

A blue microscope is centered in the upper half of the page, set against a teal background with white hexagonal patterns. Below the microscope, the text '1,4-Dioxane' is written in a large, bold, orange font.

1,4-Dioxane

1,4-Dioxane is a man-made chemical.

1,4-Dioxane is:

A clear liquid that easily dissolves in water.

Mainly used as a thinner in chemical manufacturing.

Found in groundwater and in ordinary products like cosmetics, baby lotions, shampoos, liquid soaps, bath foams and laundry detergents.

Exposure happens when:

You breathe air, drink water or eat foods that are contaminated.

You use cosmetics, bathing products and laundry detergents containing the chemical.



Risk to your health

Little scientific data is available on the long-term effects of 1,4-dioxane on humans, but the EPA does list the chemical as a probable cancer causing agent.

It is not an acute or short-term threat to health, but it is thought that long-term exposure can cause liver and kidney damage, and in extreme cases, possibly death.

Exposure to air with high levels can trigger eye and nose irritation.

Reduce your risk

Avoid using cosmetics, bathing products and laundry detergents that contain 1,4-dioxane, PEG, polyethylene, polyethylene glycol, polyethoxyethylene, -eth or -oxyno. Carefully read ingredient labels.

In some areas in the U.S., 1,4-dioxane has been detected in drinking water supplies. Contact your local health department for information about your water supply.

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Learn more.

HazWaste.FloridaHealth.gov

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