



Protecting Yourself in the Sun

Sunlight contains ultraviolet (UV) radiation, which causes premature aging of the skin, wrinkles, cataracts, and skin cancer. The amount of damage from UV exposure depends on the strength of the light, the length of exposure, and whether the skin is protected. *There are no safe UV rays or safe suntans.*

Skin Cancer

Sun exposure at any age can cause skin cancer. Be especially careful in the sun if you burn easily, spend a

lot of time outdoors, or have any of the following physical features:

- ☀ Numerous, irregular, or large moles.
- ☀ Freckles.
- ☀ Fair skin.
- ☀ Blond, red, or light brown hair.

Self-Examination

It's important to examine your body monthly because skin cancers detected early can almost always be cured. The most important warning sign is a spot on the skin that is changing in size, shape, or color during a period of 1 month to 1 or 2 years.

Skin cancers often take the following forms:

- ☀ Pale, wax-like, pearly nodules.
- ☀ Red, scaly, sharply outlined patches.
- ☀ Sores that don't heal.
- ☀ Small, mole-like growths—melanoma, the most serious type of skin cancer.

If you find such unusual skin changes, see a health care professional immediately.

Block Out UV Rays

- ☀️ **Cover up.** Wear tightly-woven clothing that blocks out light. Try this test: Place your hand between a single layer of the clothing and a light source. If you can see your hand through the fabric, the garment offers little protection.
- ☀️ **Use sunscreen.** A sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15 blocks 93 percent of UV rays. You want to block both UVA and UVB rays to guard against skin cancer. Be sure to follow application directions on the bottle.
- ☀️ **Wear a hat.** A wide brim hat (not a baseball cap) is ideal because it protects the neck, ears, eyes, forehead, nose, and scalp.
- ☀️ **Wear UV-absorbent shades.** Sunglasses don't have to be expensive, but they should block 99 to 100 percent of UVA and UVB radiation.
- ☀️ **Limit exposure.** UV rays are most intense between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. If you're unsure about the sun's intensity, take the shadow test: If your shadow is shorter than you, the sun's rays are the day's strongest.

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Preventing Skin Cancer

For more information about preventing, detecting, and treating skin cancer, check out these sources:

American Cancer Society

www.cancer.org
1-800-ACS-2345

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov/ChooseYourCover
1-888-842-6355

The Skin Cancer Foundation

www.skincancer.org
1-800-SKIN-490



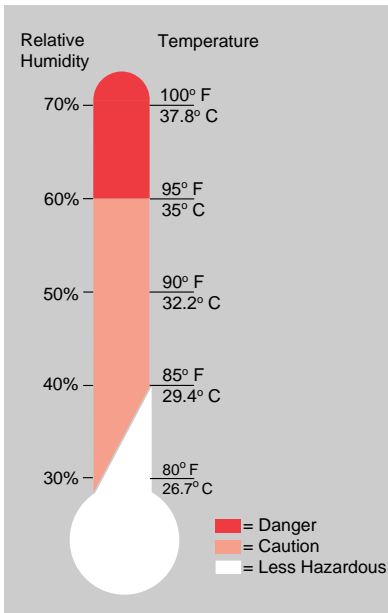
www.osha.gov

U.S. Department of Labor

THE HEAT EQUATION

**HIGH TEMPERATURE + HIGH HUMIDITY + PHYSICAL WORK
= HEAT ILLNESS**

When the body is unable to cool itself through sweating, **serious** heat illnesses may occur. The most severe heat-induced illnesses are **heat exhaustion** and **heat stroke**. If actions are not taken to treat heat exhaustion, the illness could progress to heat stroke and possible **death**.



HEAT EXHAUSTION

What Happens to the Body:

HEADACHES, DIZZINESS/LIGHT HEADEDNESS, WEAKNESS, MOOD CHANGES (irritable, or confused/can't think straight), FEELING SICK TO YOUR STOMACH, VOMITING/THROWING UP, DECREASED and DARK COLORED URINE, FAINTING/PASSING OUT, and PALE CLAMMY SKIN.

What Should Be Done:

- Move the person to a cool shaded area to rest. Don't leave the person alone. If the person is dizzy or light headed, lay them on their back and raise their legs about 6-8 inches. If the person is sick to their stomach lay them on their side.
- Loosen and remove any heavy clothing.
- Have the person drink some cool water (a small cup every 15 minutes) if they are not feeling sick to their stomach.
- Try to cool the person by fanning them. Cool the skin with a cool spray mist of water or wet cloth.
- If the person does not feel better in a few minutes call for emergency help (Ambulance or Call 911).

(If heat exhaustion is not treated, the illness may advance to heat stroke.)

HEAT STROKE—A MEDICAL EMERGENCY

What Happens to the Body:

DRY PALE SKIN (no sweating), HOT RED SKIN (looks like a sunburn), MOOD CHANGES (irritable, confused/not making any sense), SEIZURES/FITS, and COLLAPSE/PASSED OUT (will not respond).

What Should Be Done:

- Call for emergency help (Ambulance or Call 911).
- Move the person to a cool shaded area. Don't leave the person alone. Lay them on their back and if the person is having seizures/fits remove any objects close to them so they won't strike against them. If the person is sick to their stomach lay them on their side.
- Remove any heavy and outer clothing.
- Have the person drink some cool water (a small cup every 15 minutes) if they are alert enough to drink anything and not feeling sick to their stomach.
- Try to cool the person by fanning them. Cool the skin with a cool spray mist of water, wet cloth, or wet sheet.
- If ice is available, place ice packs under the arm pits and groin area.

How to Protect Workers

- Learn the signs and symptoms of heat-induced illnesses and what to do to help the worker.
- Train the workforce about heat-induced illnesses.
- Perform the heaviest work in the coolest part of the day.
- Slowly build up tolerance to the heat and the work activity (usually takes up to 2 weeks).
- Use the buddy system (work in pairs).
- Drink plenty of cool water (one small cup every 15-20 minutes)
- Wear light, loose-fitting, breathable (like cotton) clothing.
- Take frequent short breaks in cool shaded areas (allow your body to cool down).
- Avoid eating large meals before working in hot environments.
- Avoid caffeine and alcoholic beverages (these beverages make the body lose water and increase the risk for heat illnesses).

Workers Are at Increased Risk When

- They take certain medication (check with your doctor, nurse, or pharmacy and ask if any medicines you are taking affect you when working in hot environments).
- They have had a heat-induced illness in the past.
- They wear personal protective equipment (like respirators or suits).