

HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

12. Chemical fact sheets

12.1 Chemical contaminants in drinking-water

1,1-Dichloroethene

History of guideline development

The 1958, 1963 and 1971 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* did not refer to 1,1-dichloroethene. In the first edition of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984, a health-based guideline value of 0.0003 mg/l was recommended for 1,1-dichloroethene, while noting that the mathematical model appropriate to chemical carcinogens that was used in its derivation involved considerable uncertainty. A health-based guideline value of 0.03 mg/l for 1,1-dichloroethene was recommended in the 1993 Guidelines. This value was brought forward to the third edition of the Guidelines. In the first addendum to the third edition, published in 2004, it was considered unnecessary to set a formal guideline value for 1,1-dichloroethene in drinking-water, as the calculated health-based value was significantly higher than the concentrations of 1,1-dichloroethene normally found in drinking-water. This assessment was brought forward to the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011.