



Arsenic in Fish

April 1, 2008

The Georgia Division of Public Health (GDPH) was requested by a resident of Fulton County, Georgia to determine whether past exposures to arsenic is likely to have adverse health effects.

A Fulton County resident, who was advised by his physician to eat a lot of fish in his diet, is concerned about the organic and inorganic arsenic levels detected in his urine. His level of total urinary arsenic was 511 ug/l; of that, 32 ug/l was the more toxic inorganic arsenic. He is concerned about arsenic toxicity. GDPH

analyzed his probable exposure to inorganic arsenic and concluded that it is very unlikely that his exposure to inorganic arsenic would lead to long-term adverse health effects. We did advise him to cut down on his fish consumption; especially his consumption of top predator species fish like shark.

GDPH concluded that the resident's exposures to arsenic pose ***no past, present, or future public health hazard.***