factors is increased acetone production. Infants, pregnant women, and exercising humans can have ketone body levels that are 2 – 20 times higher than normal due to ketogenesis from their higher energy requirements (Morgott, 2001). Further, for humans on a high protein/fat diet (e.g., Atkins diet) endogenous production of acetone is much greater than when a balanced diet is consumed. The highest reported levels of acetone production have been observed in diabetic ketosis. Production rates as high as 44.6 g/day have been reported in severe diabetics. Because acetone levels are influenced by activity and daily diet, endogenous levels of acetone vary widely between normal individuals. In addition, acetone levels in an individual will vary from day to day depending on the person's diet and level of activity.

Published information on endogenous levels of acetone in children is limited. One study of normal ketone body measurements in infants and children indicated that average serum acetone levels ranged from 2.7 mg percent (27 mg/L) in newborns to 0.9 mg percent (9 mg/L) in teenagers, with an average for all children in the study of 12 mg/L (Peden, 1964). Daily endogenous production for children has been estimated based on these blood levels and is presented on Table 8-4. These levels were derived based on the Reichard et al and Owen et al studies. Appendix I provides the details of the derivation for various age ranges.

Table 8-4
Endogenous Acetone Production Rates in Children

Age Group	Acetone Production (mg/kg/day)	
	Mean	Maximum
0 to 12 Months	121	387
1 to 5 Years	94	135
6 to 13 Years	72	104
14 to 18 Years	55	83

Recently, the medical community has begun to investigate the use of ketogenic diets (KD) in infants and children who are affected by recalcitrant refractory epilepsy. This non-pharmacologic treatment of the disease has been shown to be an effective mechanism for reducing the frequency and severity of epileptic attacks. The KD is a high protein/high fat - low carbohydrate diet and KD-based infant formulas have been administered to newborns. Researchers have shown that epileptic children on KD had no negative health impacts other than transient digestive system effects and that they continued to develop normally even while on the diet for several years (Kossoff, et al., 2002)

During the administration of KD, measurements of acetone in blood, urine and exhaled breath are made to confirm that the diets have placed the infants and children into a ketogenic state. However, few of these measurements have been reported in the literature (Kossoff, et al., 2002; DiMario and Holland, 2002, Musa-Veloso, et al., 2002). One study reported data on levels of acetone in exhaled breath. Musa-Veloso et al. measured fasting breath acetone levels in epileptic children on the KD, epileptic children not on the KD and healthy controls. The average breath acetone levels reported are summarized on Table 8-5.

Table 8-5
Summary of Children's Breath Acetone Levels (Musa-Veloso, et al., 2002)

Group	Breath Acetone Levels	
	nmol/L	µg/L
Epileptic on KD	2,530 (+/-600)	146 (+/-35)
Epileptic non-KD	19 (+/-9)	1.1 (+/-0.52)
Healthy Control	21 (+/-4)	1.2 (+/-0.23)

The levels of acetone in the healthy controls and the untreated epileptic children are similar to those reported in other studies (Nelson et al., 1998). In contrast, the levels in the children on the KD were 125-fold higher (Musa-Veloso, et al., 2002).

In summary, the available data suggests that acetone production occurs in all children and adults. The level varies from child to child and over time. Elevated production rates of acetone associated with normal physiologic conditions and therapeutic diets intended to induce ketosis, which subsequently results in high levels of acetone production, are not associated with adverse effects.

8.2.2 Ambient Exogenous Exposures

Ambient exogenous childhood exposures to acetone could occur from four general sources: 1) ambient air, 2) food, 3) drinking water, and 4) human milk. Potential exposures to each source are described further below.

8.2.2.1 Dietary Exposures

Because acetone occurs in a wide variety of foods, diet is an exposure source for acetone. Acetone in food occurs because agricultural commodities naturally contain acetone. Acetone is found in measurable amounts in foods such as onions, grapes, cauliflower, tomatoes, milk, cheese, beans, and peas (SIDS, 1999). Acetone is also listed as a component in food additives and food packaging and rated as a GRAS (Generally Recognized as Safe) substance at concentrations ranging from 5 to 8 mg/L (Oser and Ford, 1973).

High levels of acetone are found in raw cow's milk as a result of the animal's normal metabolism. The levels of acetone in the milk of healthy cows range from 0 to 0.2 millimoles (0 to 11.6 mg/l) (<http://darwin.inf.fu-berlin.de/2002/274/kap6.pdf>). Acetone levels can be elevated as a result of ketotic stress (ketosis) and feed containing either insufficient levels of propionate or elevated levels of butyrate (Huhtanen et al. 1993). Ketotic stress in cattle, sheep, and other livestock occurs as a result of a shortage of glucose which occurs as a result of milk production or metabolic demands associated with the later stages of gestation. Smith (2002) reports that ketotic stress occurs in 4-5% of cows. Levels of acetone associated ketotic stress range from 0.2 to >2 millimoles (11.6 to > 116mg/l) (<http://darwin.inf.fu-berlin.de/2002/274/kap6.pdf>).

In this dietary exposure assessment the total intake of acetone from the consumption of milk and food containing milk was quantified using the exposure software LifeLine™ Version 2.0. The following assumptions were used in the assessment:

- Levels of acetone in raw milk is assumed to range uniformly from 0 to 11.6 mg/l;
- Because of acetone's high solubility, acetone levels are assumed to be unchanged by pasteurization; and
- Acetone is assumed to stay with the aqueous portion of milk rather than the dairy solids or fats.

The results are presented in Table 8-6. The results presented are based on model results for specific ages (Actual age) rather than the general age ranges. The doses for each of the age ranges presented in the table below are based on the median age of each of the age ranges. As the results demonstrate, daily dietary acetone exposure is highly variable and varies for the different age groups. The upper range for one-day dose can exceed 0.21 mg/kg in children ages 1-5.

**Table 8-6:
Dietary Exposures to Acetone from Normal Levels in Raw Milk**

Age Range	Actual Age	One-Day Dose (mg/kg-day)		Annual Average Daily Dose (mg/kg-day)	
		Median	95 th	Median	95 th
<1	<1	0	0.21	0.037	0.06
1 to 5	3	0.092	0.41	0.13	0.16
6 to 13	9	0.046	0.19	0.062	0.081
14 to 18	16	0.0057	0.072	0.012	0.032
19 to 36	26	0.017	0.026	0.017	0.026

8.2.2.2 Ambient Air (Indoor and Outdoor)

Acetone is emitted into the atmosphere from both natural and anthropogenic sources. Natural sources include vegetation such as trees and plants; animal wastes, microbes, and insects. Additionally forest fires and volcanic eruptions emit acetone to the atmosphere. Anthropogenic sources of acetone to the ambient air include automobile exhaust, chemical manufacturing, wood burning and pulping, polyethylene burning, refuse combustion, petroleum production, landfills and solvent uses (ATSDR, 1994). Emissions from industrial sources account for only approximately 1% of the acetone emissions to the ambient air. Natural sources such as vegetation, which emits approximately 9 million tons as a global annual average and biomass burning which emits approximately 10 million tons; as well as hydrocarbon oxidation in the atmosphere contribute the greatest to the ambient air load (Morgott, 2001).

Acetone in the outdoor ambient air has been measured and ranges from 3 ppb (7.1 µg/m³) in rural areas to approximately 7 ppb (16.38 µg/m³) in urban areas (ATSDR, 1994). Indoor ambient air contains somewhat greater levels of acetone with concentrations estimated at 8 ppb (18.99 µg/m³) (ATSDR, 1994). Other reports of indoor air concentrations of acetone indicate concentration ranges such as 7.1 - 28.5 µg/m³ in an office building; 4.7 - 415 µg/m³ in private homes (Morgott, 2001). ATSDR estimates human exposure to acetone via the ambient air (including indoor air) at 0.37 mg/day.

It should be noted that acetone is not considered a Hazardous Air Pollutant under EPA's Clean Air Act, nor is it considered a toxic chemical under SARA 313 and has been exempted from the Toxic Release Inventory reporting requirements. As EPA acknowledges in their delisting of acetone from SARA 313, industrial sources that manufacture or use acetone do not emit acetone in concentrations which have an impact at the fence line and therefore do not serve as an extraordinary source for residents nearby such a facility (Federal Register, 1995a 60FR31643). (See discussion in section 3.3.)

Age-specific average daily doses of acetone from the ambient air were calculated using the following equation:

$$Dose = \frac{C \times AF \times IR \times ET}{BW}$$

where,

Dose = Average daily dose of acetone from inhalation exposure (mg/kg-day)

C = Concentration of acetone in air (mg/m³)

AF = Inhalation absorption factor (unitless)

IR = Inhalation rate (m³/hr)

ET = Exposure time (hr/day)

BW = Body weight

The exposure factors and age-specific doses for acetone from the ambient indoor and outdoor air are presented on Tables 8-7 and 8-8, respectively.

**Table 8-7:
Exposure factors for Age-Specific Chronic Doses for Acetone from Ambient Air**

Exposure Parameter	Units	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration – indoor	µg/m ³	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0	19.0
Concentration – outdoor urban	µg/m ³	16.4	16.4	16.4	16.4	16.4
Concentration – outdoor rural	µg/m ³	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1	7.1
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time – indoor ^b	hours/day	21	21	21	21	21
Exposure time – outdoor & in-vehicle ^b	hours/day	3	3	3	3	3
Inhalation rate ^c	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^c	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^b The amount of time spent in an indoor environment for all age groups is conservatively derived from the Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) recommended value for adults and is consistent with the value used in the EPA's E-FAST exposure model. Time spent outdoors includes time in vehicle.

^c All age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

**Table 8-8:
Age-Specific Dose Estimates for Acetone from Ambient Air**

Environment	Acetone Dose (mg/kg-day)				
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Indoor Air	4.6E-03	3.5E-03	2.6E-03	1.7E-03	1.3E-03
Outdoor air – urban	5.7E-04	4.4E-04	3.2E-04	2.1E-04	1.6E-04
Outdoor air - rural	2.5E-04	1.9E-04	1.4E-04	9.2E-05	7.1E-05
Total ambient – urban	5.2E-03	4.0E-03	2.9E-03	1.9E-03	1.5E-03
Total ambient - rural	4.9E-03	3.7E-03	2.7E-03	1.8E-03	1.4E-03

8.2.2.3 Drinking Water

Available occurrence data indicate that acetone is rarely detected in tap water, although it has been detected at levels ranging from 2 – 7 µg/L in residential well water (Dewalle and Chian, 1981). ATSDR indicates that typically, the concentration is less than 1 ppb and concludes that the daily intake for acetone from this source would be negligible - approximately 0.002 µg/day (assuming 2 L/day intake rate, but children under the age of 14 generally consume 1 – 1.5 L/day). Additionally, acetone was proposed as a candidate chemical under EPA's Safe Water Drinking Act, but subsequently removed (Federal Register, 1995b). Age-specific doses of acetone from drinking water were derived assuming an average concentration of 1 ppb and by using the following equation:

$$Dose = \frac{C \times ABS \times IR}{BW}$$

where,

Dose = Average daily dose of acetone from inhalation exposure (mg/kg-day)

C = Concentration of acetone in water (mg/L)

ABS = Absorption factor (unitless)

IR = Ingestion rate (L/day)

BW = Body weight

The results are presented in Table 8-9.

**Table 8-9:
Age-Specific Doses of Acetone from Drinking Water**

	Units	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/L	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Ingestion rate	L/day	0.24	1.5	1.5	2	2.5
Body weight	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
Absorption factor	unitless	1	1	1	1	1
Dose mg/kg-d		3.3E-05	9.7E-05	4.3E-05	3.3E-05	4.0E-05

8.2.3 Prospective Parent's Exogenous Exposures

Parental exposure to acetone will be from an occupational exposure, a personal exposure in a non-occupational environment, or both. There are three primary industrial source classifications in terms of occupational exposure. These include exposure to the chemical during 1) production of the raw chemical, 2) manufacture of other products using acetone as a chemical intermediate (i.e., methyl methacrylate, methacrylic acid, methyl isobutyl ketone, and various pharmaceuticals) or as a solvent component for paints, varnishes and waxes, or 3) use of an end product such as in a skilled trade (i.e., painting, printing, or furniture refinishing).

Parental non-occupational exposures are likely to occur from the same sources (i.e., ambient air, food and water and consumer products) as children. As with the childhood exposures,

these sources, except for consumer product usage are regarded as *de minimis* and therefore are not further discussed.

Occupational exposure limits (OELs) and recommended values for acetone include:

- 1000 ppm (2380 mg/m³) 8-hour TWA (OSHA);
- 750/1000 (1785 / 2380 mg/m³) 8-hour TWA/15-min STEL (OSHA limits adopted in 1989 but later vacated; nevertheless in effect in some states); and
- 500/750 (1190 / 1785 mg/m³) 8-hour TWA/15-min STEL (ACGIH, approx. 1995).

Review of the recent peer reviewed literature for occupational exposures to acetone has been conducted to determine whether studies exist that would be useful for assessing the parental occupational exposure scenarios of production/processing and manufacturing in the United States. This literature search did not identify any studies of these industries, however, it is believed that exposures in the acetone production industry would be well below the OELs stated above, as any acetone lost to the air is product that cannot be sold and therefore emissions would be aggressively controlled.

Recent reports of occupational acetone exposures at other facilities that use/process acetone or acetone-containing products have been summarized by Morgott, 2001 as presented on Table 8-10:

Table 8-10:
Summary of Occupational Exposures to Acetone

Industry/Operation	Time-Weighted Average Concentration	
	(mg/m ³)	(ppm)
Glue spraying	1 – 40	0.42 - 17
Automotive repair shop	12 – 77	5 - 32
Hospital EEG lab	1 – 60	0.42 - 25
Print shop	6 – 235	2.5 - 99
Shoe factory	25 – 393	10.5 - 165
Automotive assembly	0.01 – 460	0.004 - 193
Electronics plant	2 – 648	0.8 - 272
Coin and medal mint	415 – 888	174 - 373
Decontamination unit	440 – 1090	185 - 458
Fiberglass fabrication	40 – 1580	17 - 664
Varnish production	5 – 1448	2 - 608
Boatyards	30 – 1700	13 - 714
Cellulose acetate plant	12 – 2876	5 - 1208

* Table reproduced from Patty's Toxicology, Fifth Edition, Volume 6 with permission from John Wiley & Sons, Inc. The table was modified to add the last column.

As can be seen from this table, acetone exposures are expected to be higher in some occupational settings where acetone is used in non-enclosed processes. The data on this table for the cellulose acetate industry is representative of three plants in Japan where exposures were measured in 1989 (Fujino et al., 1992). The mean concentration measured at the plants was 356 ppm. Current data from U.S. cellulose acetate manufacturers indicate that the average acetone exposure in their facilities is 300 ppm or 718 mg/m³ and the maximum exposures of approximately 800 ppm or 1,904 mg/m³ (Celanese, personal correspondence, 2003).

In addition to the industries listed on Table 8-10, exposure to acetone occurs in nail salons. A search of occupational on-line databases produced two industrial hygiene surveys of nail salons in which acetone exposures were evaluated (NIOSH, 1991 and 1992). One salon was located in Springdale, OH and the other was located in Norman, OK. Both salons had the capacity for two nail technicians, and were served by mechanical ventilation systems with no provision for introduction of outside fresh air. The purpose of the survey in the Ohio salon was evaluation of an odor complaint from an adjacent business and the survey in Oklahoma was prompted by a request from the owner/operator concerned with chemical exposures while using nail products. In both salons, NIOSH evaluated exposures to a variety of chemicals including ethyl acrylate, methyl acrylate, benzene, formaldehyde, acetone, n-butyl acetate, ethyl acetate, toluene and 1,1,1-trichloroethane. The results from these two surveys indicated full-shift air concentrations of acetone ranging from 0.75 to 13 ppm. NIOSH concluded from these surveys that although odors are often observed emanating from nail salons, the levels of vapors measured do not constitute a health hazard to the workers or customers or to adjacent businesses. In each case, NIOSH recommended installation of an exhaust ventilation system and an outdoor air supply. Thus, although information related to acetone exposures in nail salons is limited to these studies, the ventilation conditions of these two salons likely represent a worst case scenario compared to larger salons located in shopping malls where ventilation rates are certain to be higher.

For the purposes of this assessment, occupational exposures are assumed to be in the range of the ACGIH TLV. The average daily dose from inhalation exposure at the TLV was calculated using the following equation:

$$Dose = \frac{C \times AF \times IR \times ET \times EF}{BW \times 365} \frac{day}{year}$$

where,

Dose = Average daily dose of acetone from inhalation exposure (mg/kg-day)

C = Concentration of acetone in air (mg/m³)

AF = Inhalation absorption factor (unitless)

IR = Inhalation rate (m³/hr)

EF = Exposure frequency (days/year)

ET = Exposure time (hr/day)

BW = Body weight

The results are presented on Table 8-11.

**Table 8-11:
Upper Bound Acetone Dose from Occupational Exposure at
the ACGIH TLV of 500 ppm (1,190 mg/m³)**

Exposure Parameter	Units	ACGIH TLV 18-35 year old^a
Concentration	mg/m ³	1,190
Inhalation absorption factor	unitless	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	8
Exposure frequency	days/year	250
Inhalation rate	m ³ /h	0.47
Body weight	kg	62.4
Dose	mg/kg-d	2.2E+01

^aThe 18 - 35 age group represents women only.

8.2.4 Human Milk

Acetone has been detected but not quantified in the human milk of nursing mothers (HSDB, 2002). Acetone is non-lipophilic and does not accumulate in the body, thus chronic environmental exposures to acetone are not likely to affect the concentration of acetone in human milk. Daily fluctuations in the mother's endogenous production of acetone are more likely to affect the milk concentrations. As stated previously, various physiological conditions can affect endogenous production including pregnancy and lactation, which result in elevated acetone levels.

Published concentrations of acetone in breast milk could not be identified in the peer-reviewed literature. In this assessment, levels in breast milk have been estimated based on reported levels of acetone in blood. Acetone is a highly water-soluble compound and as a first approximation can be assumed to be in equilibrium with all fluids in the body. This assumption is likely to be conservative given the higher lipid content of breast milk versus blood (see Duffield, (2000) who reported that acetone levels in cow blood is roughly twice as high as in cow milk). Using these levels, the dose of acetone received from ingestion of human milk can be calculated as follows:

$$Dose = \frac{C_{hm} \times ABS \times IR}{BW}$$

where,

Dose = Dose of acetone from human milk (mg/kg-day)

C_{hm} = Concentration of acetone in human milk (mg/L)

IR = Ingestion rate of breast milk (0.98 L/day) (USEPA, 2002)

ABS = Absorption factor (unitless)

BW = Body weight (7.2 kg) (USEPA, 2002)

For a non-occupationally exposed mother, the concentration of acetone in the human milk has been assumed to be equal to the average blood concentration of 11 mg/L (Morgott, 2001). The PBPK model by Gentry et al. (2003) was used to calculate the blood acetone level resulting from an occupational inhalation exposure. The model predicts that at the end of an 8-hour exposure to 500 ppm acetone, the end of shift blood concentration would range from 60 to 80 mg/L. This is consistent with empirical measurements made by Fujino et al (1992) who reported a direct correlation between air concentration and blood acetone levels represented by the following equation:

$$AC_B = (0.14 \times C) + 13.4$$

where:

AC_B = Acetone in blood (mg/L)

C = Acetone concentration in air (ppm)

Using this equation, a blood concentration of 83.4 mg/L would be predicted.

