Mercury and human health

GENERAL EXPOSURE



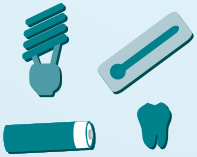
- Large predatory fish



- Vegetables from contaminated soils



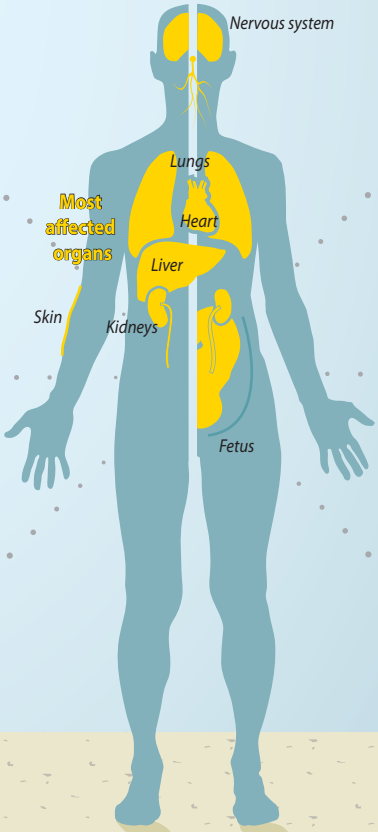
- Cosmetics
- Soaps



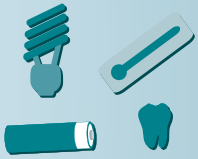
- Use and and damage of products containing mercury (e.g. Compact fluorescent lamps, batteries, medical devices)



- Waste



OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE



- Manufacturing of products containing mercury (e.g. Compact fluorescent lamps, batteries, medical devices)



- Artisanal and small-scale gold mining



- Industry (e.g. Chlor-alkali process, cement production, metal production)

Mercury type

- Elemental (metallic)
- Inorganic (mercuric chloride)
- Organic (methyl, ethyl)

Source: adapted from WHO, Toward The Tipping Point. WHO-HCWH Global Initiative to Substitute Mercury-Based Medical Devices in Health Care, 2010; UNEP, Mercury Awareness Raising Package, accessed on line in September 2012 (http://www.unep.org/hazardoussubstances).
Designed by Zoi Environment Network / GRID-Arendal, December 2012