

## Project Information

**Project Title:** Beryllium Alloy Exposures in Military Aerospace Applications  
**PIN:** BEST-K-05-03-A  
**Major Unit:** Division on Earth and Life Studies  
**Sub Unit:** Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology  
**RSO:** Martel, Susan

**Subject/Focus Area:**

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### Project Scope

An ad hoc committee under the oversight of the standing Committee on Toxicology (COT) will conduct this study. In its first report, the committee will provide an independent review of the toxicologic, epidemiologic, and other relevant data on beryllium. The committee will also review carcinogenic and non-carcinogenic effects. In its second report, the committee will estimate chronic inhalation exposure levels for military personnel and civilian contractor workers that are unlikely to produce adverse health effects. The committee will provide carcinogenic risk estimates for various inhalation exposure levels. The committee will consider genetic susceptibility among worker subpopulations. If sufficient data are available, the committee will evaluate whether beryllium-alloy exposure levels should be different than those of other forms of beryllium because of differences in particle size. The committee will identify specific tests for workers surveillance and biomonitoring. The committee will also comment on the utility of the beryllium lymphocyte proliferation test (BeLPT). Specifically the committee will determine (1) the value of the borderline or a true positive test in predicting CBD, (2) its utility in worker's surveillance, (3) further follow up tests for workers with positive BeLPT (thin slice CT bronchoscopy, biopsy, etc.), (4) the likelihood of developing CBD after a true positive test, and (5) a standardized methodology to achieve consistent test results from different laboratories. The committee will evaluate whether there are more suitable tests that would have more accuracy as screening or surveillance tools. The committee will also identify data gaps relevant to risk assessment of beryllium alloys and make recommendations for further research.

The project is sponsored by the U.S. Air Force.

Start date: September 29, 2006.

The first report will be issued in 12 months, and the final report in approximately 24 months.

Project duration: 24 months

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Provide **FEEDBACK** on this project.

Contact the **Public Access Records Office** to make an inquiry or to

### Committee Membership

[Committee Membership](#)

### Meetings

[Meeting 1 - 02/05/2007](#)  
[Meeting 2 - 04/05/2007](#)

### Reports

*Reports having no URL can be seen at the Public Access Records Office*

schedule an appointment to view project materials available to the public.