It should be noted that the PBPK model indicates that the blood concentration rises continually through the 8 hours of exposure, with an average blood concentration over the 8-hr shift of approximately 40 mg/L. The acetone blood concentration falls off slowly after the end of the exposure, such that the model predicts that the blood concentration at the beginning of the next work day would be approximately 20 mg/L. Steady state would only be achieved after 24-hours of continuous exposure for at least 5 days. Because occupational exposure only occurs 250 days out of the year, the blood concentration for non-work days has been assumed to be that of a non-occupationally exposed mother and used to represent exposures for the remaining 115 days of the year. Thus, doses to the infant from human milk using mother's blood acetone levels as a surrogate for acetone in human milk were quantified. The doses are presented in Table 8-12.

**Table 8-12:
Doses of Acetone to Infant (<1 yr) from Human Milk**

Exposure Parameter	Units	Non-Occupationally Exposed Mother	Occupationally Exposed Mother
Concentration	mg/L	11	80
Ingestion rate	L/day	0.98	0.98
Body weight	kg	7.2	7.2
Absorption factor	unitless	1	1
Dose mg/kg-d		1.5	7.9

The uncertainty associated with these dose estimates is that while lactation is recognized as a physiological condition during which normal endogenous acetone levels are elevated, no published studies were identified that quantified the increase. Thus, the normal endogenous levels of acetone in a nursing mother may be higher than 11 mg/L. Thus, the doses to the infant of a non-occupationally exposed mother may be underestimated, however, because the dose is less than 10% of the infant's daily endogenous production (see Table 8-2), this potential underestimation is not likely significant.

8.2.5 Exogenous Exposures from Consumer Product Use

A large variety of consumer products contain at least a trace amount of acetone. As part of an EPA study, 1,159 consumer products from 65 product categories were analyzed for VOC content by GC/MS with a detection limit of 0.1% by weight (Sack et al., 1992). The Sack et al. study was reviewed to determine which product categories had products that contained greater than 0.1% by weight acetone. Based on this review, 37 product categories were identified for which at least one product contained acetone. Tables 8-13 and 8-14 show the product categories and representative products that Sack identified as containing greater than 0.1% by weight acetone.

**Table 8-13:
Acetone content in consumer products based on Sack et al. (1992) study data**

Less than 0.1% by weight (less than detection limit)			
• Adhesive removers	• Door spray lubricant	• Rug cleaner	• Wallpaper remover/adhesive
• Automotive sealant	• Drain cleaner (non-acid)	• Silicone lubricant	• Water pump lubricant
• Bathroom cleaner	• Electric shaver cleaner	• Spray starch	• Wax stripper
• Caulking	• Floor wax	• Stain remover	• Window cleaner
• Chrome protector/wax	• Furniture polish	• Starting fluid spray	• Windshield de-icer
• Circuit board cleaner	• Ignition wire dryers	• Upholstery cleaner	• Miscellaneous automobile products
• Deodorizer/disinfectant	• Liquid exterior car cleaner	• Vinyl top spray	
0.1% to 1% by weight^a			
• All-purpose liquid cleaner	• Laundry presoak	• Specialized cleaner	• Water repellent
• Automotive undercoat	• Lubricant	• Suede protector	• Wood cleaner
• Belt lubricants/dressings	• Oven cleaner	• Tape recorder cleaner	• General purpose spray cleaners
• Correction fluid	• Record cleaner	• Tire puncture sealers	
• Dip metal cleaner	• Record player cleaner	• TV/computer screen cleaner	
• Fabric finisher (protectant)	• Rust remover	• VCR cleaner	
1% to 10% by weight^a			
• Paint thinner	• Tire cleaner / tire paint		
10% to 30% by weight^a			
• Adhesive	• Carburetor and choke cleaner	• Transmission cleaner	• Wood stains, varnishes, finishes
• Battery cleaners/protectors	• Paint remover		
30% to 50% by weight^a			
• Brake quieters/cleaners	• Primer and special primer	• Spot remover	• Spray paint
• Engine cleaner			
50% to 100% by weight^a			
• Gasket adhesives/removers	• Spray shoe polish	• Glass frosting spray	

^aProduct categories were placed in weight ranges based on the average of the test results for individual products. Weight percents were calculated by excluding those products where acetone was not detected.

**Table 8-14:
Acetone content in consumer products based on Sack et al. (1992) study data**

Category or Subcategory	Primary Type	Products Tested	Products Containing Acetone	Average Wt% Acetone for Products Containing Acetone
Automotive Products				
Carburetor and choke cleaner	Aerosol	30	14	18
Engine cleaner	Aerosol	18	6	33
Automotive undercoat	Aerosol	6	1	0.3
Battery cleaners/protectors	Aerosol	10	1	25
Brake quieters/cleaners	Aerosol	13	2	43
Gasket adhesives/removers	Aerosol	11	4	83
Belt lubricants/dressings	Aerosol	11	1	0.5
Ignition wire dryers	Aerosol	6	0	--
Tire puncture sealers	Aerosol	1	1	0.2
Starting fluid spray	Aerosol	1	0	--
Windshield de-icer	Aerosol	2	0	--
Door spray lubricant	Aerosol	3	0	--
Chrome protector/wax	Aerosol	1	0	--
Vinyl top spray	Aerosol	1	0	--
Upholstery cleaner	Aerosol	3	0	--
Water pump lubricant	Liquid	1	0	--
Transmission cleaner	Liquid	9	2	25
Automotive sealant	Liquid	5	0	--
Liquid exterior car cleaner	Liquid	3	0	--
Miscellaneous automobile products	Aerosol / Liquid	7	0	--
Tire cleaner / tire paint	Aerosol	13	2	8.3
Cleaners for electronic equipment				
Electric shaver cleaner	Aerosol	11	0	--
Record cleaner	Liquid	18	3	0.4
Record player cleaner	Liquid	5	1	0.4
Tape recorder cleaner	Liquid	10	2	0.2
VCR cleaner	Liquid	8	2	0.3
TV/computer screen cleaner	Aerosol	4	1	0.1
Oils, greases and lubricants				
Lubricant	Liquid	51	4	0.2
Silicone lubricant	Aerosol	25	0	--
Adhesive-related products				
Adhesive	Liquid / Aerosol /	59	18	18
	Paste			
Wallpaper remover/adhesive	Liquid	2	0	--
Adhesive removers	Liquid	8	0	--
Household cleaners/polishes				
Stain remover	Liquid	2	0	--
Furniture polish	Aerosol	6	0	--
Floor wax	Liquid	11	0	--
Wax stripper	Liquid	1	0	--
Wood cleaner	Aerosol	16	3	0.4
Deodorizer/disinfectant	Aerosol	4	0	--
Oven cleaner	Aerosol	8	3	0.3
Laundry presoak	Aerosol	6	1	0.8
Spray starch	Aerosol	4	0	--
Rug cleaner	Aerosol	5	0	--
Window cleaner	Aerosol	5	0	--
Dip metal cleaner	Liquid	6	1	0.1
Drain cleaner (non-acid)	Liquid	0	0	0
General purpose spray cleaners	Aerosol	9	1	0.2

**Table 8-14 (continued):
Acetone content in consumer products based on
Sack et al. (1992) study data**

Category or Subcategory	Primary Type	Products Tested	Products Containing Acetone	Average Wt% Acetone for Products Containing Acetone
Fabric and leather treatments				
Spray shoe polish	Aerosol	13	1	74
Suede protector	Aerosol	8	5	0.3
Water repellent	Aerosol	41	3	0.6
Fabric finisher (protectant)	Aerosol	6	1	0.6
Spot remover	Liquid	19	2	45
Anti-static spray	Aerosol	2	0	--
Paint-related products				
Paint remover	Liquid	124	69	19
Paint thinner	Liquid	12	5	3.4
Spray paint	Aerosol	169	91	42
Primer and special primer	Aerosol	54	31	32
Wood stains, varnishes and finishes	Aerosol / Liquid	64	22	13
Miscellaneous products				
Specialized cleaner	Aerosol	11	4	0.3
Rust remover	Liquid	6	1	0.3
All-purpose liquid cleaner	Liquid	12	2	0.6
Caulking	Paste	3	0	--
Glass frosting spray	Aerosol / liquid	16	1	71
Correction fluid	Liquid	10	2	0.2
All Products				
All categories & subcategories	Various	1009	314	15

Because the Sack study is somewhat dated (i.e., 1987), steps were taken to verify the acetone composition information by obtaining current material safety data sheets (MSDS) for the various products. From each of the Sack et al product categories, five products were randomly selected and the acetone content verified using the product MSDSs as shown in Tables 8-15, 8-16, and 8-17. The sources of consumer product MSDS information included the product manufacturer when possible, as well as:

- Vermont Safety Information Resources, Inc. – 180,000 MSDS archived at <http://www.hazard.com>
- Cornell University Planning Design and Construction – 250,000 MSDS archived at <http://msds.pdc.cornell.edu/msdssrch.asp>; and
- Seton Compliance Resource Center – 350,000 MSDS archived at <http://www.setonresourcecenter.com/MSDS/index.htm>.

**Table 8-15:
Acetone content of consumer products based on MSDS sheets for product categories
with at least one product with an acetone content greater than 0.1%
as quantified by Sack et al. (1992)**

Product Category	Product ID	Content (%)								
ADHESIVE ^a	411	1 to 5	412	10 to 20	413	24	414	30	415	20 to 50
All Purpose Liquid Cleaner	431	< 1	432	< 1	433	< 1	434	< 1	435	< 1
Anti-static Spray	161	< 1	162	< 1	163	< 1	164	< 1	165	< 1
Automotive Undercoating	361	< 1	362	< 1	363	< 1	364	< 1	365	< 1
BATTERY CLEANERS / PROTECTORS	501	< 1	502	11	503	15 to 30	504	30 to 35	505	30 to 40
Belt Lubricants / Dressings	531	< 1	532	< 1	533	< 1	534	< 1	535	< 1
Brake Quieters / Cleaners	511	< 1	512	< 1	513	< 1	514	< 1	515	< 1
CARBURETOR AND CHOKE CLEANER	251	< 1	252	1 to 10	253	15 to 25	254	20 to 30	255	20 to 30
Correction Fluid	731	< 1	732	< 1	733	< 1	734	< 1	735	< 1
Dip Metal Cleaner	261	< 1	262	< 1	263	< 1	264	< 1	265	< 1
Engine Cleaner	271	< 1	272	< 1	273	< 1	274	< 1	275	< 1
Fabric Protectant	051	< 1	052	< 1	053	< 1	054	< 1	055	< 1
GASKET ADHESIVE / REMOVER	521	< 1	522	< 1	523	< 1	524	< 1	525	35 to 45
General Purpose Spray Cleaners	711	< 1	712	< 1	713	< 1	714	< 1	715	< 1
GLASS FROSTING SPRAY	461	< 1	462	< 1	463	< 1	464	30 to 35	465	35 to 40
Laundry Presoak	151	< 1	152	< 1	153	< 1	154	< 1	155	< 1
Lubricant	331	< 1	332	< 1	333	< 1	334	< 1	335	< 1
Oven Cleaner	141	< 1	142	< 1	143	< 1	144	< 1	145	< 1
PAINT REMOVER	301	< 1	302	< 1	303	< 1	304	23	305	25 ^b
PAINT THINNER	311	< 1	312	17	313	19	314	20	315	25
PRIMER AND SPECIAL PRIMER	351	31	352	32	353	32.9	354	35	355	40 to 45
Record & Record Player Cleaner	741	< 1	742	< 1	743	< 1	744	< 1	745	< 1
Rust Remover	341	< 1	342	< 1	343	< 1	344	< 1	345	< 1
Specialized Cleaner	281	< 1	282	< 1	283	< 1	284	< 1	285	< 1
Spot Remover	061	< 1	062	< 1	063	< 1	064	< 1	065	< 1
SPRAY PAINT	321	32	322	32 to 40	323	33 to 42	324	38.2	325	47
SPRAY SHOE POLISH	011	< 1	012	< 1	013	< 1	014	< 1	015	34 to 38
Suede Protector	021	< 1	022	< 1	023	< 1	024	< 1	025	< 1
Tape Recorder Cleaner	761	< 1	762	< 1	763	< 1	764	< 1	765	< 1
Tire Cleaner / Tire Paint	801	< 1	802	< 1	803	< 1	804	< 1	805	< 1
Tire Puncture Sealers	551	< 1	552	< 1	553	< 1	554	< 1	555	< 1
Transmission Cleaner	641	< 1	642	< 1	643	< 1	644	< 1	645	< 1
TV Screen Cleaner	781	< 1	782	< 1	783	< 1	784	< 1	785	< 1
VCR Cleaner	771	< 1	772	< 1	773	< 1	774	< 1	775	< 1
Water Repellant	041	< 1	042	< 1	043	< 1	044	< 1	045	< 1
Wood Cleaner	121	< 1	122	< 1	123	< 1	124	< 1	125	< 1
WOOD STAINS, VARNISHES AND FINISHES	371	< 1	372	< 1	373	30	374	34	375	45

^aUPPER CASE product categories indicate that at least one product had an acetone content exceeding 1% as indicated on the MSDS sheets prepared by the manufacturer.

^bThe MSDS for this product listed a maximum value.

^cThe product ID is the number that Sack et al assigned to the product category

**Table 8-16:
Product names and manufacturers for data presented in Table 8-15**

Product ID	Name	MSDS Date	Company
011	Shoe Magic	Sep-00	Alfa Kleen Chemical Laboratories
012	Kiwi High Gloss Instant Spit-Shine	Dec-02	Sara Lee Household and Body Care USA
013	Kelly White Shoe Foam	Nov-96	Fiebing Company Inc
014	Kelly Instant Shine	May-98	Fiebing Company Inc
015	Nu Life Color Spray	Jan-92	Kiwi Brands Inc
021	Leather Protection Cream	Jan-02	Bridgepoint Systems
022	Leather and Vinyl Conditioner	Jan-91	Aerosol Maintenance Products
023	Leather Protector for Nubuck & Suede	Jan-00	Shield Industries Inc
024	Armour All Leather Care	Jul-92	Armourall Products Corp
025	Fabric Protectant	Sep-99	J.B. Chemical Co Inc
041	Cuprinol	Oct-92	Darworth Inc (OSI Sealants, Inc)
042	Water seal waterproofer	Apr-99	The Thompson's Company
043	Waterproofing sealer	Feb-97	Seal-Krete Inc
044	Water-block seal S-20	Feb-93	Firestone Building Products Co
045	Transparent waterproofing sealer	Jul-94	Ace Hardware Corp
051	Scotchgard Wipe	Jun-92	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
052	Waterproofing and fabric treatment	Sep-94	Star Strite Distributing Inc
053	Scotchgard Brand Upholstery Cleaner	Feb-95	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
054	Fabric Water Repellent	Feb-91	Midland Chicago Corp
055	Carpet and Fabric Protector	Jan-91	Betco Corp
061	Energine Spot Remover	Dec-93	L&F Products
062	Pyratex Spot Remover	Jun-92	Street R R and Co Inc
063	Spotcheck Cleaner/Remover	May-99	Illinois Tool Works Inc Magnaflux Div
064	Incredible Spot and Stain Remover	Feb-95	Rite-Kem Inc
065	Lift (Spot/Stain & Odor Remover)	Jan-94	Chempace Corp
121	Satin Wax - Natural	Aug-93	Minwax Comp
122	Paste Wax - Finishing Wax	Oct-92	Minwax Comp
123	Scott's Liquid Gold	Mar-93	Scott's Liquid Gold Inc
124	Weiman Panel Bright	Jun-94	Herbert Stanley Co
125	BRIWAX Original	Jan-00	Henry Flack International
141	Easy Off Oven Cleaner	Dec-92	Reckitt & Colman Inc
142	Oven and Grill Cleaner	Jan-91	BCI Inc
143	Oven Cleaner	Jan-92	Ball Industries Inc
144	Misty Oven and Grill Cleaner	Mar-93	Amrep Inc
145	Oven Cleaner	Aug-96	Amway Corp
151	Spectra Pre-wash	Sep-01	Custom Solutions Inc
152	Stain Control	Jan-02	Clean Control Corp
153	Shout Liquid	Jul-97	SC Johnson and Son Inc
154	Laundri Special	Sep-95	Ecolab, Inc
155	Ultra Safe Solution	May-02	European Cosmetics & Research Lab
161	Anti-static Spray	Feb-94	Evans Specialty Co Inc
162	Anti-static Video Display Cleaner	Jul-93	Perfectdata Corp
163	Anti-static Spray	Oct-92	Sprayway Inc
164	Neutro-Stat Anti-Static Spray (Aerosol)	Apr-91	Simpco Co Inc
165	Anti-static Spray	Jul-91	Sprayon Products
251	Choke and Carb Cleaner	Jan-01	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
252	Carb and Choke Cleaner	Jul-97	Permatex Industrial Corp
253	Pyroil Carb & Choke Cleaner	Jun-00	Valvoline Oil Co
254	STP Carb Spray Cleaner	Dec-97	First Brands Corp
255	B-12 Chemtool Carb Choke Cleaner	Dec-01	Berryman Products
261	Silver Dip	Oct-93	Magic American Chemical Corp
262	Tarni Shield Brand Silver Cleaner	Jan-96	3M General Offices
263	Metal Polish	Jun-94	Weiman Silver Cleaner
264	Branson Jewelry Cleaner	Dec-95	A B C Compounding Co Inc

