



Assignment 2 – Student version

Read the adapted “Toxicological Profile for Mercury” and answer the following questions.

- 1) **What are the three ways you could be exposed to mercury?** (Hint: Go back to Segment 1 if you don’t remember the three routes of exposure!)

- 2) **Underneath each sentence taken from the reading, write down the route of exposure.**

After you eat fish or other foods that are contaminated with methylmercury, the methylmercury enters your bloodstream easily and goes rapidly to other parts of your body.

Route of exposure?

Only small amounts of methylmercury enter the bloodstream directly through the skin, but other forms of organic mercury can rapidly enter the body through the skin.

Route of exposure?

Organic mercury compounds may evaporate slowly at room temperature and may enter your body easily if you breathe in the vapors.

Route of exposure?

- 3) **In section 1.3 “How can mercury affect my health” the reading lists two ‘target’ organs. Target organs are parts of the body that are affected by toxins. For example, cigarette smoke affects the lungs. What are the two target organs of mercury exposure?**

1)

2)