

PVC Plastic & Breast Cancer

Vinyl chloride and ethylene dichloride are two hazardous chemicals needed to make PVC plastic and that significantly increase breast cancer risk. These are just two of many carcinogens and endocrine disrupting chemicals that increase breast cancer risk.

A recent UCLA study examining exposure to these and other breast carcinogens found strong associations between breast cancer and exposure to vinyl chemicals including vinyl acetate, ethylene dichloride, and vinyl chloride. These associations were stronger for women of color compared to white women.

Policy Actions

Based on these and previous findings, women and communities of color are warranted greater protection from hazardous air pollutants to lower a disproportionately high likelihood for breast cancer. Monitoring cumulative exposure and mitigating exposures to carcinogens and other chemicals of concern among frontline communities needs to be prioritized.

Join BCPP!

We are working on limiting exposure to these and other harmful chemicals through legislative action. Learn more at www.bcopp.org/resource/air-pollution/