**Table 8-16 (continued):
Product names and manufacturers for data presented in Table 8-15**

Product ID	Name	MSDS Date	Company
265	Silver Polish	Jun-91	Ciba Corning Diagnostics Corp
271	Gumout Steam Engine Shine	May-02	Pennzoil-Quaker State Comp
272	Snap Engine Degreaser	Oct-96	Snap Products Inc
273	STP Heavy Duty Engine Degreaser	Jan-93	First Brands Corp
274	Engine Degreaser Spray	Aug-97	MKG Sales Associates
275	Permatex Eliminator Engine Degreaser	Jul-97	Permatex Industrial Corp
281	Marble and Granite Magic	Feb-00	Magic American Chemical Corp
282	Fiberglass Magic	Feb-00	Magic American Chemical Corp
283	Electro 140 Contact Cleaner	Nov-93	LPS Laboratories Inc
284	Electric Motor Cleaner	Jun-92	Aerosol Systems Inc
285	Electric Motor Cleaner (Aerosol)	Apr-96	A W Chesterton Co
301	Bix Spray-on Stripper	Jul-92	Bix Manufacturing Co Stripper
302	Ace Aersol Paint Remover	Apr-94	W M Barr & Company Inc
303	Semi-Paste Remover	Jan-91	W M Barr & Company Inc
304	Liquid No Wash	Feb-93	Chemical Products Company
305	Kwikzeeze Paint Brush Cleaner	Jan-94	Blick Dick Co
311	Paint Thinner	May-92	Rust-Oleum Corp
312	Laquer Thinner	Jan-91	Sherwin Williams
313	Fast Acrylic Lacquer Thinner	Apr-91	Martin-Senour Co
314	Acrylic Lacquer Thinner	Aug-98	Coventry Coatings
315	EZ Laquer Thinner	May-94	E E Zimmerman Co
321	Clear Lacquer -- Aerosol	Jul-94	Sprayon Products
322	Anti-Rust Enamel	Jun-01	Plasti-Kote Inc
323	Magicolor Multi-Purpose Enamel	Sep-00	Plasti-Kote Inc
324	Spray Enamel	May-97	Benjamin Moore and Co
325	Gloss Black Fresh / East Spray Enamel	Jun-96	Dutch Boy Paints
331	WD-40	Jun-96	WD-40 Company
332	Liquid Wrench	Oct-92	Radiator Specialty Company
333	Three-in-one Household Oil Spray	Feb-94	Boyle Midway
334	White Lithium Grease (Aerosol)	Dec-98	Radiator Specialty Company
335	Elmer's Slide All	Apr-92	Bordon Chemical Company
341	Rust Remover and Preprimer	Sep-91	POR-15 Inc
342	Var 820 Rust Remover	Feb-94	Ultra Coatings Inc
343	Liquid Alkaline Rust Remover	Nov-94	Turco Products Inc
344	Naval Jelly Rust Remover	Jul-97	Permatex Industrial Corp
345	Turco Alkaline Rust Remover	Oct-96	Elf Atochem North America
351	White, Bright Sandable Primer	Apr-96	Sherwin Williams Co
352	Do-It Best Spray Enamel	Oct-93	Sherwin Williams Co
353	Classic Care Sandable Primer	Dec-92	Dupli-Color Prod Co
354	Gray Primer	Jul-93	Sherwin-Williams Diversified Brands
355	Sandable Primer/Spot Filler	Mar-95	Plasti-Kote Inc
361	Rubberized Undercoat	Jul-00	Permatex, Inc
362	Underseal Rubberized Undercoating	May-94	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
363	Undercoats; Body Undercoating	Sep-92	Martin-Senour Co
364	Kmart Rubberized Undercoating	Feb-91	Chemisco
365	Rubberized Undercoating Spray	Nov-91	"X" Laboratories, Inc
371	Past Wax Finishing Wax	Oct-92	Minwax Company
372	Clear Wood Finish Gloss	May-92	Deft Inc
373	Salem Maple Spray Stain Aerosol	Feb-94	Deft Inc
374	High Gloss Varnish	Mar-98	Sherwin-Williams Diversified Brands
375	Satin Finish	Jul-00	Sherwin-Williams Co
401	Heavy Duty Silicone	Aug-99	CRC Industries, Inc
402	All Pupose Silcone	Aug-98	Sherwin Williams Diversified Brands
403	Silicone Spray	Dec-00	Permatex, Inc
404	Silicone Spray Lubricant	Nov-01	Radiator Specialty Company
405	Snap Silicone Spray	Jul-98	Pennzoil Co
411	Liquid Nails for Tub Surrounds	Apr-99	Macco Adhesives
412	Super Trim Adhesive	Jan-93	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co
413	Specialty Products and Adhesives	Sep-96	Sherwin Williams Diversified Brands
414	Plastic Wood	Jan-96	Bondex International Inc
415	Contact Cement	Sep-94	TACC International Corp

**Table 8-16 (continued):
Product names and manufacturers for data presented in Table 8-15**

Product ID	Name	MSDS Date	Company
431	M 1 Remover	Nov-97	Jomaps, Inc
432	Cleaner Degreaser	Sep-02	Radiator Specialty Company
433	Home and Auto Parts Cleaner	Jul-94	Radiator Specialty Company
434	Hercules (Cleaner/Degreaser)	Jan-94	Chempace Corp
435	All Purpose Cleaner	Mar-96	Crown
461	Glass Frosting	Feb-02	Zynolyte Specialty Sprays
462	Glass Frosting Spray	May-97	ICI Paints
463	Glass Frosting - White	Oct-91	Major Paint Co
464	Glass Care	Sep-00	Plasti-Kote
465	Imperial G-1 Glass Frosting Aerosol	Mar-94	Pactra Coatings Inc
501	Red Battery Terminal Protector	Aug-99	Crest Industries Corp
502	Battery Protector	Sep-96	Sherwin Williams
503	Permatex Battery Protector	Dec-00	Permatex Inc
504	Battery Terminal Protector	Jul-01	Plasti-Kote Co Inc
505	Battery Terminal Protector	May-93	Aerosol Systems Inc
511	Brake Squeal Silencer	Apr-92	Unival Corp
512	Pro Strength Brake Cleaner	Jul-00	Permatex, Inc
513	Disc Brake Quiet	Jan-99	Radiator Specialty Company
514	Disc Brake Quiet	May-01	CRC Industries, Inc
515	K & W Brake Parts Cleaner	Apr-00	CRC Industries, Inc
521	Gasket Remover Aerosol	Mar-99	CRC Industries, Inc
522	Permatex Right Stuff Gasket Maker	Mar-01	Permatex, Inc
523	Gasket and Paint Remover	Mar-99	Imperial, Inc
524	Permatex Ultra Blue	Mar-02	Permatex, Inc
525	Permatex High Tack Sealant	Dec-00	Permatex, Inc
531	Permatex Belt Dressing	Mar-01	Permatex, Inc
532	Belt Dressing Aerosol	Mar-93	CRC Industries, Inc
533	Stop Slip Belt Dressing	Apr-02	Radiator Specialty Company
534	Belt Dressing	Apr-98	Grainger W W Inc
535	Tite Grip Belt Dressing - Aerosol	Oct-99	Berryman Products
551	Tire Bead Sealer	Aug-93	Camel Tire Care Products
552	Jet Flate Tire Sealer and Inflator	Feb-91	Camel Tire Care Products
553	Non Flammable Fill'n'Seal Tire Inflator	Mar-00	Radiator Specialty Company
554	Chem Seal	Jan-01	Patch Rubber Company
555	Bead Sealer	Jun-98	Rema Tip Top / North America
641	Prolong Transmission Treatment	May-96	Prolong Super Lubricants Inc
642	Tran Fusion	Mar-99	Radiator Specialty Company
643	Trans Medic	Feb-99	Radiator Specialty Company
644	Transmission Conditioner	Apr-00	Malco Products
645	Transmission Treatment	Nov-01	Berryman Products Inc
711	Fast Dry Cleaner / Degreaser	May-97	LPS Laboratories
712	Instant Super Cleaner/Degreaser	Mar-91	LPS Laboratories
713	Garage Magic	Feb-00	Magic American Corporation
714	Concentrated Cleaner Degreaser	Sep-01	Radiator Specialty Company
715	De-solv-it Citrus Solution	May-95	Orange Sol Inc
731	White Out for Everything	May-94	Wite Out Products
732	White Correction Fluid	Jul-97	Lee Products Company
733	Correction Fluid - White	Jan-01	SK Merchandising Comp
734	Liquid Paper Pen and Ink	Mar-93	Gillette Medical Evaluation Laboratories
735	Liquid Paper All Purpose Correction	Nov-97	Gillette Medical Evaluation Laboratories
741	Radio Shack Record Cloths	Jan-96	Tech Spray Inc
742	Record Cleaner Spray	Oct-94	Tech Spray Inc
743	Record Cleaner with Fluid	Nov-93	Rosenthal Cleans-Quick
744	Anti-Static Record Cleaner Spray	Jul-91	Tech Spray Inc
745	Record Cleaner Kit	Nov-93	Recton
761	IBM, Cleaner, Tape Unit	Apr-93	IBM Corp
762	Tuner Tape Head Cleaner	Feb-93	Krylon Industrial
763	Tape Head Cleaner	Sep-92	Texwipe Co
764	Tape Head Cleaner	May-92	Sprayway Inc
765	Tape Head Cleaner	Apr-02	Tech Spray Inc
771	8mm VCR/Camcorder Cleaner	Oct-93	Van Waters & Roger Inc
772	VTR/VCR Cleaner	Jan-92	Tech Spray Inc

**Table 8-16 (continued):
Product names and manufacturers for data presented in Table 8-15**

Product ID	Name	MSDS Date	Company
773	VCR Head Cleaner	Jul-91	G C Thorsen
774	Envi-ro-tech VTR/VCR Cleaner	Oct-01	Tech Spray Inc
775	A/V Pump Spray & Liquid	Jun-01	CAIG Laboratories Inc
781	Anti-static Screen Cleaner	Jun-97	Acctech LLC
782	Screen & Keyboard Cleaner	Feb-02	Tech Spray Inc
783	Screen Cleaner	Aug-96	Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co
784	Anti-static Screen Cleaner	Jan-95	Texwipe Co
785	Computer Screen Cleaner	Oct-92	Hill Mfg Inc
801	Black Magic Tire Wet Gel	Jun-01	Blue Coral / Slick 50 Ltd.
802	Black Tire Paint	Aug-99	Coventry Coatings
803	Rain Dane Whitewall Tire Cleaner	Feb-92	Armour All Products Corp
804	Silicone Tire Shine	Aug-96	Radiator Specialty Company
805	The White Whitewall Tire Cleaner	Aug-96	Radiator Specialty Company

**Table 8-17:
Typical and Upper Bound Acetone Content of Consumer Products**

Use Category	Product Category ^a	Typical Content (%) ^b	Upper Bound Content (%) ^c
Automobile restoration and repair	Battery Cleaner / Protector	17	35
	Carburetor and Choke Cleaner	13	25
	Gasket Adhesive Remover	0.5	40
Home painting	Paint remover	6.1	25
	Primer and special primer	33	43
	Spray paint	36	47
	Paint thinner	14	25
Shoe care	Spray shoe polish	0.5	36
Arts and Crafts	Adhesive	18	35
	Glass Frosting Spray	8.5	38
	Wood Stains, Varnishes and Finishes	16	45
Nail Care	Nail Polish Remover	73 ^d	100 ^d
Spot remover	Pure Acetone ^e	100	100

^aBased on MSDS records for product categories identified by Sack et al and Source Ranking Database

^bAverage of four lowest weight contents listed on five representative MSDS records.

^cMaximum weight content listed on five representative MSDS records.

^dTypical content determined from CalEPA, 2000. Upper bound determined from on-line MSDS search.

^eNot identified by Sack et al. or Source Ranking Database

Two product categories listed on Table 8-17, which were not identified by Sack et al., include nail polish remover and acetone as the pure solvent. The nail polish remover category was identified from EPA's Source Ranking Database (SRD) (USEPA, 2000), which was also reviewed to determine products that contain acetone. The SRD is a compilation of product composition information from a variety of sources. While the SRD has the same limitation that Sack does in that the information is dated, it contains information from a variety of sources and is not limited to just those products that may have contained chlorinated VOCs. The SRD was developed to rank consumer products for screening a large number of indoor air pollution sources and prioritizing them for future evaluation. Because the EPA used the Sack et al. study, much of the same information from Sack is included in the SRD. When comparing the two consumer product data sources, it was found that the same product categories that contained acetone were identified in Sack and SRD and that the percent acetone composition was similar. Because the SRD was not limited to products only potentially containing chlorinated solvents (as Sack was), an additional product category that includes nail polish remover was identified. The average acetone weight percent identified in the SRD for nail polish remover is similar to that found in the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Consumer and Commercial Products Survey, which indicates that the average acetone content among all nail polish removers is about 73%. Acetone as a pure solvent was not identified in either the Sack study or SRD. However, pure acetone is sold in gallon-sized or smaller containers at various hardware/home improvement and personal beauty supply stores, and therefore it was included in the exposure assessment.

Selection of Consumer Products for Quantitative Exposure Assessment

From Tables 8-15 and 8-16, it can be seen that a wide variety of consumer products contain acetone, however, the majority of those products contain less than 1% by weight or no acetone and therefore are unlikely to be important sources of exposure. Thus, this assessment has focused on those consumer products that have the greatest potential for resulting in significant exposures to children. Those consumer products, which contain acetone greater than 1% by weight, are listed on Table 8-17. Each of these products was then considered in the context of how they would be used and the likelihood of children being exposed during their use.

It is believed that all of the products listed on Table 8-17 could be used in the home. However, it is also recognized that the frequency of use of these products is greater for some than others. For instance, although the specific automotive and arts and crafts related products listed on Table 8-17 might be used at home such that children could be exposed, it is believed that the paint related products are more commonly used. Further the paint related products have in general a higher average acetone content. For these reasons, the paint related products were selected for a quantitative exposure assessment. Additionally, due to the high acetone content in some nail polish remover and its common use by children, nail polish remover was selected for a quantitative exposure assessment. And lastly, pure acetone as a solvent is sold in home improvement/hardware and beauty supply stores. The use of the pure solvent was investigated and it has been determined that its typical use is as a spot remover for paint or adhesives, or as an acrylic nail tip remover.

Based on the acetone weight content and the likelihood of use by or in the presence of children, the paint products, nail polish remover and pure solvent were evaluated for acetone exposure in the four scenarios. These scenarios include:

- residential pure solvent use as an acrylic nail tip remover
- residential nail polish remover use,
- residential spray painting, and

- residential pure solvent use as a spot remover.

Generic Scenario Assumptions

For each scenario, it was assumed that product users would be women of child bearing years, ages 19 – 35, and children, ages 1 – 18, for the nail polish remover scenario and children ages 14 – 18 for the spray paint and pure solvent scenarios. It was assumed that for spray paint and pure solvent, children 13 years and younger would not use the products. Additionally, for the non-users, the children were assumed to not be in the room of use during the scenario. Typical and upper bound exposure estimates were made based on the amount of product used. It should be noted that while several conditions of use could be plausible for each scenario, for the purposes of acetone exposure assessment within the VCCEP framework, efforts were made to quantify exposures in accordance with product manufacturers' directions for use and in consideration of warning language presented on the container labels.

Twenty-four hour time weighted average (TWA) concentrations were calculated for each scenario for subsequent use in calculating inhaled one-day or annual average daily age-specific doses from the modeled air concentrations. The following equations were used:

$$\text{One - day dose} = \frac{C \times AF \times IR \times ET}{BW}$$

$$\text{Annual average daily dose} = \frac{C \times AF \times IR \times ET \times EF}{BW \times 365 \frac{\text{days}}{\text{year}}}$$

where,

Dose = One-day or chronic average daily dose of acetone from inhalation exposure (mg/kg-day)

C = Concentration of acetone in indoor air (mg/m³)

AF = Inhalation absorption factor (unitless)

IR = Inhalation rate (m³/hr)

ET = Exposure time (hr/day)

EF = Exposure frequency (days/year)

BW = Body weight (kg)

Additionally, one-hour and 8-hour TWA acetone concentrations were calculated for evaluation of short term exposures in the spray paint and spot remover scenarios.

8.2.5.1 Residential Nail Tip Remover Scenario Using Pure Acetone

Acrylic nails and nail tips are applied to the fingertips using acrylate adhesives. In order to remove the artificial nails or nail tips, pure acetone is used as the solvent to dissolve the adhesive. As such, a nail tip remover scenario was defined to evaluate the dermal and inhalation exposure to acetone. The estimation of dermal and inhalation exposures for this scenario are described in the sections below.

Dermal Exposure

To remove the nail tips, professional nail care product manufacturers recommend soaking of the fingertips in a bowl of acetone, with the amount of soaking time required varying from 15 to 45 minutes. In doing so, it is estimated that approximately 1/6 of the surface area of each hand is immersed in the acetone.

Very few quantitative *in vivo* human studies of dermal exposure to pure solvents have been published (Kezic et al., 2001). Therefore, dermal acetone doses were estimated using the model described in Section 4.6 of the EPA's "Dermal Exposure Assessment: Principles and Applications" (USEPA, 1992) and draft supplemental guidance from EPA's Risk Assessment Guidance for Superfund (USEPA, 2001). These documents, as well as most other published guidance on dermal exposure focus on two pathways: direct contact with water and direct contact with soil. The methodology used to calculate dermal absorption of a chemical during immersion in water (e.g. during swimming) can be adapted to quantify dermal absorption during immersion in pure solvents (USEPA, 1992). Therefore, the EPA guidance can be used to estimate the absorbed dose for cases where consumers immerse their hands in bowls of pure acetone for the purpose of nail-tip removal.

The basic model for calculating the dose resulting from dermal contact with a substance is that the stratum corneum is the major barrier to absorption of hydrophilic or moderately lipophilic chemicals into the blood stream and that the viable epidermis limits penetration of lipophilic chemicals. Acetone penetration is therefore limited entirely by the stratum corneum.

For cases where skin is immersed in a liquid, the most important characteristic of the chemical is the permeability coefficient (K_p), or the rate at which a chemical penetrates the outer layer of the epidermis normalized by concentration at steady state. The rate of penetration is dependent on the rate of diffusion of the chemical within the skin, the thickness of the skin layer and the relative partitioning between the liquid vehicle and skin membrane. It is important to note that the permeability coefficient is carrier vehicle dependent. Therefore, the permeability coefficient of a VOC in aqueous solution must be converted to the proper form to predict absorption from the neat state. It is also important to note that absorption occurs more rapidly prior to achieving steady state conditions within the stratum corneum than at steady state. The equations used by the EPA dermal absorption model account for the additional absorption that occurs during the non-steady period.

An experimental permeability coefficient was not identified for acetone. Therefore, a permeability coefficient for acetone in water was calculated using the EPA's Estimation Program Interface (EPI) Suite Version 3.1, which was developed by the Syracuse Research Corporation (SRC). The DERMIN module from the EPI Suite estimated a K_p^{water} of 0.000569 cm/hr. This permeability coefficient for water was converted to a permeability coefficient for neat acetone using an equation provided by the USEPA (1992):

$$K_p^{neat} = K_p^{water} \frac{S}{r_{neat}}$$

where S (mg/L) is the solubility of the chemical in water and ρ_{neat} (g/mL) is the density of the pure chemical. This conversion is appropriate if it can be assumed that the vehicle (pure acetone) does not alter the barrier properties of the skin (USEPA, 1992). The physical constants required by the EPA model to calculate dermal absorption of acetone are listed in Table 8-18.

**Table 8-18:
Physical Constants Required to Calculate Dermal Absorption of Neat Acetone**

Variable	Value	Reference
Acetone log K_{ow}	-0.24	Database value from EPA EPI Suite Version 3.1 2000 (WSKOWWIN Module)
Acetone solubility	1×10^6 mg/L	Database value from EPA EPI Suite Version 3.1 2000 (WSKOWWIN Module)
Acetone water permeability (K_p^{water})	0.000569 cm/hr	Calculated value from EPA EPI Suite Version 3.1 2000. (DERMIN Module)
Acetone density	0.78 g/mL @ 25 °C	ATSDR, 1994

To model the nail tip removal scenario, it was assumed that the user was a female aged 14 to 18. To remove the nail tips, the female simultaneously soaks about 1/6 of the surface area of each hand in a tray of acetone. The amount of soaking time required varies from 15 minutes to 45 minutes. The exposure factors used to calculate dermal absorption for this scenario are summarized in Table 8-19.

**Table 8-19:
Exposure Factors Required to Calculate Dermal Absorption of Acetone**

Variable	Value	Reference
Exposure frequency (EF)	4 events per year	Professional judgment (AMEC)
Surface area of both hands, female	857 cm ² (14 to 18 years) 862 cm ² (18 to 35 years)	USEPA Exposure Factors Handbook, 1997
Fraction of hand immersed in acetone (F)	1/6	Professional judgement (AMEC)
Surface area of both hands immersed in acetone (SA_{exposed})	143 cm ² (14 to 18 years) 144 cm ² (18 to 35 years)	$SA_{\text{exposed}} = SA_{\text{total}} \times F$
Body weight, female (BW)	57.3 kg (14 to 18 years) 62.4 kg (14 to 18 years)	USEPA Exposure Factors Handbook, 1997
Length of time is immersed in acetone	15 to 45 minutes	Professional judgment (AMEC)

To calculate dermal one-day or annual average age-specific doses from the modeled dermal absorption rate, the following equations were used:

$$\text{One - day dose} = \frac{DA_{\text{event}} \times SA_{\text{exposed}}}{BW}$$

$$\text{Annual average daily dose} = \frac{DA_{\text{event}} \times SA_{\text{exposed}} \times EF}{BW \times 365 \frac{\text{days}}{\text{year}}}$$

where,

DA_{event} = absorbed dose per event (mg/cm²-event)

EF = exposure frequency (events/year)

SA_{exposed} = Surface area of hands immersed in acetone (cm²)

BW = Body weight (kg)

The calculated dose per day of use and average daily dose as a function of the length of exposure time are summarized in Table 8-20. The dermal absorption model indicates that a steady state absorption rate is achieved approximately 30 minutes after dermal absorption begins.

