

Are there products in buildings which could damage your brain?



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Talk Outline

- Why should we worry about chemical exposure?
- Workplace Exposures & Building Design
 - Building products & toxic emissions
 - Inadequate ventilation & toxic poisoning
 - Unique environments: An office in the sky
- My personal experience with loft insulation!

Why worry about chemical exposure?

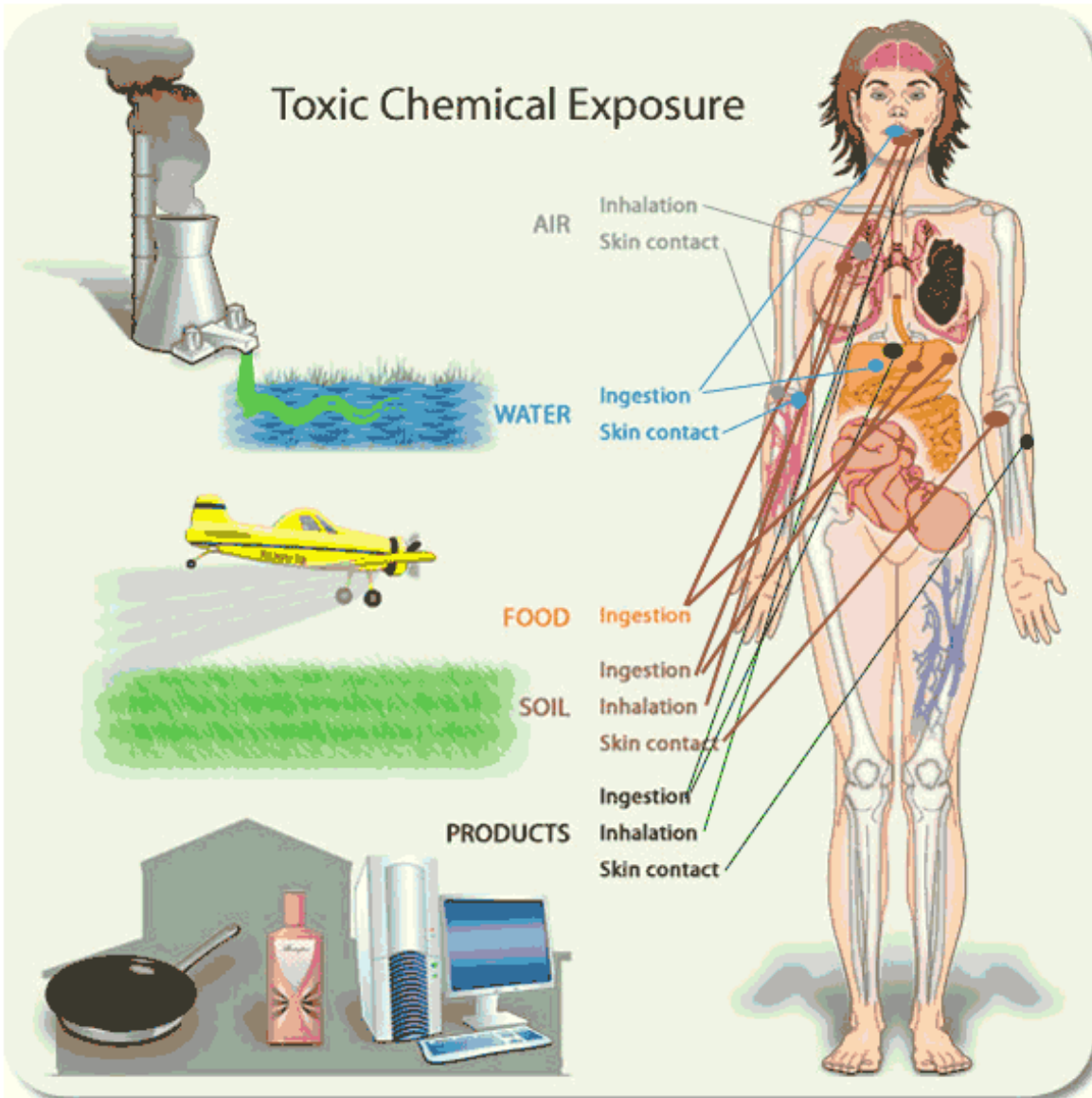
- Last 60 years:



Munitions
Fuels
Industrial chemicals

- Public concern about the impact on health is growing.
- We can be exposed in different settings, schools, home, the workplace.
- We can be exposed through food, water, inhalation & skin contact.

