

HISTORIES OF GUIDELINE DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FOURTH EDITION

12. Chemical fact sheets

12.1 Chemical contaminants in drinking-water

2-Phenylphenol and its sodium salt

History of guideline development

The 1958 and 1963 WHO *International Standards for Drinking-water* did not refer to 2-phenylphenol, but the 1971 International Standards suggested that pesticide residues that may occur in community water supplies make only a minimal contribution to the total daily intake of pesticides for the population served. 2-Phenylphenol was not evaluated in the first edition of the *Guidelines for Drinking-water Quality*, published in 1984, in the second edition, published in 1993, or in the addendum to the second edition, published in 1998. In the third edition of the Guidelines, published in 2004, it was concluded that the establishment of a guideline value for 2-phenylphenol was not necessary because the health-based value was much higher than concentrations likely to be found in drinking-water and thus, under usual conditions, the presence of 2-phenylphenol in drinking-water would be unlikely to represent a hazard to human health. This assessment was brought forward to the fourth edition of the Guidelines, published in 2011.