Exposure time (minutes)	Dose absorbed - DA _{event} (mg/cm ² -event)	Time Averaged Flux (mg/cm ² -hour)	One Day Dose (mg/kg-day of use)		Annual Average Daily Dose (mg/kg-day)	
			Female Teenager 14 to 18 Years	Adult Female 18 to 35 years	Female Teenager 14 to 18 Years	Adult Female 18 to 35 years
15	0.35	1.40	0.87	0.81	0.0096	0.0088
30	0.51	1.02	1.3	1.2	0.014	0.013
45	0.65	0.87	1.6	1.5	0.018	0.016

Inhalation exposure

There are no published data on acetone inhalation exposures from the use of pure acetone for removal of nail tips in the home or nail salon. Therefore, exposure concentrations for the nail tip removal scenario were estimated using the EPA Simulation Tool Kit for Indoor Air Quality and Inhalation Exposure version 1.0e (IAQX) developed by the EPA Office of Research and Development. Unlike other EPA indoor air quality models such as E-FAST or MCCEM, the IAQX model contains a model for pure solvent evaporation from a liquid pool of fixed surface area. This model, found in the General-Purpose Simulation (GPS) module of IAQX, can be used to predict air concentrations that result from acetone evaporation from the bowl used to soak the nail tips. Like MCCEM or E-FAST, IAQX provides exposure concentrations for the room of use and the rest of the home. IAQX also provides a time-concentration profile for each zone.

Table 8-21 summarizes the parameter values used to calculate one-day time-weighted average exposure concentrations. The parameter values for this model were based on data from the Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997), and on AMEC's professional judgment.

As indicated in Table 8-21, a hypothetical house was created where the air exchange rate was set to 1.34 air changes per hour (ACH) and the volume of the residence was set at the default value of 369 m³ (USEPA, 1997). The value of the ACH is based on the assumption that additional ventilation would be used in accordance with the product labeling instructions. For example, the label on the bottle of pure acetone distributed by Brentwood Beauty Labs International, Inc. provides the following information:

Excerpts from Beauty Secrets â Pure Acetone Manicurist Solvent (Brentwood Beauty Labs International, Inc. 2002)	
Label Section	Text
DANGER:	EXTREMELY FLAMMABLE. "Do not use or store near heat, sparks, and open flame. Eliminate all ignition sources. Do not smoke while using. Vapors may accumulate and travel to ignition source distant from handling site. Flash fire may result. <u>Use with adequate ventilation.</u> Keep bottle tightly capped when not in use."

Recently, the EPA has used the results of a residential ventilation study of carbon monoxide in which whole house air exchange rates were determined under various ventilation conditions of windows and doors open (Johnson et al., 1998; Johnson et al., 1999). This study indicated that median air exchange rate for a house with at least one window open was 1.34 ACH, and an upper bound air exchange rate was 3.0. Higher air exchange rates are achievable by using a window fan or whole house fan. Thus, for the residential nail tip remover scenario, it has been assumed that the acetone solvent user would attempt to "use with adequate ventilation" and thus, at least one window would be open.

The activity patterns for the product user and non-user were based on those found in EPA's screening level EFAST model. Since activity patterns are not accounted for in IAQX, an excel spreadsheet was used to manually calculate the one-day time weighted average concentration.

It was assumed that the time the hand is immersed in acetone could range from 15 minutes to 45 minutes and that the room of use was the kitchen (since a table is required to perform nail tip removal by soaking). Non-users (infants and young children) were assumed to not enter the room of use during the usage period.

A mass transfer coefficient is necessary to evaluate evaporation from films of pure solvent or solvent spills. As indicated in Table 8-21, the default IAQX mass transfer coefficient for a single-component system was used. This mass transfer coefficient is based on Penetration Theory (Mackay and Matsugu Method) and requires that an airflow velocity over the liquid film be specified. Indoor airflow is characterized by a typical velocity of 0 to 0.25 m/s (Zhao et al., 1999). The default IAQX of 0.1 m/s was used. This default airflow velocity may overestimate the rate of evaporation because the walls of the tray used in nail tip removal extend above the liquid tray and impede airflow over the liquid. Alternatively, inadvertent agitation of the liquid pool by the user during soaking may enhance evaporation.

**Table 8-21:
Exposure Parameters for the Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Variable	Value	Unit	Reference
Average frequency of use	4	uses/yr	Professional judgment (AMEC). Value corresponds to that used for dermal pathway calculation.
Average exposure time during use	15 to 45 minutes	minutes	Professional judgment (AMEC). Value corresponds to that used for dermal pathway calculation.
Average time spent remaining in room of usage after activity has been completed ^a	15 to 45 minutes	minutes	Professional judgement (AMEC). Values selected to maintain consistency with discrete one-hour activity pattern time increments used by the EPA E-FAST model. See Table 8-22 of this report.
Molecular weight of acetone	58	g/mol	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994.
Vapor pressure of acetone	230	mm Hg @ 25 °C	Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 75 th Edition, 1995.
Acetone saturation concentration (C _{sat})	716,000	mg/m ³ @ 25 °C	Logan, 1999.
Whole house air exchange rate	1.34	hour ⁻¹	Open window air exchange rate from Johnson et al., 1998 and Johnson et al., 1999.
Volume of the home	369	m ³	Default total house volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Value also given in EPA Exposure Factor's Handbook as central estimate for the United States.
Room of use volume	20	m ³	Default kitchen room volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999.
Interzonal airflow rate (IAR) ^b	210	m ³ /hr	Default interzonal airflow rate equation used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Equation published in Koontz and Rector, 1995. Estimation of distributions for residential air exchange rates.
Diffusivity of acetone in air (D _v)	0.0446	m ² /h @ 25 °C	Logan, 1999.
Density of air (ρ)	1.19 kg/m ³	kg/m ³ @ 25 °C	Roberson and Crowe, 1993.
Viscosity of air (μ)	0.0000184	N.s/m ² @ 25 °C	Roberson and Crowe, 1993.
Air velocity flowing across pool (u)	0.1	m/s	Default airflow velocity used in the EPA IAQX (2000) model.
Source area (A)	0.023	m ²	Professional judgment (AMEC) based on typical area of trays used for nail tip removal.
Gas phase mass transfer coefficient (k _m) ^c	3.05	m/hr	Calculated based on the default equation used in the EPA IAQX (2000) model for pure solvents.

^a Exposure time after use was rounded to accommodate the discrete one-hour segments of the EFAST.

^b IAR = (0.046 + 0.39*A)*V where A = air exchange rate; V = house volume.

^c k_m = 17.35u^{0.78}L^{-0.11}Sc^{-0.67} where u = air velocity of air flowing across liquid pool (m/s), L = length of the spill = √A (m) and Sc = Schmidt number = μ/ρD_v

**Table 8-22:
Consumer Product Activity Pattern for Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Time	Non-User Activity Pattern (Infants, Children)	Non-User IAQX Zone	User Activity Pattern (Teenagers, Adults)	User IAQX Zone
12:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
1:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
2:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
3:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
4:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
5:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
6:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
7:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bathroom	2
8:00 AM	Bathroom	2	Kitchen	1
9:00 AM	Kitchen	1	Living Room	2
10:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
11:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
12:00 PM	Kitchen	1	Kitchen	1
1:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
2:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
3:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
4:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
5:00 PM	Kitchen	1	Kitchen	1
6:00 PM	Kitchen	1	Kitchen	1
7:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
8:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
9:00 PM	Bedroom	2	KITCHEN	1
10:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Living Room	2
11:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2

Table Notes:

UPPER CASE Upper case letters indicate room of use.

Zone 0 Outside.

Zone 1 Room of product use in the home.

Zone 2 Remainder of the home.

The model was run to estimate exposure concentrations for users and non-users of acetone for nail-tip removal according to the input values and activity pattern provided above. The model predicted one-day time-weighted average (TWA) exposure concentrations of acetone, which are presented on Table 8-23. For use in the dose calculations, the air concentrations have been converted to units of mg/m³ by multiplying the ppm value by 2.38.

**Table 8-23:
Predicted Acetone Air Concentrations for Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Usage time (minutes)	TWA (1-Day) Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
15	0.396	1.23
30	0.793	2.56
45	1.19	3.77

These air concentrations were converted into age-specific one-day doses and average daily doses, and are presented on Table 8-24. As shown on Table 8-24, the infant has the highest one-day dose for the non-users of 0.53 mg/kg-day of use and the teenager (ages 14-18) has the highest one-day dose for the users of 0.63 mg/kg-day of use when a typical usage time of 30 minutes is assumed. Similarly, the infant has the highest annual average daily dose for the non-users of 0.0058 mg/kg-day and the teenager has the highest annual average daily dose for the users of 0.0069 mg/kg-day when a typical usage time of 30 minutes is assumed.

**Table 8-24:
Age-Specific Doses Associated with Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Exposure Parameter	Units	Nail Tip Removal Non-User			Nail Tip Removal Female User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration						
15-minute soak	mg/m ³	0.942	0.942	0.942	2.93	2.93
30-minute soak	mg/m ³	1.89	1.89	1.89	6.09	6.09
45-minute soak	mg/m ³	2.83	2.83	2.83	8.97	8.97
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	4	4	4	4	4
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose						
15-minute soak	mg/kg-day of use	2.6E-01	2.0E-01	1.5E-01	3.0E-01	2.3E-01
30-minute soak [*]	mg/kg-day of use	5.3E-01	4.0E-01	2.9E-01	6.3E-01	4.8E-01
45-minute soak ^{**}	mg/kg-day of use	7.9E-01	6.0E-01	4.4E-01	9.3E-01	7.1E-01
Annual average daily dose						
15-minute soak	mg/kg-day	2.9E-03	2.2E-03	1.6E-03	3.3E-03	2.6E-03
30-minute soak [*]	mg/kg-day	5.8E-03	4.4E-03	3.2E-03	6.9E-03	5.3E-03
45-minute soak ^{**}	mg/kg-day	8.6E-03	6.6E-03	4.8E-03	1.0E-02	7.8E-03

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^b All age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

^{*} Assumed to be typical exposure.

^{**} Assumed to be upper bound exposure.

Summary of Dose for Nail Tip Removal Scenario

The doses for the nail tip removal scenario consisting of the combined dermal and inhalation exposure are summarized in Table 8-25 and 8-26 below. The 30-minute and 45-minute soaks were assumed to be typical and upper bound exposures, respectively. As shown on Table 8-25, the teenager (ages 14-18) has the highest total (inhalation + dermal) one-day and annual average daily dose of 2.5 mg/kg-day of use and 0.028 mg/kg-day, respectively assuming a 30-minute soak time. Infants and young children are assumed to not soak their fingernails in acetone for the purpose of nail tip removal and therefore their total dose is equal to the inhalation dose.

**Table 8-25:
Age-Specific One-Day Doses Associated with Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Route / Type*	Nail Tip Removal Non-User			Nail Tip Removal Female User	
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Dermal					
<i>Typical</i>				1.3E+00	1.2E+00
<i>Upper Bound</i>				1.6E+00	1.5E+00
Inhalation					
<i>Typical</i>	5.3E-01	4.0E-01	2.9E-01	6.3E-01	4.8E-01
<i>Upper Bound</i>	7.9E-01	6.0E-01	4.4E-01	9.3E-01	7.1E-01
Total					
<i>Typical</i>	5.3E-01	4.0E-01	2.9E-01	1.9E+00	1.7E+00
<i>Upper Bound</i>	7.9E-01	6.0E-01	4.4E-01	2.5E+00	2.2E+00

Shaded areas indicate dose calculation not applicable to the age range.

*Typical dose is based on 30-minute soaking time and upper bound dose is based on 45-minute soaking time.

**Table 8-26:
Age-Specific Annual Average Daily Doses Associated with Residential Nail Tip Removal Scenario**

Route / Type*	Nail Tip Removal Non-User			Nail Tip Removal Female User	
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Dermal					
<i>Typical</i>				1.4E-02	1.3E-02
<i>Upper Bound</i>				1.8E-02	1.6E-02
Inhalation					
<i>Typical</i>	5.8E-03	4.4E-03	3.2E-03	6.9E-03	5.3E-03
<i>Upper Bound</i>	8.6E-03	6.6E-03	4.8E-03	1.0E-02	7.8E-03
Total					
<i>Typical</i>	5.8E-03	4.4E-03	3.2E-03	2.1E-02	1.8E-02
<i>Upper Bound</i>	8.6E-03	6.6E-03	4.8E-03	2.8E-02	2.4E-02

Shaded areas indicate dose calculation not applicable to the age range.

*Typical dose is based on 30-minute soaking time and upper bound dose is based on 45-minute soaking time.

8.2.5.2 Residential Nail Polish Remover Use

There are no published data on acetone exposures from the use of nail polish removers in the home. Therefore, exposure concentrations for the nail polish scenario were estimated using the EPA Multi-Chamber Concentration and Exposure Model Version 1.2 (MCCEM) and the conceptual framework (i.e. base exposure scenario including activity pattern, emissions models and interzonal airflow equation) of the EPA Exposure, Fate Assessment Screening Tool Version 1.1 (EFAST) Consumer Exposure Module (CEM). MCCEM is an indoor air model developed by the EPA Office of Toxic Substances. EFAST is an exposure assessment program developed by the EPA Office of Toxic Substances.

Exposure concentrations were calculated using MCCEM rather than EFAST to take advantage of the more detailed output of MCCEM (e.g. concentration versus time) and the ability to save input files for future review. MCCEM and EFAST use the same computational engine for indoor air quality modeling.

The parameter values for this model were based on data from the Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997), the Toxicological Profile for Acetone (ATSDR, 1994), and as well as AMEC's professional judgment. Tables 8-27 and 8-28 summarize those parameter values:

**Table 8-27:
Exposure Parameters for the Residential Nail Polish Remover Scenario**

Variable	Value	Unit	Reference
Density of pure acetone	0.7844	g/ml @ 25 °C	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994.
Average frequency of use	32	uses/yr	EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-34. August 1997.
Average exposure time during use	10	Minutes	Professional judgment (AMEC). Note: this could range from 2-10 minutes depending on a variety of factors including color of nail polish to be removed and number of coats to be removed.
Average time spent remaining in room of usage after activity has been completed	110	Minutes	Professional judgment (AMEC) based on the Activity Pattern, see Table 8-28.
Molecular weight of acetone	58	g/mol	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994.
Vapor pressure of acetone	230	mm Hg @ 25 °C	Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 75 th Edition, 1995.
Residential air exchange rate	0.45	air changes per hour	Default air exchange rate used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Value also given in EPA Exposure Factor's Handbook as median value for the United States.
Volume of the home	369	m ³	Default total house volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Value also given in EPA Exposure Factor's Handbook as central estimate for the United States.
Rooms of use volumes Living room Kitchen Bathroom	40 20 9	m ³	Default room volumes used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999.
Average acetone content in nail polish removers	73	%	California Air Resources Board (CalEPA), 2000. The 1997 Consumer and Commercial Products Survey. Dated March 21, 2000.
Average amount of nail polish remover used Typical Upper bound	3.06 6.12	g/application	Typical: EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-34. August 1997. Upper bound: Professional judgement. (AMEC)

**Table 8-28:
Activity Pattern for Residential Nail Polish Remover Scenario**

Time	E-FAST Non-User Activity Pattern (Infants, Children)	Non-User MCCEM Zone	E-FAST Adult User Activity Pattern (Children, Adults)	User MCCEM Zone
12:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
1:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
2:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
3:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
4:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
5:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
6:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
7:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bathroom	2
8:00 AM	Bathroom	2	Kitchen	2
9:00 AM	Kitchen	2	Living Room	1
10:00 AM	Living Room	1	Living Room	1
11:00 AM	Living Room	1	Living Room	1
12:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
1:00 PM	Living Room	1	Living Room	1
2:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
3:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
4:00 PM	Living Room	1	Living Room	1
5:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
6:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
7:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
8:00 PM	Living Room	1	Living Room	1
9:00 PM	Bedroom	2	LIVING ROOM	1
10:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Living Room	1
11:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2

Table Notes:

UPPER CASE

Upper case letters indicate room of use. This table only shows living room as room of use, but exposures were calculated for 3 rooms of use.

- Zone 0 Outside.
- Zone 1 Room of product use in the home.
- Zone 2 Remainder of the home.

MCCEM accounts for the emission of acetone over discrete time periods and exposure of the individual based on their activity patterns. This takes into account the time the individual is in and out of the house and the air exchange rate and volume of the residence. A hypothetical house was created where the default values of 0.45 ACH for the air exchange rate and 369 m³ for the volume of the residence were used (USEPA, 1997). The value of the ACH is slightly less than the 50th percentile of whole house air exchange rates of 0.51 ACH published by Murray and Burmaster (1995). For this scenario, no additional ventilation was assumed, as it is not provided in the directions for use or on the warning labels of one national brand and one generic brand of acetone containing nail polish remover.

The Exposure Factors Handbook presents the average amount of nail polish remover used per event (3.06 g/event) as determined by interviews with twenty cosmetic companies. Based on AMEC's professional judgment, an upper bound usage amount of twice the average amount, or 6.12 g/event, was assumed.

The model was run to evaluate both user and non-user exposure to acetone when nail polish remover was used in various rooms of the house (i.e., living room, kitchen, and bathroom). Only inhalation exposures have been assessed in this scenario. While there is dermal contact with acetone during use of nail polish remover, the amount of dermal exposure will be far less than that evaluated for the nail tip remover scenario because less skin surface area is exposed and there is likely to be significant volatilization from the nail surface as it is not submerged. This assumption is supported by the EPA dermal guidance (USEPA, 1992, 1995a, 1995b), which indicates that for pure phase VOCs, most of the neat compound would likely evaporate before absorption can occur. Therefore given the small surface area and the very low absorption due to acetone's volatility, the dermal pathway was determined to be insignificant for this exposure scenario.

The model predicted one-day time-weighted average (TWA) exposure concentrations of acetone, which are presented on Table 8-29. For use in the dose calculations, the air concentrations have been converted to units of mg/m³ by multiplying the ppm value by 2.38.

**Table 8-29:
Acetone Exposure Concentrations for Residential Nail Polish Remover Scenario**

Exposure Group	Exposure Type	TWA (1-day) Exposure Concentration (ppm)		
		Bathroom	Kitchen	Living Room
Child non-user	Typical	0.224	0.213	0.196
	Upper bound	0.448	0.426	0.392
Child or adult user	Typical	0.669	0.622	0.551
	Upper bound	1.34	1.24	1.10

Typical and upper bound exposure are defined in terms of product usage amount.

