

Abstract

**Evaluation of Ototoxicity by Mixed Organic Solvents
Using the Upper Limit of Hearing**

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Objectives: This study evaluated the ototoxicity by mixed organic solvents on workers' hearing using the upper limit of hearing (ULH).

Methods: Seven hundred ninety-seven male workers in the ship building industry who were evaluated by interview with an upper limit of hearing from August 2000 to July 2002 were enrolled in the study. The subjects were divided into 3 groups according to exposure profile and job: officers, field supporters, and painters. To assess the ototoxicity of mixed organic solvent exposure on hearing, with regard to confounders, the general liner model was used.

Results: After controlling for the possible confounders, such as age, career, noise exposure level, tinnitus, alcohol intake, and smoking, the estimated mean for ULH of the painter group was higher than that of the officer and the field supporter groups. These differences of mean ULH were at the borderline of statistical significance ($p=0.069$).

Conclusions: The results of this study suggest that a relatively lower level of mixed organic solvent chronically affected the hearing organ or auditory pathway. ULH seems to be a useful method for early detection of the ototoxicity of organic solvents.

Key Words: Solvent, Ototoxicity, Upper limit of hearing.

가 (, 1990),
(, 1997),
가 가 (, 2000),
(Morata Lemasters, 1995;
, 2000; , 2003). (, 2002)
1863
가 40 Morioka (1999, 2000)
, 25
가
(Johnson , 500 Hz
Nylen, 1995). 8000 Hz
, 92 ~ 100 8000 Hz
dBA ,
1,000~2,000 ppm 가 가 (Upper limit
(Sliwinska-Kowalska , 2004). of hearing, ULH)
, 가
(Morata Dunn, 1994). Takeda (1992) 6,105
Barregard Morioka
Axelsson(1984) 4가 (1995)
가 (Morioka , 1999),
2000) (Morioka , 가
, 가 가
3000~ 6000 Hz 2
8000 Hz
가?
가 , 가?
(Jacobsen , 1993; Schaper , 2003;
Sliwinska-Kowalska , 2004). 가 가?

metrosonic, USA), Noise Logging Dosimeter (M-27, QUEST, USA), Noise Logging Dosimeter(M-28, QUEST, USA)

1. 2000 8 2002 7 2 Audio Dosimeter, Noise Logging Dosimeter
350 (), 30 cm microphone
150 297 797

(2)
Stand Air Sampler(S-50W, SIBATA. JAPAN), Stand Air Sampler(MP-602T, SIBATA. JAPAN)
Personal Air Sampler(HFS-513A, GILIAN, USA) Personal Air Sampler(LFS-113, GILIAN, USA)

2. 1) charcoal tube
charcoal tube
Carbon Disulfide(CS₂) 1.0 ml Gas Chromatograph
가 Clinical Audiometer AC40(Denmark) charcoal
KOSS HV/Pro digital(Denmark) tube 24

60 dBHL
Toluene, Xylene, Styrene, Trichloroethylene, MBK, MIBK, Isopropyl alcohol, Ethanol, Methanol, Trimethyl benzene, Acetone, Ethylbenzene, n-Butyl acetate, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, Butyl alcohol, Cumene, Butyl cellusolve 17
5 8000 Hz, 8476 Hz, 9000 Hz, 9514 Hz, 10000 Hz, 10678 Hz, 11200 Hz, 12000 Hz, 12500 Hz, 13454 Hz, 14000 Hz, 15102 Hz, 16000 Hz, 18000 Hz Ahmed
(2001)
18000 Hz 가 100 dB SPL , 3)
Takeda (1992) 20
가 18000 Hz

2)
(1)
(4)
93-12) Audio DosiMeter (dB-307,

3. 1. 26 ~ 61

3 35.3 , 44.6 45.8

² (p<0.05). 9.8

17.4 , 17.7 (p<0.05).

82.4 dBA

0.04 0.66 (p<0.05).

, 85 dBA 85 dBA 14656

가 0, 1, 2 Hz, 13285 Hz 12543 Hz

가 (p<0.05). 49.8% 35.5%

7.4%, 26.0%, 29.3%

3 가 가 (p<0.05)(Table 1).

