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## Executive summary

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In the present report the Health Council of the Netherlands reviewed trichloroacetic acid (TCA). The main use of TCA is in the production of its sodium salt, which is a known herbicide. It is also used as an etching agent in metal surface finishing and as a solvent in the plastics industry. This report is part of a series, in which the Health Council evaluates the effects of substances on reproduction, at request of the Minister of Social Affairs and Employment. It mainly concerns substances to which man can be occupationally exposed. The Committee for Compounds toxic to reproduction, a committee of the Health Council, evaluates the effects on male and female fertility and on the development of the progeny. Moreover, the committee considers the effects of a substance on the lactation and effects on the progeny via lactation.

According to the Directive 93/21/EEC of the European Union, the committee recommends a classification. The committee's recommendations for TCA are:

- for effects on fertility, the committee recommends not classifying trichloroacetic acid on the basis of a lack of sufficient data.
  - for developmental toxicity, the committee recommends classifying trichloroacetic acid in category 2 (*substances which should be regarded as if they cause developmental toxicity for humans*) and labelling trichloroacetic acid with T;R61.
  - For effects during lactation the committee is of the opinion that due to a lack of appropriate data trichloroacetic acid should not be labeled.
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