These air concentrations have converted into age-specific one-day dose and average daily doses, and are presented on Table 8-30 and 8-31 for the typical and upper bound exposure estimates, respectively. Because the exposure concentrations do not vary significantly between room of use, doses have been calculated using the air concentrations estimated for the living room as the room of use. As shown on Table 8-30, the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose for typical exposures to non-users (i.e., infants) were 0.13 mg/kg-day of use and 0.011 mg/kg-day, respectively. The toddler (ages 1-5) has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose for typical exposures to users of 0.2 8mg/kg-day of use and 0.024 mg/kg-day, respectively. Similarly, as shown on Table 8-31, for upper bound exposures to non-users, the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose were 0.26 mg/kg-day of use and 0.023 mg/kg-day, respectively. For upper bound exposures to users, the toddler has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose of 0.56 mg/kg-day of use and 0.049 mg/kg-day, respectively.

**Table 8-30:
Age-Specific Doses from Typical Exposures Associated with Residential Nail Polish Remover Scenario***

		Nail Polish Remover - Non-User	Nail Polish Remover - User			
Exposure Parameter	Units	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	ppm	0.196	0.551	0.551	0.551	0.551
Concentration	mg/m ³	0.47	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3
Inhalation Absorption Factor	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure Time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	32	32	32	32	32
Inhalation Rate	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body Weight ^a	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-d	1.3E-01	2.8E-01	2.0E-01	1.4E-01	1.0E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-d	1.1E-02	2.4E-02	1.8E-02	1.2E-02	9.1E-03

*Typical and upper bound exposures are defined in terms of the usage amount.

**Table 8-31:
Age-Specific Doses from Upper Bound Exposures Associated with Residential Nail Polish Remover Scenario***

		Nail Polish Remover- Non-User	Nail Polish Remover- User			
Exposure Parameter	Units	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	ppm	0.392	1.1	1.1	1.1	1.1
Concentration	mg/m ³	0.93	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.6
Inhalation Absorption Factor	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure Time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	32	32	32	32	32
Inhalation Rate	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body Weight ^a	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-d	2.6E-01	5.6E-01	4.0E-01	2.7E-01	2.1E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-d	2.3E-02	4.9E-02	3.5E-02	2.4E-02	1.8E-02

*Typical and upper bound exposures are defined in terms of the usage amount.

8.2.5.3 Residential Spray Paint Scenario

There are no published data on acetone exposures from the use of spray paints in the home. EPA sponsored survey data (Westat, 1987) indicates that among the U.S. population ages 18 years and older, approximately 35.4% of the population have used spray paint in their lifetime. Of those that have used spray paint, only 17.8% painted indoors the last time they used spray paint. Survey data also indicates that spray paint users generally read the directions (73.2%)

interzonal airflow equation) of EFAST. Exposure concentrations were calculated using MCCEM rather than EFAST to take advantage of the more detailed output of MCCEM (e.g. concentration versus time) and the ability to save input files for future review. MCCEM and EFAST use the same computational engine for indoor air quality modeling. The parameter values used in the models were taken from the Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997), the Toxicological Profile for Acetone (ATSDR, 1994), and AMEC's professional judgment. These values are presented on Table 8-32 and 8-33.

**Table 8-32:
Exposure Parameters for the Residential Spray Paint Scenario**

Variable	Value	Unit	Reference
Density of spray paint	0.78	g/ml @ 25 °C	MSDS for Krylon 1602 Ultra Flat Black Spray Paint, January 29, 2003.
Average frequency of use	4	uses/yr	EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-2. Aerosol Spray Paint, August 1997.
Average exposure time during use	40	minutes	EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-3. Aerosol Spray Paint, August 1997.
Average time spent remaining in room of usage after activity has been completed	20	minutes	See Table 8-33 of this report and EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-5. Aerosol Spray Paint, August 1997.
Molecular weight of acetone	58	g/mol	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994
Vapor pressure of acetone	230	mm Hg @ 25 °C	Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 75 th Edition, 1995.
Whole house air exchange rate (ACH) Typical use (windows open) Upper bound (window fan during use) Upper bound (windows open after use)	1.34 5 ^b 1.34	hour ⁻¹ hour ⁻¹ hour ⁻¹	Open window air exchange rate is median rate from Johnson et al., 1998 and Johnson et al., 1999. Air exchange rate while window fan is operating is based on listed flow of an Air King Brand window fan set on low speed and an assumption of 50% efficiency.
Volume of the home	369	m ³	Default total house volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Value also given in EPA Exposure Factor's Handbook as central estimate for the United States.
Room of use volume	20	m ³	Default utility room volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999.
Interzonal airflow rate (IAR) ^c Typical use (open windows) Upper bound (fan during use) Upper bound (after use)	210 737 210	m ³ /hr m ³ /hr m ³ /hr	Interzonal airflow rate equation used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Equation published in Koontz and Rector, 1995. Estimation of distributions for residential air exchange rates.
Time Fan remains in use after completion of project	20	minutes	AMEC's professional judgment.
Average acetone content in spray paint that contains acetone	36	% by weight	Typical MSDS content based on MSDS survey presented in Table 8-17.
Amount of spray paint in a standard can	340	grams	Product Label: Rust-oleum clean white metal primer #7780 or Rust-oleum gloss white protective enamel #7792.

^a Exposure time after use was rounded to 20 minutes from 13 minutes to accommodate the discrete one-hour segments of the EFAST.

^b ACH = 2100 cfm [listed flow at low speed] * (1.699 m³/hr / cfm) / 369 m³ [home volume] * (50% efficiency/100) = 5 hr⁻¹

^cIAR = (0.046 + 0.39*A)*V where A = air exchange rate; V = house volume.

**Table 8-33:
Consumer Product Activity Pattern for Residential Spray Paint Scenario**

Time	E-FAST Non-User Activity Pattern (Infants, Children)	Non-User (Infants and Young Children) MCCEM Zone	E-FAST User Activity Pattern (Teenagers, Adults)	User (Teenagers and Adults) MCCEM Zone
12:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
1:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
2:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
3:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
4:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
5:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
6:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
7:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bathroom	2
8:00 AM	Bathroom	2	Kitchen	2
9:00 AM	Kitchen	2	UTILITY ROOM	1
10:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
11:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
12:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
1:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
2:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
3:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
4:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
5:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
6:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
7:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
8:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
9:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
10:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
11:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2

Table Notes:

UPPER CASE Upper case letters indicate room of use.
Zone 0 Outside.
Zone 1 Room of product use in the home.
Zone 2 Remainder of the home.

The Westat (1987) survey of solvent product usage provides a distribution of the volume of spray paint used per painting event for the United States population (Table Q-18). However, it is important to note that the Westat usage distribution does not distinguish between indoor and outdoor uses. The Westat survey does indicate that most spray paint users (~80%) use the products outdoors. Therefore, it was assumed the 90th percentile of the Westat distribution (about 2 cans of spray paint) represents the upper bound of indoor paint use for projects where spray paint is used in accordance with the manufacturer's product labeling.

In cases where a reasonable lower or upper bound can be determined for an input distribution, EPA recommends truncation, or the imposition a minimum or maximum value on a probability distribution. The purpose of truncation is to "constrain the sample space to a set of plausible values" (USEPA, 2001). A modified distribution for indoor use of spray paint was generated by truncating the Westat distribution at the 90th percentile and is presented on Table 8-34. This distribution was calculated by using linear interpolation between reported values of the Westat distribution to create an empirical distribution function (EDF), truncating the EDF at the 90th percentile and then normalizing the resulting probability density function (PDF) to integrate to unity.

**Table 8-34:
Distribution of Indoor Spray Paint Usage Among Users in the United States**

Percentile	Spray Paint			
	ounces/use ^a	ml/use	grams spray paint/use ^b	cans/use ^c
0	0.010	0.30	0.23	0.0007
5	0.73	22	17	0.05
10	1.4	40	32	0.09
25	3.2	94	73	0.2
50	7.1	210	164	0.5
75	14	402	314	0.9
90	20	591	461	1.4
95	23	680	530	1.6
100	26	769	600	1.8

^aBased on distribution truncated at 90th percentile from U.S. EPA, Household Solvent Products: A national usage survey. July, 1987. Prepared by Westat. Table Q-18: Percentile rankings of ounces per use of Aerosol Spray.

^bgrams/use = (ounces/use) * (29.57 ml/ounce) * (0.78 g/ml)

^ccans/use = (grams/use) / (340 grams paint/can)

The model was run to estimate exposure concentrations for users and non-users of spray paint according to the usage distributions provided above. Only inhalation exposures have been assessed in this scenario. While there could be dermal contact with acetone during spray paint use, the amount of dermal exposure will be far less than that evaluated for the nail tip remover scenario because less skin surface area (i.e., finger tip) is exposed and there is likely to be significant volatilization from the skin surface as it is not submerged. The predicted acetone air concentrations are shown on Table 8-35. For use in dose calculations, the air concentrations have been converted to units of mg/m³ by multiplying the ppm value by 2.38.

**Table 8-35:
Predicted Acetone Concentrations for Residential Spray Paint Scenario – Open Window
Ventilation Conditions (1.34 ACH)**

Usage Distribution Percentile	1-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.040	0.17
5	2.9	13
10	5.4	23
25	13	54
50	28	122
75	54	233
90	79	343
95	91	394
100	103	445
	8-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0080	0.025
5	0.57	1.8
10	1.1	3.5
25	2.5	8.0
50	5.6	18
75	11	34
90	16	51
95	18	58
100	20	66
	1-day TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0026	0.0084
5	0.19	0.62
10	0.36	1.2
25	0.83	2.7
50	1.9	6.0
75	3.6	11
90	5.2	17
95	6.0	19
100	6.8	22

**Table 8-36:
Predicted Acetone Concentrations for Residential Spray Paint Scenario –Exhaust
Window Fan Ventilation Conditions (5.0 ACH)**

Usage Distribution Percentile	1-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.016	0.055
5	1.1	4.0
10	2.2	7.5
25	5.0	17
50	11	39
75	21	74
90	31	109
95	36	126
100	41	142
	8-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0025	0.0074
5	0.18	0.54
10	0.34	1.0
25	0.78	2.3
50	1.7	5.3
75	3.3	10
90	4.9	15
95	5.6	17
100	6.4	19
	1-day TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.00082	0.0025
5	0.60	0.18
10	0.11	0.34
25	0.26	0.78
50	0.58	1.8
75	1.1	3.4
90	1.6	4.9
95	1.9	5.7
100	2.1	6.4

The air concentrations predicted for the spray paint scenario under various ventilation conditions have been converted into age-specific one-day doses and average daily doses, and are presented on Tables 8-37 through 8-40 for the median and upper bound exposure estimates. The 95th percentile exposure concentration was used to calculate the upper bound dose for indoor spray painting. As shown on Table 8-37, under open window ventilation conditions, for median exposures to the non-user, the infant has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose of 1.3 mg/kg-day of use and 0.014 mg/kg-day, respectively. For the spray paint user, the teenager has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose of 1.5 mg/kg-day of use and 0.016 mg/kg-day, respectively. Similarly, as shown on Table 8-38, for the upper bound exposures, the infant has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose the non-users of 4.0 mg/kg-day of use and 0.044 mg/kg-day, respectively. For spray paint users, and the teenager has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose of 4.7 mg/kg-day of use and 0.051 mg/kg-day, respectively.

**Table 8-37:
Age-Specific Doses from Typical Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spray Paint Scenario – Open Window Ventilation Conditions (1.34 ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spray Paint - Non-User			Spray Paint - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	4.5	4.5	4.5	14.3	14.3
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	4	4	4	4	4
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	1.3E+00	9.6E-01	7.0E-01	1.5E+00	1.1E+00
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	1.4E-02	1.1E-02	7.6E-03	1.6E-02	1.2E-02

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^b All age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

* Typical exposures are defined by the 50th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-38:
Age-Specific Doses from Upper Bound Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spray Paint Scenario – Open Window Ventilation Conditions (1.34 ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spray Paint - Non-User			Spray Paint - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	14.3	14.3	14.3	45.2	45.2
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	4	4	4	4	4
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	4.0E+00	3.0E+00	2.2E+00	4.7E+00	3.6E+00
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	4.4E-02	3.3E-02	2.4E-02	5.1E-02	3.9E-02

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^b All age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

* Upper bound exposures are defined by the 95th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-39:
Age-Specific Doses from Typical Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spray Paint Scenario – Exhaust Window Fan Conditions (5.0 ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spray Paint - Non-User			Spray Paint - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	1.4	1.4	1.4	4.3	4.3
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	4	4	4	4	4
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	3.8E-01	2.9E-01	2.1E-01	4.4E-01	3.4E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	4.2E-03	3.2E-03	2.3E-03	4.9E-03	3.7E-03

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^b All age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

* Typical exposures are defined by the 50th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-40:
Age-Specific Doses from Upper Bound Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spray Paint Scenario – Exhaust Window Fan Conditions (5.0 ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spray Paint - Non-User			Spray Paint - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	4.5	4.5	4.5	13.6	13.6
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	4	4	4	4	4
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	1.3E+00	9.6E-01	7.0E-01	1.4E+00	1.1E+00
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	1.4E-02	1.1E-02	7.6E-03	1.5E-02	1.2E-02

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^bAll age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

*Upper bound exposures are defined by the 95th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

8.2.5.4 Residential Spot Remover Scenario Using Pure Acetone

There are numerous uses for pure acetone as a spot remover by hobbyists (i.e., cleaning during do-it-yourself automobile repair; cleaning of seams during woodworking; cleaning/debonding of "crazy glue" during model construction, removal of enamel paint, etc.). However, there are no published data on acetone exposures from the use of spot removers in the home. Survey data (Westat, 1987) indicates that among the U.S. population ages 18 years and older, approximately 39.1% of the population have used a spot remover in their lifetime. Of those that have used spot remover, the majority (89.5%) was indoors the last time they used the product. Survey data also indicates that 77.1% of spot remover users generally read the directions but that only 44.5% reported opening a door or window during indoor use. The relevance of these responses are limited however, because the survey data reported by Westat is representative of a wide variety of products including Shout™ laundry detergent, K2R Spot Lifter™, Woolite™ and Spray 'n Wash™, none of which contain acetone. Thus, it is believed that people who use pure acetone as a spot remover would do so in accordance with the label instructions and warnings on the acetone container. An example of the typical warnings/directions for pure acetone sold in containers at hardware stores is shown below:

Excerpts from Typical Acetone Solvent Label Instructions and Warnings

Label Section	Text	Example Source
Danger:	This product should not be used frequently or on a regular basis without properly engineered air control systems designed to prevent exceedances of the TLV. It is intended for occasional use only.	Klean-Strip, Acetone™, Special purpose thinner, cleaner and remover. (W.M. Barr & Co., Inc. Memphis, TN)
Warning:	Use only with adequate ventilation to prevent build up of vapors. Do not use in areas where vapors can accumulate and concentrate such as in basements, bathrooms or small, enclosed areas. Open all windows and doors. Use only with a cross ventilation of moving fresh air across the work area. If strong odor is noticed or you experience slight dizziness, headache, nausea or eye watering – STOP- ventilation is inadequate. Leave area immediately.	

As such, the acetone spot remover scenario was evaluated using two ventilation conditions; the open window condition and that where mechanical ventilation in the form of a window exhaust fan was used. As indicated in Table 8-41, a hypothetical house was created where the air exchange rate was set to 1.34 air changes per hour (ACH) representing the open window air exchange rate and 5.0 ACH representing the air exchange rate likely achievable using a window fan operated on low speed and assuming 50% efficiency. The volume of the residence was set at the default value of 369 m³ (USEPA, 1997).

Estimates of 1-hour, 8-hour and one-day time-weighted average exposure concentrations were calculated for the spot remover scenario using MCCEM and the conceptual framework (i.e. base exposure scenario including activity pattern, emissions models and interzonal airflow equation) of EFAST. Exposure concentrations were calculated using MCCEM rather than EFAST to take advantage of the more detailed output of MCCEM (e.g. concentration versus time) and the ability to save input files for future review. MCCEM and EFAST use the same computational engine for indoor air quality modeling. The exposure to acetone was modeled using parameters found in the Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997), the Toxicological Profile for Acetone (ATSDR, 1994), and AMEC's professional judgment. These parameters are summarized on Tables 8-41 and 8-42.

**Table 8-41:
Exposure Parameters for the Residential Spot Remover Scenario**

Variable	Value	Unit	Reference
Density of pure acetone	0.7844	g/ml @ 25 °C	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994.
Average Frequency of use	16	uses/yr	EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-2. Spot Remover, August 1997.
Average exposure time during use	11	minutes	EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-3. Spot Remover, August 1997.
Average time spent remaining in room of usage after activity has been completed	49	minutes	See Table 8-42 of this report and EPA Exposure Factors Handbook Table 16-5. Aerosol Spray Paint, August 1997.
Molecular weight of acetone	58	g/mol	ATSDR Tox Profile for Acetone, May 1994
Vapor pressure of acetone	230	mm Hg @ 25 °C	Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 75 th Edition, 1995.
Whole house air exchange rate (ACH) Typical use (windows open) Upper bound (window fan during use) Upper bound (windows open after use)	1.34 5 ^b 1.34	hour ⁻¹ hour ⁻¹ hour ⁻¹	Open window air exchange rate is median rate from Johnson et al., 1998 and Johnson et al., 1999. Air exchange rate while window fan is operating is based on listed flow of an Air King Brand window fan set on low speed and an assumption of 50% efficiency.
Volume of the home	369	m ³	Default total house volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Value also given in EPA Exposure Factor's Handbook as central estimate for the United States.
Room of use volume	20	m ³	Default utility room volume used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999.
Interzonal airflow rate (IAR) ^c Typical use (open windows) Upper bound (fan during use) Upper bound (after use)	210 737 210	m ³ /hr m ³ /hr m ³ /hr	Interzonal airflow rate equation used in EPA's EFAST Consumer Exposure Module, April 1999. Equation published in Koontz and Rector, 1995. Estimation of distributions for residential air exchange rates.

^a Exposure time after use was rounded to 49 minutes from 44 minutes to accommodate the discrete one-hour segments of the EFAST.

^b ACH = 2100 cfm [listed flow at low speed] * (1.699 m³/hr / cfm) / 369 m³ [home volume] * (50% efficiency/100) = 5 hr⁻¹

^c IAR = (0.046 + 0.39*A)*V where A = air exchange rate; V = house volume.

**Table 8-42:
Activity Pattern for Pure Acetone as Spot Remover**

Time	E-FAST Non-User Activity Pattern (Infants, Children)	Non-User (Infants & Young Children) MCCEM Zone	E-FAST User Activity Pattern (Teenagers, Adults)	User (Teenagers and Adults) MCCEM Zone
12:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
1:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
2:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
3:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
4:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
5:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
6:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2
7:00 AM	Bedroom	2	Bathroom	2
8:00 AM	Bathroom	2	Kitchen	2
9:00 AM	Kitchen	2	UTILITY ROOM	1
10:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
11:00 AM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
12:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
1:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
2:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
3:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
4:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
5:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
6:00 PM	Kitchen	2	Kitchen	2
7:00 PM	Out	0	Out	0
8:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
9:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
10:00 PM	Living Room	2	Living Room	2
11:00 PM	Bedroom	2	Bedroom	2

Table Notes:

UPPER CASE Upper case letters indicate room of use.

Zone 0 Outside.

Zone 1 Room of product use in the home.

Zone 2 Remainder of the home.

