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# Cadmium Oxide

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Cadmium Oxide*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C45897.

A dark brown colored, crystalline, inorganic compound that forms toxic fumes of cadmium oxides when heated. Calcium oxide is mainly used in nickel-cadmium batteries, but is also used in electroplating, in the production of plastics and nitrile rubbers and as a nematocide and ascaricide in swine. Exposure to this substance irritates the eyes, skin and respiratory tract and causes damage to the lungs resulting in shortness of breath, chest pain and pulmonary edema, and can also damage the kidneys causing proteinuria and decreased renal function. Calcium oxide is a known carcinogen and is associated with an elevated risk of developing lung cancer. (NCI05)