Toxic Chemical Exposure



AIR

Inhalation
Skin contact

WATER

Ingestion
Skin contact

FOOD

Ingestion

SOIL

Ingestion
Inhalation
Skin contact

PRODUCTS

Ingestion
Inhalation
Skin contact

Long-term health effects often unknown

100,000 potentially neurotoxic substances are in commercial use.

2,300 new ones produced each year.

Our capacity to produce new products outstrips our capacity to research their health effects.

The rise in developmental & degenerative conditions may be linked to toxic chemicals.

Workplace Exposures & Building Design



Building Products & Toxic Emissions

- Toxic gases released in fires
 - Not just carbon monoxide & carbon dioxide
 - Hydrogen Cyanide
 - Benzene, Toluene, Styrene, Naphthalene, Xylenes, Hydrogen Fluoride, Formaldehyde



Inadequate Ventilation & Toxic Poisoning

- The NHS worker
- The Chef
- The Mechanic
- The Family at Home
- Airline Pilots & Cabin Crew

An Office in the Sky

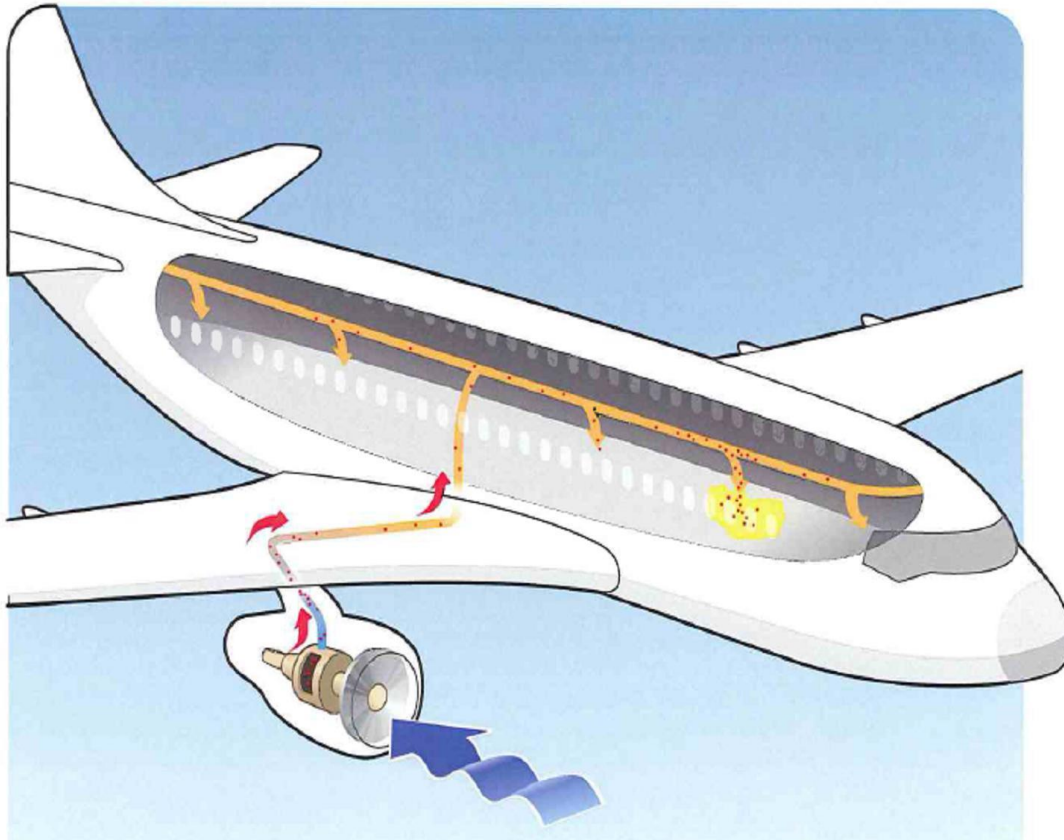
- Unique environments

Negative impact on health

vs

Improving performance

Bleed Air Fume Event







My personal experience with loft insulation

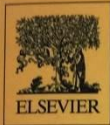
Thank you for Listening

The End

Recent References

by Sarah Mackenzie Ross

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SPECIAL SECTION:
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NEUROBEHAVIOURAL
CONSEQUENCES OF
EXPOSURE TO
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AGRICULTURAL AND
ENVIRONMENTAL
CHEMICALS

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the
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Hazardous to health?

Sarah Mackenzie Ross considers
whether exposure to chemical substances
could be damaging your brain



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