As discussed previously, the Westat (1987) survey of solvent product usage provides a distribution of the volume of spot remover used per cleaning event for the United States population (Table C-18). However, the usage data reported by Westat is likely much greater than that which would be used for pure acetone because it is representative of a wide variety of products including Shout™ laundry detergent, K2R Spot Lifter™, Woolite™ and Spray 'n Wash™, none of which contain acetone. Some survey respondents also mentioned brand name carpet cleaners (e.g. Bissell™ or Resolve™), which do not contain acetone and are often used in relatively large volumes (i.e. 48 ounces per 600 square feet). Therefore, it was assumed the 90th percentile of the Westat distribution (about one cup) represents the reasonable upper bound usage quantity for pure acetone used as a spot remover.

In cases where a reasonable lower or upper bound can be determined for an input distribution, EPA recommends truncation, or the imposition a minimum or maximum value on a probability distribution. The purpose of truncation is to “constrain the sample space to a set of plausible values” (USEPA, 2001). A modified distribution for use of pure acetone as a spot remover was generated by truncating the Westat distribution at the 90th percentile and is presented on Table 8-43. This distribution was calculated by using linear interpolation between reported values of the Westat distribution to create an empirical distribution function (EDF), truncating the EDF at the 90th percentile and then normalizing the resulting probability density function (PDF) to integrate to unity.

**Table 8-43:
Distribution of Spot Remover Usage Among Users in the United States**

Percentile	Pure Acetone		
	ounces/use ^a	ml/use	grams/use ^b
0	0.010	0.29	0.23
5	0.16	4.8	3.8
10	0.23	6.8	5.4
25	0.48	14	11
50	1.2	34	27
75	2.5	74	58
90	4.8	141	111
95	6.2	181	143
100	7.5	221	174

^aBased on distribution truncated at 90th percentile from U.S. EPA, Household Solvent Products: A national usage survey. July, 1987. Prepared by Westat. Table C-18: Percentile rankings of ounces per use of Spot Remover.

^bgrams/use= (ounces/use) * (29.57 ml/ounce) * (0.7844 g/ml)

The model was run to estimate exposure concentrations for users and non-users of pure acetone spot remover according to the usage distributions provided above. Only inhalation exposures have been assessed in this scenario. While there may be dermal contact with acetone during its use as a spot remover, only a very small skin surface area would be in contact with the acetone and the high volatility of the chemical will minimize the potential for dermal absorption. This assumption is supported by the EPA dermal guidance (USEPA, 1992, 1995a, 1995b), which indicates that for pure phase VOCs, most of the neat compound would likely evaporate before absorption can occur. EPA Region III recommends an absorption factor of 0.05% for highly volatile chemicals. Therefore given the small surface area and the very low absorption due to acetone’s volatility, the dermal pathway for the spot remover scenario was

determined to be insignificant. The predicted acetone air concentrations under the two ventilation conditions are shown on Tables 8-44 and 8-45. For use in dose calculations, the air concentrations have been converted to units of mg/m³ by multiplying the ppm value by 2.38.

**Table 8-44:
Predicted Acetone Concentrations for Acetone Spot Remover Scenario – Open
Window Ventilation Conditions (1.34 ACH)**

Usage Distribution Percentile	1-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.12	0.50
5	2.0	8.1
10	2.8	12
25	5.8	24
50	14	59
75	30	126
90	59	241
95	75	309
100	91	377
	8-hr TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.022	0.071
5	0.35	1.1
10	0.51	1.6
25	1.0	3.4
50	2.6	8.3
75	5.5	18
90	11	34
95	13	44
100	16	53
	1-day TWA Concentration	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0073	0.024
5	0.12	0.38
10	0.17	0.55
25	0.35	1.1
50	0.85	2.8
75	1.8	5.9
90	3.5	11
95	4.5	15
100	5.5	18

**Table 8-45:
Predicted Acetone Concentrations for Acetone Spot Remover Scenario –Exhaust
Window Fan Ventilation Conditions (5.0 ACH)**

Usage Distribution Percentile	1-hr TWA (Concentration)	
	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.052	0.16
5	0.84	2.6
10	1.2	3.7
25	2.5	7.6
50	6.1	19
75	13	40
90	25	77
95	32	99
100	39	121
8-hr TWA Concentration		
Usage Distribution Percentile	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0081	0.022
5	0.13	0.36
10	0.19	0.51
25	0.39	1.0
50	1.0	2.6
75	2.0	5.5
90	3.9	11
95	5.0	14
100	6.1	16
1-day TWA Concentration		
Usage Distribution Percentile	Child Non-User Exposure Concentration (ppm)	Child and Adult User Exposure Concentration (ppm)
0	0.0027	0.0073
5	0.044	0.12
10	0.063	0.17
25	0.13	0.35
50	0.32	0.86
75	0.68	1.8
90	1.3	3.5
95	1.7	4.5
100	2.0	5.5

The air concentrations under various ventilation conditions have been converted into age-specific annual average and one-day doses, and are presented on Tables 8-46 through 8-49 for the median and upper bound exposure estimates, respectively. As shown on Table 8-46, under open window ventilation conditions, for median exposures to the non-user, the infant has the highest one-day dose and annual average daily dose of 0.56 mg/kg-day of use and 0.025 mg/kg-day respectively. For the spot remover user, the teenager has the highest one day dose and average daily dose of 0.69 mg/kg-day of use and 0.030 mg/kg-day, respectively. Similarly, as shown on Table 8-47, for the upper bound exposures, the infant has the highest one-day dose and average daily dose of 3.0 mg/kg-day of use and 0.13 mg/kg-day, respectively. For the spot remover users, teenager has the highest upper bound one day and annual average daily dose of 3.7 mg/kg-day of use and 0.16 mg/kg-day, respectively.

**Table 8-46:
Age-Specific Doses from Typical Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spot Remover Scenario – Open Window Ventilation Conditions (1.34
ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spot Remover – Non-User			Spot Remover - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	2.02	2.02	2.02	6.7	6.7
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	16	16	16	16	16
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	5.6E-01	4.3E-01	3.1E-01	6.9E-01	5.3E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	2.5E-02	1.9E-02	1.4E-02	3.0E-02	2.3E-02

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^bAll age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

*Typical exposures are defined by the 50th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-47:
Age-Specific Doses from Upper Bound Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spot Remover Scenario – Open Window Ventilation Conditions (1.5
ACH)^{*}**

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spot Remover – Non-User			Spot Remover - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	10.7	10.7	10.7	35.7	35.7
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	16	16	16	16	16
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	3.0E+00	2.3E+00	1.6E+00	3.7E+00	2.8E+00
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	1.3E-01	1.0E-01	7.2E-02	1.6E-01	1.2E-01

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^bAll age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

^{*}Upper bound exposures are defined by the 95th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-48:
Age-Specific Doses from Typical Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spot Remover Scenario – Exhaust Window Fan Ventilation Conditions
(5.0 ACH)^{*}**

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spot Remover – Non-User			Spot Remover - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	0.76	0.76	0.76	2.0	2.0
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	16	16	16	16	16
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	2.1E-01	1.6E-01	1.2E-01	2.1E-01	1.6E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	9.3E-03	7.1E-03	5.1E-03	9.3E-03	7.1E-03

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^bAll age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

^{*}Typical exposures are defined by the 50th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

**Table 8-49:
Age-Specific Doses from Upper Bound Acetone Exposures Associated
with Residential Spot Remover Scenario – Exhaust Window Fan Ventilation Conditions
(5 .0 ACH)***

Exposure Parameter	Units	Spot Remover – Non-User			Spot Remover - User	
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Concentration	mg/m ³	4.0	4.0	4.0	10.7	10.7
Inhalation absorption factor ^a	unitless	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44	0.44
Exposure time	hours/day	24	24	24	24	24
Exposure frequency	days/year	16	16	16	16	16
Inhalation rate ^b	m ³ /h	0.19	0.31	0.51	0.6	0.47
Body weight ^b	kg	7.2	15.4	35	61	62.4
One-day dose	mg/kg-day of use	1.1E+00	8.6E-01	6.2E-01	1.1E+00	8.5E-01
Annual average daily dose	mg/kg-day	4.9E-02	3.8E-02	2.7E-02	4.9E-02	3.7E-02

^a Wigaeus et al., 1981.

^bAll age groups represent boys and girls except the 18 - 35 age group, which represents women only. Body weights and inhalation rates are derived from Exposure Factors Handbook (USEPA, 1997) and Children's Exposure Factor Handbook (USEPA, 2002).

*Upper bound exposures are defined by the 95th percentile of the product usage amount distribution.

8.2.5.5 Other Consumer Product Exposure Assessment for Acetone

In addition to the consumer product modeling conducted as a part of VCCEP, acetone exposure from consumer product use was also evaluated as part of EPA's High Production Volume chemical program. The Screening Information Dataset (SID) Initial Assessment Report (SIAR) presented an exposure assessment to acetone from use of acetone-containing spray adhesive which contained approximately 21% acetone. Air concentrations were modeled using EPA's Screening Consumers Inhalation Exposure Software (SCIES) over an exposure period of 40 minutes. The average acetone concentration predicted during that time period was 556 mg/m³ (234 ppm) and the peak concentration predicted during the time period was 907 mg/m³ (381 ppm). These concentrations are somewhat higher than the one-hour TWA concentrations depicted in the spray paint scenario.

8.2.6 Other Sources of Acetone Exposure

A variety of miscellaneous sources of acetone could result in exposure to children. However, these sources are either minor, or are not within the chain of commerce and therefore per EPA, exposures from these sources have not been quantified. Each miscellaneous source is described below.

8.2.6.1 Tobacco Smoke

Acetone has been measured in cigarette smoke at concentrations ranging from 498 to 869 µg/m³ (Morgott, 2001) and in mainstream smoke the emissions have been estimated at 0.287 mg/cigarette (Fowles and Bates, 2000). Acetone is not intentionally added to tobacco or any

other component of the cigarette, but forms during the process of combustion. This “process” is outside of the chain of commerce for acetone and thus has not been quantified, although it is predicted that the acetone exposure would be very low. Tobacco smoking has been long recognized as an unsafe activity because of its association with various health impacts including but not limited to lung cancer, emphysema, chronic bronchitis, heart disease and stroke, none of which are related to the health hazards identified for acetone.

Data provided by the American Lung Association indicates that smoking prevalence in the U.S. is on the decline and has been since 1963 (www.lungusa.org/data/smoke). Data also suggests that fewer pregnant women smoke and fewer children are becoming smokers as a result of strong anti-smoking media campaigns and new regulations prohibiting the marketing of tobacco products to children. As a result, it is likely that exposure to acetone from cigarette smoke will continue to decline.

8.2.6.2 Wood-burning Fireplaces, Stoves and other Combustion Sources

In addition to tobacco products, acetone has been detected in the emissions from numerous other combustion sources including wood burning stoves and backyard waste incinerators. Although wood-burning stoves are used indoors, if properly ventilated, it is unlikely to significantly increase the ambient indoor acetone concentrations in a house and as with ambient air would be a *de minimis* exposure. The back yard incinerator is unlikely to be a major source of exposure for the majority of the U.S. population, as incinerators of this nature are banned in most major urban and suburban areas. Further, as an outdoor source, the time a child could potentially spend near the incinerator is expected to be small if any, and therefore unlikely to impact the child’s overall outdoor ambient air exposure.

8.2.6.3 Landfills

Acetone has been measured in the gas emissions from landfills at concentrations ranging from 15.7 – 77.1 mg/m³. Although some acetone containing products could have been placed in landfills, the primary source of the acetone in the gaseous emissions is from biological decomposition of the waste material. If the landfill is viewed as a stationary air pollution source, it can be assumed that the acetone emissions from the landfill are unlikely to have an impact at the fence line, as it was demonstrated in EPA’s SARA 313 delisting of acetone that industrial sources do not emit acetone in concentrations, which have an impact at the fence line. Additionally, in terms of overall ambient air impacts, emissions from landfills are significantly less than natural (i.e., biogenic) emitters of acetone such as vegetation, which releases an estimated 9 million tons per year to the atmosphere. Thus, children’s exposures to landfill emissions are unlikely to be a significant source of ambient air acetone exposure.

8.2.6.4 Acetone from metabolic conversion of isopropanol

Isopropanol could contribute to children’s acetone exposure via metabolic conversion because exogenous exposure to isopropanol is metabolized in the body to acetone. Thus, exposure to isopropanol from medicinal uses or consumer products will result in the generation of an internal dose of acetone. Acetone exposures from this source have not been quantified because an isopropanol exposure assessment is beyond the scope of this assessment.

8.3 Uncertainties in the Exposure Assessment

Uncertainties are associated with any exposure assessment and for the acetone VCCEP assessment include: the use of published monitoring data to represent exposures for the U.S. population, derivation of children's endogenous acetone production from a study of adults, and use of mathematical models to estimate human exposures, in the absence of monitoring data. Each of these is described further below.

8.3.1 Monitoring Data

Published monitoring data was used to characterize children's and prospective mothers' exposures from ambient air and water, as well as occupational exposures. Ambient air data was obtained from ATSDR. The dataset provided by ATSDR, while somewhat dated provides the most current measured ambient air data available. Because acetone is not regulated under the Clean Air Act, there are no current requirements for collection of ambient air samples for acetone measurement. Thus, given that the data indicates that acetone is only present in the ambient air at very low levels and there is no current regulatory concern regarding acetone in the atmosphere, the use of the monitoring data to represent average population exposures is not likely to affect the overall exposure assessment.

The monitoring data used to characterize exposures to acetone from drinking water was also obtained from ATSDR. Acetone is rarely if ever detected in drinking water and when it is, only at very low concentrations. Thus, the use of this data for representation of general population exposure is unlikely to result in significant over or underestimates of exposure.

The monitoring data used to characterize occupational exposures was collected relatively recently across a wide variety of industries. While a thorough knowledge of each industry and the potential variations in occupational exposures within each industry is not possible from use of the peer-reviewed literature, the data has been peer reviewed and deemed acceptable for publication. Thus, use of this monitoring data is appropriate to characterize occupational exposures.

8.3.2 Derivation of Endogenous Acetone Production

Several studies have been published which establish the direct linear correlation between blood acetone levels and endogenous production. However, because the regression equations relating the blood acetone levels and production rate were not published, the production rates had to be estimated by visual inspection of the published graphs which depicted the correlation. Because the low end of the normal blood concentrations fell outside of the range of data evaluated in the published studies, professional judgment was used to determine a corresponding lower bound value for normal endogenous production. The lowest plasma acetone concentrations reported by Reichard et al, (0.25 – 0.5mM) corresponded to an acetone turnover rate of approximately 20 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{min}$. Therefore, lacking the regression equation, it was conservatively assumed that at the lower end of the normal adult blood level range (0.007-mM) corresponded to a production rate of 10 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{min}$.

An additional uncertainty in estimating normal endogenous acetone levels for children is the use of acetone turnover rates measured in adults. This uncertainty, however, likely leads to an underestimation of endogenous production rates in children, as it is well understood that children's metabolic demands are greater (personal communication Muso-Veloso, 2003).

8.3.3 Consumer Product Modeling

The uncertainties associated with any modeling exercise are typically those associated with the various model parameters. However, it is believed that in this exposure assessment most of the uncertainty errs on the conservative side. To address the uncertainties with the model, a sensitivity analysis was conducted to determine which of the parameters had the greatest affect on predicted air concentrations. The parameters most sensitive were 1) amount of product used, 2) whole house air exchange rate and 3) total home volume. A complete discussion of the sensitivity analysis is presented in Appendix J.

In addition to modeling parameter uncertainties, there are also scenario specific uncertainties. Each is briefly described below.

Residential Nail Tip Remover Scenario – The primary uncertainties associated with the dermal modeling of this scenario is that of the derived neat acetone permeability coefficient. This value is derived from the water permeability coefficient. This conversion is appropriate if it can be assumed that the vehicle (pure acetone) does not alter the barrier properties of the skin (USEPA, 1992). It is recognized that dermal contact with acetone can de-fat the skin. Also, ATSDR has indicated that significant damage to the epidermis can occur after 30 minutes or more of contact with acetone. Thus, if damage to the epidermis occurs during nail tip removal, the permeability coefficient of neat acetone may be underestimated, and therefore the dose of acetone received likewise underestimated.

In estimating acetone exposure due to inhalation that occurs during and after soaking, the uncertainties in the scenario include room of use, and the evaporation rate from the tray used for nail tip removal. The sensitivity analysis shows that the room of use is not a sensitive parameter for estimating exposures. However, the evaporation rate, which is primarily a function of surface area of the tray and the airflow velocity in the room, is a key parameter. Using a tray with a larger than average surface area would result in larger exposure concentrations. With respect to airflow, the top edge of the tray tends to decrease airflow around the evaporating liquid. However, random hand movements during soaking might tend to increase airflow over the liquid pool of acetone.

Nail Polish Remover Scenario – In estimating acetone exposure from use of nail polish remover, the uncertainties in the scenario include room of use, and potential differences in the amount used by a child versus an adult. The sensitivity analysis shows that the room of use is not a sensitive parameter for estimating exposures, however, the amount of product used is sensitive. It is unknown whether the amount of product used by a child would be different than that used by an adult. While the child has a smaller fingernail surface area, their application “technique” may not be as skillful as an adult, and therefore the quantity of the product used may not be much different than that of an adult. Also it is likely that with very young children, an adult would be assisting in the application and thus use a quantity representative of an adult. As such, the amount used has been assumed to be similar to the adult.

Residential Spray Paint Scenario – The uncertainties associated with this scenario are the amount of product used, the correlation of amount of product used to location of use (inside versus outside), and the steps taken to ventilate space (opening windows or exhaust fans). The Westat survey provides some useful information on these points. Some of the relevant details of the survey results include:

- Over 80% of the survey respondents indicated that the last time they used spray paint, it was used outside or in a garage. In the residential spray paint scenario presented in Section 8.2.5.2, the assumption was made that the activity would take place within a room integral to the house. However, according to the Westat survey, this is not a common practice for most spray paint users. Thus, the assumption of indoor use may overestimate the acetone exposure during spray painting for most users of spray paint.
- For those survey respondents that used products inside, 63% opened a window, 10% used an exhaust fan, and 61% left the inside door of the room open. In the uncertainty analysis, the whole house air exchange rate was determined to be a sensitive parameter, thus using a default value for the air exchange rate would not be representative of typical use conditions. Of the survey respondents, 73% indicated that they read the directions on the label. Most spray paint labels contain a warning to use the product outdoors or in a well-ventilated space. Thus, it is reasonable to assume that a majority of the product users will heed the warnings and that the additional ventilation will minimize typical exposures during spray painting.

Residential Spot Remover Scenario – The most important uncertainty with this scenario beyond the sensitive model parameters is the assumption that pure acetone sold in bulk to the general public is generally used as a spot remover with a similar usage amount distribution. Although there are numerous uses for pure acetone by various hobbyists (i.e., cleaning during do it yourself automobile repair; cleaning of seams during woodworking; cleaning/debonding cyanoacrylate glue (“crazy glue”) during model construction; removal of enamel paint, etc.) it has been assumed that the quantities used would be comparable to that of general spot removers. Thus, evaluation of the spot remover scenario would likely be representative of other uses of pure acetone in the home. The Westat, 1987 survey indicates that for spot remover:

- Most people (95%) used the spot remover inside. Thus, modeling the scenario in an indoor environment is appropriate and not overly conservative.

The majority of users (55%) did not open a door or window and 90% did not have on an exhaust fan. This would be reasonable for the majority of respondents who appear to have used spot removers such as Shout™, Spray ‘n Wash™ and Woolite™, where there would be no recommendation to use in a well ventilated space. However, given the low odor threshold for acetone and container label warnings to used adequate ventilation, it is likely that someone using nearly a cup of acetone as a spot remover would open windows or doors. Thus the air concentrations presented on Tables 8-44 and 8-45 are thought to be representative of exposures for acetone use as a spot remover.

