ENVIROMENTAL BURDEN OF CANCER IN ONTARIO

HOW ARE WE EXPOSED TO CANCER-CAUSING AGENTS IN OUR DAY-TO-DAY ENVIRONMENT?

We’re exposed to cancer-causing agents in three main ways:

1. being in the sun
2. the air we breathe
3. what we eat and drink

Radiation

Inhalation

Indoor and outdoor air

Ingestion

Food, drinking water and indoor dust

Learn more by visiting:
CancerCare.on.ca/EnvironmentReport
PublicHealthOntario.ca/EnvironmentalCancer
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HOW MANY CANCER CASES ARE ENVIRONMENTAL AGENTS ASSOCIATED WITH?

Between: 3,540 and 6,510 new cases every year

That’s about double the number from drinking alcohol, and half of the cases from tobacco.

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WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTORS TO CANCER IN OUR ENVIRONMENT?

The ranges for the estimated annual cancer cases are: solar UV radiation, 2090 to 2990; radon, 1080 to 1550; air pollution (PM_{2.5}), 290 to 900; arsenic, 20 to 370; acrylamide, 10 to 320; diesel engine exhaust, 20 to 280; asbestos, 0 to 130; formaldehyde, 10 to 100; second-hand tobacco smoke, 20 to 50; dioxin, 10 to 50; and chromium, 0 to 20.

* A component of Air Pollution.

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We can work together to **reduce exposure** in our environment:

- **Sunlight**
  - Personal sun protection
  - Shade structures

- **Air pollution**
  - Improved emission standards
  - Traffic reduction strategies

- **Radon**
  - Test homes and fix issues
  - Building codes

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