

CONTENTS

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH CRITERIA FOR PALLADIUM

PREAMBLE	x
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	xx
1. SUMMARY	1
1.1 Identity, physical and chemical properties and analytical methods	1
1.2 Sources of human and environmental exposure	1
1.3 Environmental transport, distribution and transformation	2
1.4 Environmental levels and human exposure	3
1.5 Kinetics and metabolism in laboratory animals and humans	4
1.6 Effects on laboratory mammals and <i>in vitro</i> test systems	6
1.7 Effects on humans	10
1.8 Effects on other organisms in the laboratory and field	12
2. IDENTITY, PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES AND ANALYTICAL METHODS	14
2.1 Identity	14
2.2 Physical and chemical properties	14
2.2.1 Palladium metal	14
2.2.2 Palladium compounds	14
2.3 Analytical methods	18
2.3.1 Sample collection and pretreatment	18
2.3.2 Reference materials	22
2.3.3 Analysis	23

3.	SOURCES OF HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSURE	30
3.1	Natural occurrence	30
3.2	Anthropogenic "sources" of palladium	30
3.2.1	Production levels and processes for palladium metal	30
3.2.1.1	Production processes	31
3.2.1.2	Recycling	32
3.2.2	Processes for the production of important palladium compounds	32
3.2.3	Uses of palladium metal	33
3.2.3.1	Electronics and electrical technology	33
3.2.3.2	Dental materials and other medical materials	35
3.2.3.3	Automobile exhaust catalysts	35
3.2.3.4	Catalysts in chemical processes	36
3.2.3.5	Fine jewellery and (optical) instruments	36
3.2.4	Uses of important palladium compounds	37
3.3	Emissions during production and use	38
3.3.1	Emissions into air	38
3.3.1.1	Production and fabrication losses	38
3.3.1.2	Losses from automotive exhaust emission control catalysts	39
3.3.1.3	Experimental results with platinum-type automobile catalysts to estimate palladium emissions	40
3.3.2	Emissions into water	41
3.3.3	Emissions into soil	41
4.	ENVIRONMENTAL TRANSPORT, DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSFORMATION	42
4.1	Transport and distribution between media	42
4.2	Transformation and removal	43
4.2.1	Abiotic	43
4.2.2	Biotic	43

4.3	Bioaccumulation	44
4.3.1	Aquatic organisms	44
4.3.2	Terrestrial organisms	44
4.4	Ultimate fate following use	45
5.	ENVIRONMENTAL LEVELS AND HUMAN EXPOSURE	46
5.1	Environmental levels	46
5.1.1	Air	46
5.1.2	Dust	47
5.1.3	Soil	47
5.1.4	Sludges	50
5.1.5	Sediments	50
5.1.6	Water	51
	5.1.6.1 Fresh water	51
	5.1.6.2 Seawater	52
5.1.7	Biota	52
	5.1.7.1 Plants	52
	5.1.7.2 Animals	54
5.2	Exposure of the general population	55
5.2.1	Levels found in the general population	55
5.2.2	Food	56
5.2.3	Drinking-water	59
5.2.4	Iatrogenic exposure	60
	5.2.4.1 <i>In vitro</i> studies	60
	5.2.4.2 Clinical studies	62
5.3	Occupational exposure during manufacture, formulation or use	64
5.3.1	Workplace concentrations	64
5.3.2	Human monitoring data	65
6.	KINETICS AND METABOLISM IN LABORATORY ANIMALS AND HUMANS	67
6.1	Absorption	67
6.1.1	Absorption in animals	67
	6.1.1.1 Salts or complexes of palladium	67
	6.1.1.2 Palladium metal or metal oxides	68
6.1.2	Absorption in humans	68

6.2	Distribution	68
6.2.1	Animal studies	68
6.2.1.1	Distribution in organs and blood	68
6.2.1.2	Transfer to offspring	72
6.2.1.3	Subcellular distribution	73
6.2.2	Human studies	73
6.3	Metabolic transformation	73
6.4	Elimination and excretion	74
6.5	Retention and turnover	75
6.6	Reaction with body components	76
7.	EFFECTS ON LABORATORY MAMMALS AND <i>IN VITRO</i> TEST SYSTEMS	78
7.1	Single exposure	78
7.2	Short-term exposure	83
7.3	Long-term exposure	87
7.4	Irritation and sensitization	89
7.4.1	Skin irritation	89
7.4.2	Eye irritation	90
7.4.3	Sensitization	90
7.5	Reproductive and developmental toxicity	97
7.6	DNA interactions and mutagenicity	97
7.6.1	Interaction with DNA	97
7.6.2	Mutagenicity	98
7.7	Carcinogenicity	98
7.8	Effects on cellular functions	101
7.8.1	Miscellaneous cytotoxic effects	101
7.8.2	Antineoplastic potential	103
7.8.3	Enzyme inhibition	104
7.9	Other special studies	104
7.9.1	Nephrotoxicity	104
7.9.2	Neurotoxicity	107
7.10	Toxicity of metabolites	107
7.11	Mechanism of toxicity/mode of action	107

8.	EFFECTS ON HUMANS	109
8.1	General population exposure	109
8.1.1	Effects due to exposure to palladium dust emitted from automobile catalytic converters	109
8.1.2	Effects after iatrogenic exposure	109
8.1.2.1	Dentistry	109
8.1.2.2	Cancer therapy	117
8.1.2.3	Other therapeutic uses	117
8.1.3	Effects after exposure from other sources	118
8.1.4	Characteristics of palladium sensitivity	118
8.2	Occupational exposure	129
8.2.1	Health effects due to metal (PGM) refinery processes	129
8.2.2	Health effects due to use or processing of palladium-containing products	129
8.2.2.1	Dental technicians	129
8.2.2.2	Automobile industry workers	130
8.2.2.3	Others	130
8.3	Subpopulations at special risk	132
8.4	Carcinogenicity and other effects	132
9.	EFFECTS ON OTHER ORGANISMS IN THE LABORATORY AND FIELD	133
9.1	Laboratory experiments	133
9.1.1	Microorganisms	133
9.1.2	Aquatic organisms	134
9.1.2.1	Plants	134
9.1.2.2	Invertebrates	134
9.1.2.3	Vertebrates	135
9.1.3	Terrestrial organisms	136
9.1.3.1	Plants	136
9.1.3.2	Invertebrates	137
9.1.3.3	Vertebrates	137
9.2	Field observations	137

10. EVALUATION OF HUMAN HEALTH RISKS AND EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT	138
10.1 Evaluation of human health risks	138
10.1.1 Exposure levels	138
10.1.1.1 General population exposure	138
10.1.1.2 Occupational exposure	139
10.1.2 Fate in the body	140
10.1.3 Health hazards	140
10.1.4 Dose-response relationships	141
10.1.5 Health-based guidance value	142
10.2 Evaluation of effects on the environment	142
10.2.1 Exposure levels	142
10.2.2 Persistence, fate and transport	143
10.2.3 Toxicity and dose-effect/response relationships	143
10.2.4 Guidance value	144
11. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTECTION OF HUMAN HEALTH AND THE ENVIRONMENT	145
11.1 Dental health	145
11.2 Occupational health	145
11.3 Analysis	146
11.4 Environment	146
12. FURTHER RESEARCH	147
13. PREVIOUS EVALUATIONS BY INTERNATIONAL BODIES	148
REFERENCES	149
RESUME	173
RESUMEN	188