8.4 Summary of Dose Estimates

Internal dose estimates from the various acetone exposures included in this assessment are presented on Table 8-50.

Table 8-50
Summary of Acetone Dose Estimates for Children and Prospective Mothers

Source		Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day)				
		< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Ambient / Chronic Average Daily Dose						
Air	Indoor	0.0046	0.0035	0.0026	0.0017	0.0013
	Outdoor rural	0.00025	0.00019	0.00014	0.000092	0.000071
	Outdoor urban	0.00057	0.00044	0.00032	0.00021	0.00016
Water		0.000033	0.000097	0.000043	0.000033	0.000040
Food (i.e., cow's milk)		0.060	0.16	0.081	0.032	0.026
Human milk – exposed mother	Non-occupational	1.5				
	Occupational	7.9				
Occupational - exposed mother						22
Endogenous / One-Day Dose						
Endogenous production	Typical	121	94	72	55	41
	Upper bound	387	135	104	83	72
Microenvironment / One-Day Dose						
Nail polish remover scenario	Typical (0.45 ACH)	0.13	0.099	0.20	0.14	0.10
	Upper bound (0.45 ACH)	0.26	0.20	0.40	0.27	0.21
Spray paint scenario	Typical (1.34 ACH)	1.3	0.96	0.70	1.5	1.1
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	4.0	3.0	2.2	4.7	3.6
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.38	0.29	0.21	0.44	0.34
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	1.3	0.96	0.70	1.4	1.1
Spot remover scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.56	0.43	0.31	0.69	0.53
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	3.0	2.3	1.6	3.7	2.8
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.21	0.16	0.12	0.21	0.16
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	1.1	0.86	0.62	1.1	0.85
Nail tip removal scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.53	0.40	0.29	1.9	1.7
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.79	0.60	0.44	2.5	2.2
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose						
Nail polish remover scenario	Typical (0.45 ACH)	0.011	0.0087	0.018	0.012	0.0091
	Upper bound (0.45 ACH)	0.023	0.017	0.035	0.024	0.018
Spray paint scenario	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.014	0.011	0.0076	0.016	0.012
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.044	0.033	0.024	0.051	0.039
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.0042	0.0032	0.0023	0.0049	0.0037
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	0.014	0.011	0.0076	0.015	0.012
Spot remover scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.025	0.019	0.014	0.030	0.023
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.13	0.10	0.072	0.16	0.12
	Typical (5.0 ACH)	0.0093	0.0071	0.0051	0.0093	0.0071
	Upper bound (5.0 ACH)	0.049	0.038	0.027	0.049	0.037
Nail tip removal scenario using pure acetone	Typical (1.34 ACH)	0.0058	0.0044	0.0032	0.021	0.018
	Upper bound (1.34 ACH)	0.0086	0.0066	0.0048	0.028	0.024

Shaded areas indicate dose calculation not applicable to the age range.

9. Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is the integration of the hazard assessment and the exposure assessment to provide numerical estimates of risk. Risks from both chronic ambient environmental exposures and single event exogenous exposures have been characterized. This risk assessment includes: (1) a brief overview of hazard information and explanation of relevant health benchmarks; (2) chronic hazard evaluation; and (3) an evaluation of one-day exposure from selected use scenarios. Uncertainties are also discussed, and overall conclusions are presented concerning the potential for acetone exposure to pose health risks to children.

9.1 Summary of Hazard Information and Relevant Health Benchmarks

A complete hazard assessment is presented in Section 7. As described in that section, the toxicological effects of acetone have been well-studied, and all of the toxicity tests listed in Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 of the Pilot Announcement have been conducted for acetone or its metabolic precursor isopropanol. The following paragraphs address in summary fashion each toxicity endpoint covered by the VCCEP.

Acute Toxicity. Animal and human data demonstrate that acetone has low acute toxicity.

Repeated Dose (Systemic) Toxicity. The extensive data available for acetone demonstrates low systemic toxicity. The 90-day drinking water studies in rats and mice sponsored by NTP demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses. Based on the minimal effects seen at doses of 1700 mg/kg/day and higher, 900 mg/kg/day was determined to be the NOAEL for the NTP studies.

Genotoxicity. Acetone has been tested in more than two dozen *in vitro* and *in vivo* assays. These studies indicate that acetone is not genotoxic. In fact, acetone has been used as a vehicle for testing water insoluble substances in various mutagenicity assays.

Carcinogenicity. From lifetime dermal studies in mice and other relevant information, the SIAR concludes that acetone is not likely to be carcinogenic. (SIAR, p. 28). EPA in 1995 concluded, "There is currently no evidence to suggest a concern for carcinogenicity." (EPCRA Review, described in Section 3.3). NTP scientists have recommended against chronic toxicity/carcinogenicity testing of acetone because "the prechronic studies only demonstrated a very mild toxic response at very high doses in rodents," and because of "the absence of any evidence supporting the carcinogenic potential of acetone." (See Appendix F.) These previous assessments are supported by: (1) numerous assays demonstrating a lack of mutagenic activity or cytogenetic toxicity; (2) negative chronic dermal studies using acetone; and (3) negative chronic toxicity/oncogenicity studies of isopropanol in rats and mice.

Neurotoxicity and Developmental Neurotoxicity. High acute exposure to acetone can cause reversible pharmacologic effects, but available studies do not provide any evidence of injury to the nervous system following repeated exposures. A guideline developmental neurotoxicity study conducted with isopropanol in rats produced no evidence of developmental neurotoxicity at the highest dose (1200 mg/kg/day).

Immunotoxicity. No evidence of potential immunotoxicity was observed in a recent guideline study of acetone in mice.

Developmental and Reproductive Toxicity. Developmental toxicity studies in rats and mice established a NOAEL of 2200 ppm and produced no compelling evidence to indicate that acetone is a teratogen. As noted by Clewell, *et al.* (2003, in press) a higher NOAEL could very likely have been demonstrated given the mild effects reported at the highest exposures of 6600 ppm in mice and 11,000 ppm in rats.

Reproductive studies on acetone include an oral (drinking water) one-generation study in rats (only males exposed), which showed no testicular toxicity or effects on reproduction at 0.5 percent acetone in the drinking water. In another one-generation study, male rats were exposed to acetone (0.5 and 1.0 percent in the drinking water) along with DEHP, with no evidence of toxicity to the testes or adverse effect on reproduction. The reproductive toxicity studies of isopropanol (IPA) also support that acetone does not represent a reproductive toxicity hazard.

That the exogenous exposure to acetone does not pose a developmental or reproductive hazard is not surprising, considering that endogenous production of acetone is so much greater than typical exogenous exposures, and normal activities (e.g., exercise, diet) can cause endogenous production of acetone to increase significantly in healthy individuals. Also, pregnant women, nursing mothers and children all have higher blood levels of acetone naturally due to their higher energy requirements. Further, as described in Section 7.12, the medical community has begun using a ketogenic diet as a means to reduce the frequency and severity of epileptic attacks in infants and children with recalcitrant refractory epilepsy.

Selection of Health Benchmarks. The key health benchmarks for this risk assessment are the RfD and RfC derived by Gentry, *et al.* (2003, in press), described in section 7.16. Like RfCs and RfDs derived by EPA, these values are intended to represent exposures that can be repeated daily for a lifetime without appreciable risk to the general population, including sensitive subgroups.

Gentry *et al.* derived an RfD value of 16.0 mg/kg/day from the NOAEL of 900 mg/kg/day in the NTP subchronic drinking water studies, and an oral RfD of 8.7 mg/kg/day based on a NOAEL of 2200 ppm in the inhalation developmental toxicity studies in rats and mice. The latter value is essentially identical to the chronic value recommended in the WHO IPCS Environmental Health Criteria document (9.0 mg/kg/day) and will be used as the chronic oral health benchmark for this risk assessment, even though acetone is not believed to pose a developmental toxicity hazard in humans.

Gentry *et al.* also derived an RfC of 29 ppm, based on the NOAEL of 2200 ppm in the mouse and rat inhalation developmental toxicity studies. This value is similar to the chronic inhalation MRL of 13 ppm derived by ATSDR, and provides a basis for assessing the potential health significance of chronic exposures to acetone in indoor and outdoor air.

Single day exposures, such as result from a single use of a consumer product, are compared to normal endogenous production. As a further analysis of short-term exposures, exposure concentrations are compared to a range of acute irritation-based exposure levels.

Because acetone is not believed to present a developmental or reproductive toxicity hazard, the focus of this risk assessment is on exposure to children.

9.2 Chronic Hazard Evaluation

Because acetone is not a carcinogen, a “hazard quotient” approach was used to evaluate children’s risk from chronic exogenous exposures to acetone (USEPA, 1989). As such, the annual average daily doses from the various background exposure pathways were summed and compared to the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day derived by Gentry *et al.* to determine the Hazard Index. The equation is as follows:

$$HI = \frac{ADD}{RfD}$$

where:

HI = Hazard index (unitless)

ADD = annual average daily dose (mg/kg-d)

RfD = reference dose (mg/kg-d)

In accordance with USEPA methodology, if the HI is less than 1, the risks are considered negligible (USEPA, 1989). The age-specific HIs are presented in Table 9-1 and indicate that for all exogenous background exposures, the health risks are considered negligible. These results are to be expected given that concentrations of acetone in the ambient air are more than 1000-fold below the RfC of 29 ppm. If comparison were made to EPA’s RfD for acetone of 0.9 mg/kg-day, all exogenous exposure scenarios (except an infant drinking milk from an occupationally-exposed mother) would be below EPA’s RfD, while a breast-feeding infant of a non-occupationally exposed mother would have exposure in excess of that RfD, with no exogenous exposure at all other than the breast milk pathway. This comparison calls into question the scientific reasonableness of an RfD value for acetone that is derived from standard methodology without adequate consideration of normal endogenous production.

**Table 9-1
Hazard Evaluation for Children's Background Exposure to Acetone**

Source	Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day)					
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old	
Ambient / Chronic Average Daily Dose						
Air	<i>Indoor</i>	0.0046	0.0035	0.0026	0.0017	0.0013
	<i>Outdoor urban</i>	0.00057	0.00044	0.00032	0.00021	0.00016
Water	0.000033	0.000097	0.000043	0.000033	0.00004	
Food (i.e., cow's milk)	0.060	0.16	0.081	0.032	0.026	
Human milk - non occupationally exposed mother	1.5					
Human milk - occupationally exposed mother	7.9					
Total ambient dose - infants (non-occupationally exposed mother) & children	1.57	0.164	0.0840	0.0339	0.0275	
Total ambient dose - infants (occupationally exposed mother) & children	7.97					
Exposure Group	Hazard Indices					
Infants (non-occupationally exposed mother) & children	0.18	0.019	0.010	0.0039	0.0032	
Infants (occupationally exposed mother)	0.92					

Tables 9-2 through 9-5 demonstrate that treating the acetone dose received from infrequent consumer product usage in a chronic fashion does not appreciably change the annual average daily dose, or the associated hazard indices.

**Table 9-2
Hazard Evaluation of Children's Exposure to Acetone from
Nail Polish Remover Use ***

Source	Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day)				
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Background / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Total ambient dose (child of non-occupationally exposed mother)	1.57	0.164	0.0840	0.0339	0.0275
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Typical	0.011	0.0087	0.018	0.012	0.0091
Upper bound	0.023	0.017	0.035	0.024	0.018
Exposure Type	Hazard Indices				
Background + typical use	0.18	0.020	0.012	0.0053	0.0042
Background + upper bound use	0.18	0.021	0.014	0.0067	0.0052

* Typical and upper bound exposures are defined in terms of product usage amounts.

**Table 9-3
Hazard Evaluation of Children's Exposure to Acetone
from Spray Paint Use ***

Source	Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day) ^a				
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Background / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Total ambient dose (child of non-occupationally exposed mother)	1.57	0.164	0.0840	0.0339	0.0275
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Typical	0.014	0.011	0.0076	0.016	0.012
Upper bound	0.044	0.033	0.024	0.051	0.039
Exposure Type	Hazard Indices				
Background + typical use	0.18	0.020	0.011	0.0057	0.0045
Background + upper bound use	0.18	0.023	0.012	0.010	0.0076

* Typical and upper bound exposures are defined by the 50th and 95th percentile of the product usage distribution.

**Table 9-4
Hazard Evaluation of Children's Exposure to Acetone from Spot Remover Use ***

Source	Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day) ^a				
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Background / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Total ambient dose (non-occupationally exposed mother)	1.57	0.164	0.0840	0.0339	0.0275
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Typical	0.025	0.019	0.014	0.030	0.023
Upper bound	0.13	0.10	0.072	0.16	0.12
Exposure Type	Hazard Indices				
Background + typical use	0.18	0.021	0.011	0.0073	0.0058
Background + upper bound use	0.19	0.030	0.018	0.022	0.017

* Typical and upper bound exposures are defined by the 50th and 95th percentiles of the product usage distribution.

**Table 9-5
Hazard Evaluation of Children's Exposure to Acetone from Removal of Nail Tips ***

Source	Age-Specific Dose (mg/kg-day) ^a				
	< 1 year old	1-5 year old	6-13 year old	14-18 year old	18-35 year old
Background / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Total ambient dose non-occupationally exposed mother	1.57	0.164	0.0840	0.0339	0.0275
Microenvironment / Chronic Average Daily Dose					
Typical	0.0058	0.0044	0.0032	0.021	0.018
Upper bound	0.0086	0.0066	0.0048	0.028	0.024
Exposure Type	Hazard Indices				
Background + typical use	0.18	0.019	0.010	0.0063	0.0052
Background + upper bound use	0.18	0.020	0.010	0.0071	0.0059

* Typical and upper bound exposures are defined in terms of time spent performing the nail tip removal.

Single day exposures from use of each of the consumer products have not been aggregated for the following reasons:

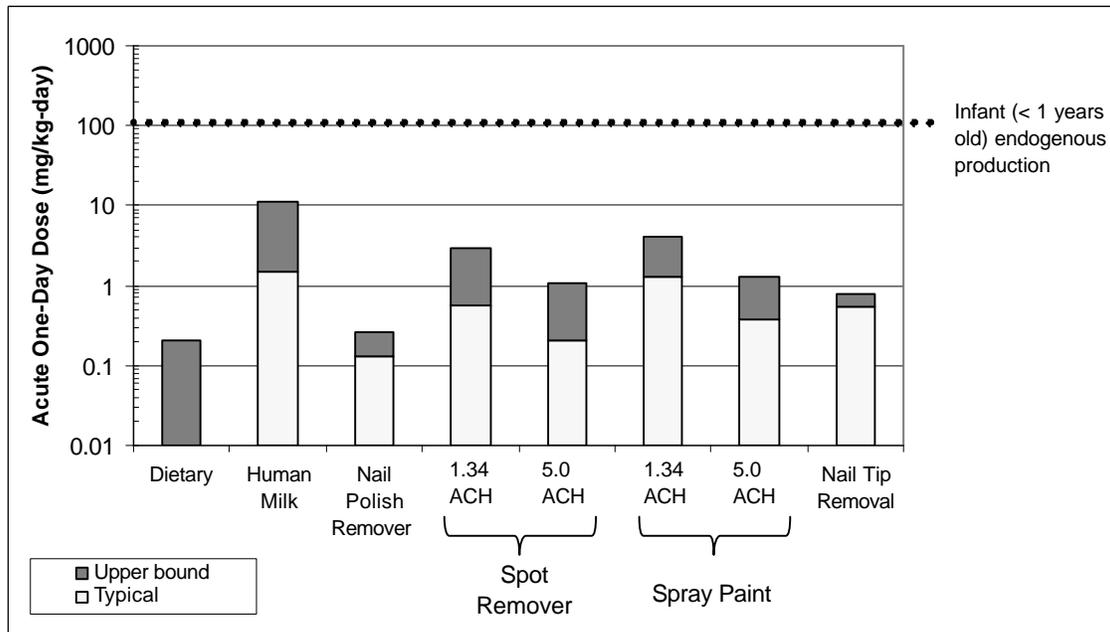
- Two of the scenarios – nail polish remover and nail tip removal are mutually exclusive in that they would not be conducted on the same day. The reason for this is that the nail polish is not removed before the nail tip. In fact, the nail tip is removed all at once eliminating the need to remove the polish first.

- None of the products evaluated are related such that they would be used together (e.g., shampoo and hair conditioner, laundry detergent and fabric softener, etc.) or sequentially during any of the scenarios
- Although any or all of the products evaluated may be present in a child's environment, there is no information available from consumer product surveys that indicate the likelihood of various acetone-containing products being used on a single day.

9.3 One-Day Dose Evaluation

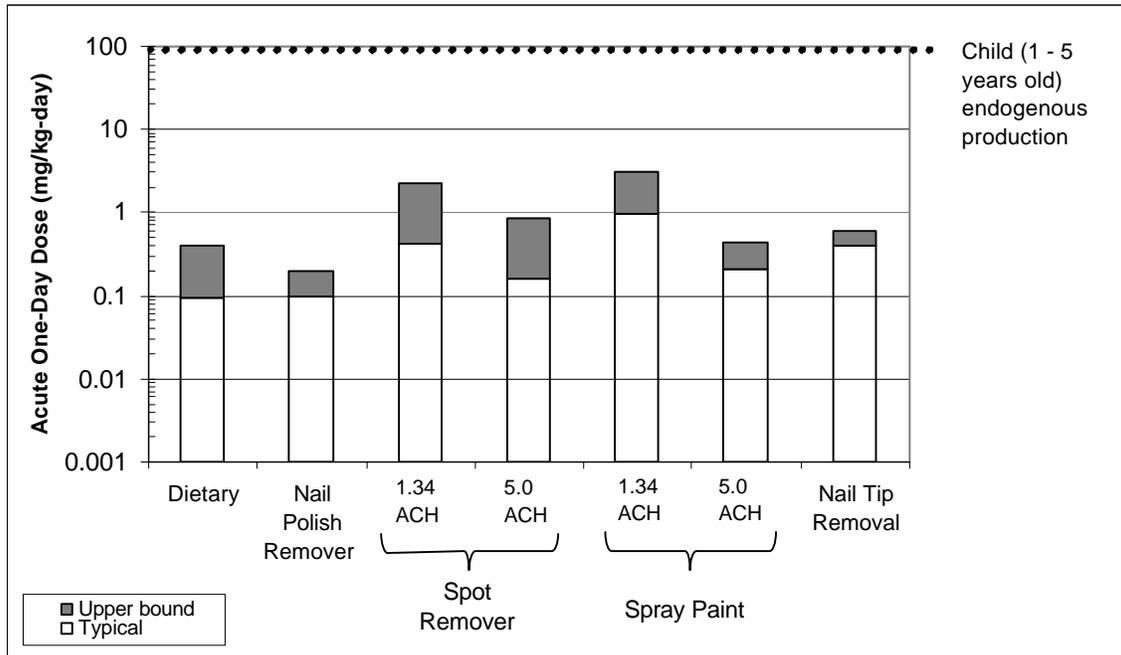
Because the consumer product scenarios evaluated in this assessment occur fairly infrequently, acetone doses received from single event exposures have been evaluated. There are no regulatory standards for acute exposures for the general population, so the consumer product exposures and the single day exposures to acetone from milk are compared to daily endogenous acetone production. These comparisons have been made for each age range and are graphically presented in Figures 9.1 through 9.5. It should be noted that the dose is presented in logarithmic scale because doses are in general so small that they would not be visible on a linear plot.

Figure 9.1
Comparison of Single Day Exogenous Exposure to
Infant (<1 Yr) Endogenous Production (121 mg/kg-d)



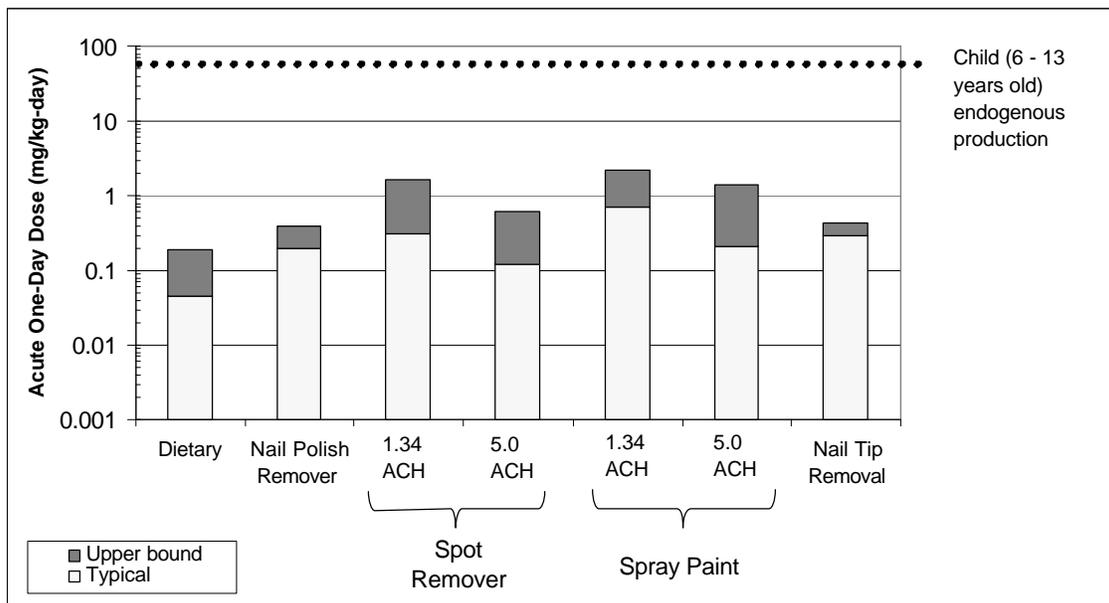
ACH = air changes per hour

Figure 9.2
Comparison of Single Day Exogenous Exposure to
1-5 Year old Endogenous Production (94 mg/kg-d)



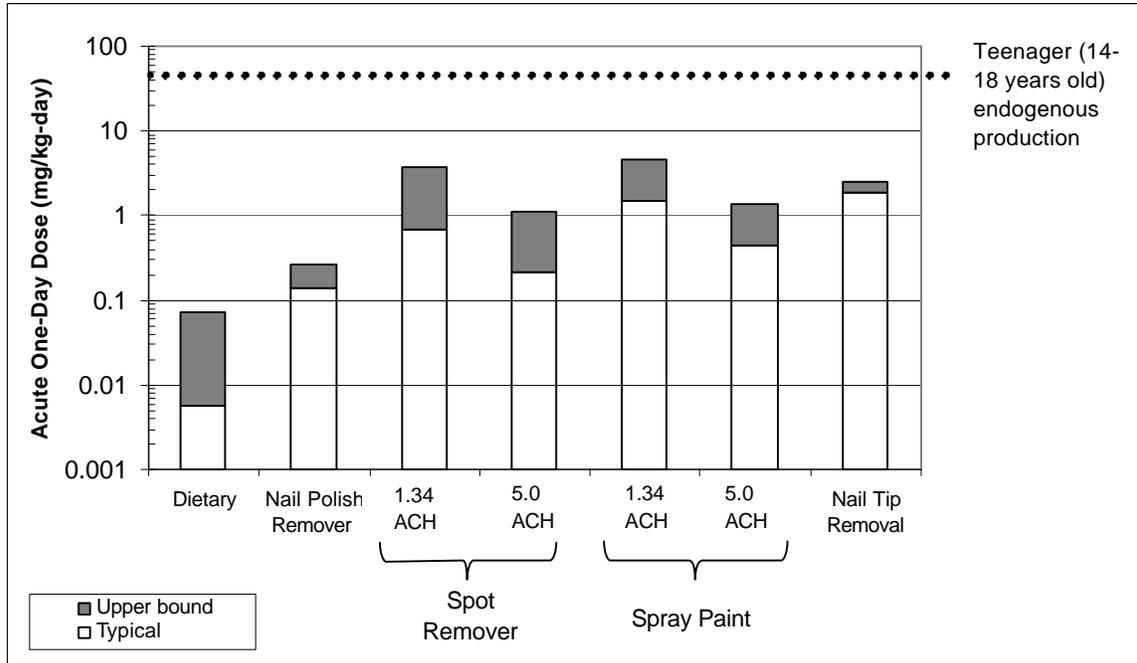
ACH = air changes per hour

Figure 9.3
Comparison of Single Day Exogenous Exposure to
6-13 Year old Endogenous Production (72 mg/kg-d)



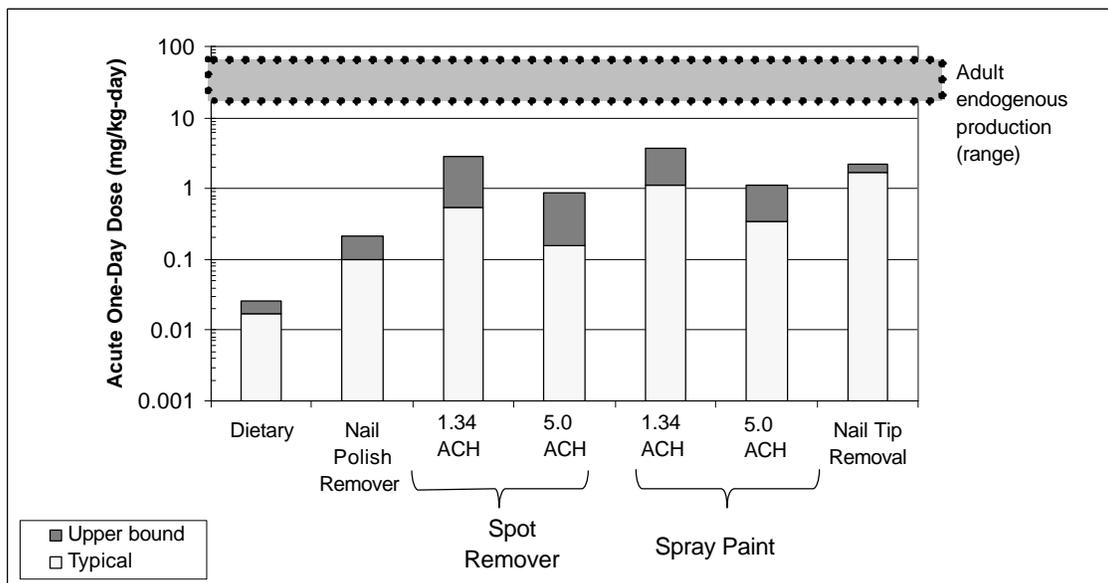
ACH = air changes per hour

Figure 9.4
Comparison of Single Day Exogenous Exposure to
14-18 Year old Endogenous Production (55 mg/kg-d)



ACH = air changes per hour

Figure 9.5
Comparison of Single Day Exogenous Exposure to
18-35 Year old Endogenous Production



ACH = air changes per hour

As can be seen from these figures, the single day exposures received from typical exogenous acetone exposure in the diet or from the use of consumer products in the home are 1 to 3 orders of magnitude lower than endogenous doses, and upper bound exogenous doses are 1 to 2 orders of magnitude lower than endogenous doses. Thus, single day exposure to exogenous acetone from ambient and or microenvironment exposures will not substantially change the endogenous levels.

9.4 Short Term Exposure Concentrations

In addition to single day dose analysis, short-term exposure concentrations to which children may be exposed during use of consumer products can be assessed. To do so, time weighted air concentrations for two exposure durations (1-hour and 8-hours) were calculated and these values compared to the Draft Acute Exposure Guideline Levels (AEGLs) for acetone (USEPA, 2003). AEGLs represent threshold exposure limits for the general public and are applicable to emergency periods ranging from 10 minutes to 8-hours.

Three AEGL levels are developed for the various time periods and are differentiated by varying degrees of severity of toxic effects. EPA believes that the recommended exposure levels are applicable to the general population, including infants and children, and other individuals who may be sensitive or susceptible. The short-term acetone exposure concentrations have been compared to the draft AEGL-1 values for acetone. The AEGL-1 is the airborne concentration of a substance above which it is predicted that the general population, including susceptible individuals, could experience notable discomfort, irritation, or certain asymptomatic, non-sensory effects. However, the effects are not disabling and are transient and reversible upon cessation of exposure. The AEGL-1 value for acetone is 200 ppm for all durations ranging from 10 minutes to 8-hours.

Table 9-6 presents the typical and upper bound 1-hr and 8-hr TWA concentrations for the spray paint and spot remover scenarios.

Table 9-6
Short Term Air Concentrations During Consumer Product Use

SPRAY PAINT	Open windows ACH = 1.34		Exhaust Fan ACH = 5.0	
	Typical	Upper Bound	Typical	Upper Bound
Child and Adult User				
TWA Concentration - One Hour (ppm)	122	394	39	126
TWA Concentration - Eight Hours (ppm)	18	58	5.3	17
Child Non-User				
TWA Concentration - One Hour (ppm)	28	91	11	36
TWA Concentration - Eight Hours (ppm)	5.6	18	1.7	5.6
SPOT REMOVER				
Child and Adult User				
TWA Concentration - One Hour (ppm)	59	309	19	99
TWA Concentration - Eight Hours (ppm)	8.3	44	2.6	14
Child Non-User				
TWA Concentration - One Hour (ppm)	14	75	6.1	32
TWA Concentration - Eight Hours (ppm)	2.6	13	1.0	5.0

Short term exposure concentrations for the nail polish and nail tip removal scenarios were not calculated, as the spray paint and spot remover scenarios generated much higher acetone air concentrations and thus represent worst case evaluations for the scenarios considered in this assessment.

EPA indicates that the value of 200 ppm represents a NOAEL below which no reports of subjective symptoms (i.e., eye/throat irritation) were reported. Although the EPA has chosen 200 ppm as the exposure concentration for all durations, the applicability of this value for exposure time periods less than 1 hour (i.e., 10-minutes, 30-minutes) is highly uncertain. For instance, only one study (Nelson et al., 1943) evaluated very short-term exposures (i.e., 3-5 minutes) and only slight irritation, which was not specified, was reported at 300 ppm.⁷ No other reliable studies of exposures less than 1 hour were identified, thus 1-hour was the lowest short-term exposure duration evaluated.

Much has been written regarding the potential irritation threshold for acetone with the range being 200 – 500 ppm for relatively mild irritation associated with odor and 750 ppm to more than 10,000 ppm for sensory irritation (USEPA, 2003; ACGIH, 2001; Arts, et al., 2002; Dalton et al., 1997; Wysocki et al., 2002). These ranges exist because of the difficulty in interpreting subjective human responses. Issues such as perception of odor intensity, information bias and exposure history (i.e., habituation) have been

⁷ Nelson *et al.*, (1943) lacked analytical determination of acetone concentrations in their study of acetone irritancy and should be judged unreliable for use (Klimisch rating 3b: "significant methodological deficiencies").

determined to be confounding factors in the reporting of irritation effects for acetone concentrations below 1000 ppm (Arts et al., 2002).

Arts *et al.* conducted a critical review of published studies, which revealed that the odor detection threshold ranges from about 20 to 400 ppm and that loss of sensitivity due to adaptation to acetone odor could occur. Further, the authors conclude that the true sensory irritation threshold of acetone lies between 10,000 and 40,000 ppm. Wysocki et al (2002) used lateralization techniques to measure objective nasal sensory irritation response and concluded that acetone is a weak sensory irritant with irritation thresholds exceeding 15,000 ppm of acetone for non-occupationally exposed subjects. Again, the researchers concluded that odor adaptation has a significant influence in the irritation thresholds reported.

ACGIH (2001) recommends an 8-hour TLV for acetone of 500 ppm to protect against sensory irritation; while this value is intended for workers, it is not evident that the general population would have strong or pronounced sensory irritation from exposures between the proposed AEGL-1 value of 200 ppm and the TLV of 500 ppm. When removing acetone from the Toxics Release Inventory (see section 3.3), EPA considered potential acute effects on the general population and stated, "Acetone can cause eye, nose and throat irritation at 500 to 1,000 ppm (1,188 to 2,376 mg/m³), and acute CNS depression at concentrations in excess of 10,000 ppm." In any event, as already noted, effects from exposures in this range would not be disabling and would be transient and quickly reversible upon cessation of exposure.

As can be seen from Table 9-6, the only instances in which the AEGL-1 for acetone may be exceeded are the 1-hr TWAs predicted for the upper bound exposure of the spray paint and spot remover users when mechanical ventilation is not employed. Thus, under typical exposure conditions and when using adequate ventilation under upper bound use conditions, acetone air concentrations are expected to be below levels at which slight irritation symptoms may occur, and well below levels at which more significant irritation would be expected.

9.5 Potential for Unique Susceptibility of Children to Acetone Exposure

The oral RfD and inhalation RfC derived by Gentry et al., like similar values derived by EPA, are intended to represent exposures that may be continued for a lifetime for the general population, including potentially susceptible subgroups such as children, without appreciable health risks. In fact, the RfD and RfC derived by Gentry et al. are based on the inhalation developmental toxicity study of acetone by Mast *et al.*, (1988), so that the values derived are also protective of the embryo-fetus. Comparisons based on these values therefore should be protective of children (both unborn and post-partum) as well as other subpopulations.

Available data do not indicate that children are more susceptible to acetone exposures than adults. For example, the literature includes examples of acute acetone poisoning in infants followed by full recovery (Gamis and Wasserman, 1988; Knapp et al., 1997). The symptoms observed in these children as a result of acute acetone exposures, at doses either comparable to or higher than the dose for the acute poisonings in adults, were similar to those observed in adults. See discussion in section 7.12. Additionally, as described in section 7.12, a ketogenic diet has been used effectively to treat children with refractory epilepsy with no apparent ill effects. Acetone concentrations in the breath of these children are more than 100-fold greater than levels in the breath of untreated

children, indicating that blood levels have been raised significantly without adverse consequences. This clinical experience indicates children do not have any unique sensitivity to acetone exposure.

Further, because of their higher energy requirements, children have higher endogenous acetone production than most adults. As described in section 8, the younger the child, the higher the expected endogenous production. See Table 8-4. Potential exposures modeled in this assessment would have little or no impact on acetone blood levels in children. The highest estimated exogenous exposures for children identified in this assessment are associated with breast feeding by an occupationally-exposed mother, but even these exposures represent less than 10 percent of normal endogenous production. Further, all of these exposures are small by comparison to the exposures associated with the ketogenic diet described in the preceding paragraph.

In summary, available data indicate children are not uniquely susceptible to acetone exposure. Experience using a ketogenic diet to treat epileptic children without apparent adverse effect provides strong evidence to the contrary.

9.6 Occupational Maternal Exposures

It should be noted that a HI for the maternal dose received from occupational exposure has not been calculated. This is because occupational risk is not evaluated using the hazard index – reference dose approach. Occupational exposure levels are established primarily on human data and the TLV for acetone was established using human studies of workers exposed via inhalation (ACGIH, 2001). Exposures below these levels are considered safe for nearly all workers exposed daily. Further, as presented on Table 8-50, exposure at the TLV would result in an average daily exogenous dose of 22 mg/kg-day, which falls within the normal range of endogenous production (i.e., 20-72 mg/kg-day) and is less than an adult would produce by simply fasting (See Table 8-2). Therefore, occupational exposure to prospective mothers in the range of the TLV is not indicative of a health risk. For reasons explained in Section 7 (Hazard Assessment), acetone is not believed to pose a developmental or reproductive hazard. Information on maternal occupational exposures has been used to estimate an infant's exposure to acetone through human milk when the mother is occupationally exposed.

9.7 Discussion of Uncertainties

Uncertainties in the exposure estimates are described in Section 8. Uncertainties in the derivation of the RfD and RfC values used for this assessment are described in Gentry *et al.* (2003, in press). Neither the hazard assessment nor the exposure assessment is an exact science, but conservative, (i.e., health protective) assumptions have been employed in each area, such that margins of safety are more likely to be understated than overstated. Because exposures in all measured or modeled scenarios are below the relevant health benchmarks, there is no need to reduce any of the uncertainties inherent in the hazard or exposure assessments, as further discussed in Section 10.

9.8 Conclusions

The information in this risk assessment and the underlying hazard assessment and exposure assessment demonstrates the following:

- Endogenously produced acetone in children is the dominant source of acetone exposure, resulting in more than 90% of the total acetone exposure;
- Dietary exposure from acetone's natural presence in many food items is likely the second largest source of acetone exposure for all children except those nursing from occupationally exposed mothers. For the latter group, acetone from mother's milk is the second largest source of acetone exposure, although even that exposure represents only 10 percent of typical endogenous production, and only about 3 percent of the upper bound estimate of normal endogenous production in infants;
- Very low acetone exposures are received from the ambient sources of exposure including ambient air, water, and food, and aggregated doses resulted in less than 1% of the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day derived by Gentry *et al.*;
- Chronic inhalation exposures from acetone-containing consumer products that are used in the presence of or by children do not result in exceedances of the RfD of 8.7 mg/kg-day derived by Gentry *et al.*, including when combined with background ambient doses, and single day doses from use of these products are one to two orders of magnitude less than the daily endogenous levels;
- EPA's RfD for acetone of 0.9 mg/kg-day would be exceeded by a breast-feeding infant of a non-occupationally exposed mother with no exogenous exposure at all other than the breast milk pathway. This comparison calls into question the scientific reasonableness of an RfD value for acetone that is derived from standard methodology without adequate consideration of normal endogenous production.
- Short term air concentrations of acetone to which children may be exposed during use of various consumer products are not expected to exceed the draft AEGL-1 value of 200 ppm proposed by the USEPA except under conditions where adequate ventilation is not used; and
- The quantitative risk characterization indicates that reasonably anticipated children's exposures to acetone from the ambient background environment and consumer products are unlikely to pose significant health risks.

10. Data Needs Assessment

10.1 Hazard Information

All Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 studies specified in the VCCEP announcement have been conducted for acetone or its metabolic precursor, isopropanol. Thus, additional studies of acetone are not needed to fulfill the goals of the VCCEP. Moreover, even beyond the toxicity studies specified in the VCCEP announcement, there is a wealth of information concerning the potential health effects from exposures to acetone. The SIAR concludes that acetone has been “well-studied” and is a “low priority” for further work. The VCCEP sponsors of acetone agree. No further testing of acetone is warranted at this time. Specifically, none of the toxicity studies identified in the VCCEP announcement are necessary for acetone.

10.2 Exposure Information

For a compound like acetone, additional exposure assessment work is always possible. The VCCEP sponsors believe, however, that the information presented in this document is adequate to demonstrate that reasonably anticipated exposures to acetone are not likely to present significant health risks to children. Accordingly, the VCCEP sponsors believe additional exposure assessment work also should be a low priority, and is not necessary to meet the objectives of the VCCEP program.

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