Table 1. General characteristics of the subjects

mean ± S.D.

	officer N=350	supporter N=150	painter N=297	Total N=797
Age (years)*	35.3 ± 8.3	44.6 ± 5.4	45.8 ± 5.8	41.0 ± 8.5
Career (years)*	9.8 ± 8.0	17.4 ± 4.1	17.7 ± 4.3	14.1 ± 7.3
Noise level (dBA)	-	82.2 ± 11.8	82.5 ± 8.9	82.4 ± 9.7
Organic Solvent (Em)*	-	0.04 ± 0.03	0.66 ± 0.78	0.51 ± 0.73
ULH (Hz)*	14656 ± 2425	13285 ± 2795	12543 ± 2990	13610 ± 2879
Smoking (%)	174 (49.7)	76 (50.7)	147 (49.5)	397 (49.8)
Alcohol drinking (%)	123 (35.1)	53 (35.3)	107 (36.0)	283 (35.5)
Tinnitus (%) [†]	26 (7.4)	39 (26.0)	87 (29.3)	152 (19.1)

ULH: Upper limit of hearing

*: p<0.05, by ANOVA, [†]: p<0.05, by ²-test

2. 가 , 가 , 가 (p<0.05).

3. 가 , 가 , 가 (p<0.05).

Table 2 가 , 가 , 가 , 20 , 30 , 40 가 , 50 가 (p<0.05).

Table 1 가 , 가 , 9 (p<0.05).

Table 3 가 , 가 (p<0.01), 가 (p<0.057). 28.5% .

4. 85 dBA (p<0.05).

Table 2. Upper limit of hearings of the subjects by each variable according to organic solvent exposure level and job characteristics mean \pm S.D.

Variables		officer	supporter	painter	Total
Age(years)*	-29	15749 \pm 815 [†]	16000 [†]	15820 \pm 401 [†]	15759 \pm 779
	30-39	15284 \pm 1970	14422 \pm 2340	14878 \pm 2528	15165 \pm 2071
	40-49	13089 \pm 2590	13612 \pm 2606	13080 \pm 2812	13231 \pm 2716
	50-	11556 \pm 2909	11463 \pm 2865	10845 \pm 2595	11105 \pm 2713
Careers (years)*	-9	15293 \pm 1898 [†]	14600 \pm 1917	15930 \pm 249 [†]	15312 \pm 1854
	10-19	14064 \pm 2801	13432 \pm 2822	12784 \pm 2904	13146 \pm 2894
	20-	12792 \pm 2775	12733 \pm 2767	11492 \pm 2927	12197 \pm 2899
Tinnitus*	No	14938 \pm 2126 [†]	13922 \pm 2407 [†]	12879 \pm 2889 [†]	14090 \pm 2608
	Yes	13031 \pm 3237	12166 \pm 3206	11935 \pm 3187	12818 \pm 3203
Noise level(dBA)*	<85	-	13298 \pm 2849	12684 \pm 2926	13822 \pm 2804
	85	-	13239 \pm 2647	12240 \pm 3120	12505 \pm 3023
Alcohol drinking	No	14499 \pm 2485	13373 \pm 2819	12625 \pm 2985	13573 \pm 2887
	Yes	14947 \pm 2292	13123 \pm 2771	12399 \pm 3009	13549 \pm 2935
Smoking	No	14571 \pm 2422	13087 \pm 2876	12418 \pm 3064	13489 \pm 2927
	Yes	14743 \pm 2431	13478 \pm 2720	12671 \pm 2919	13734 \pm 2829

* p<0.05, by ANOVA or t-test for difference among total means in each variable

[†] p<0.05, by ANOVA or t-test for difference among means in each variable according to group

(Em) 13930 Hz, 13882 Hz, 13322 Hz, 가 (p=0.069).

Table 4

(p<0.05),

5.

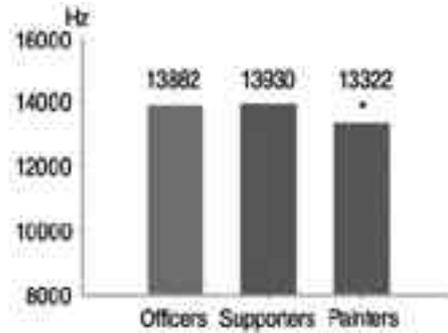


Fig. 1. Comparisons of adjusted mean of Upper limit hearing among groups

*: p=0.069, from GLM adjusted by age, noise level, career, tinnitus, alcohol drinking, smoking

Fig. 1

Table 3. Results of regression analysis for upper limit hearing as a function of variables

Variables		S.E	adjusted	p-value
Age (years)	-1243.2	193.5	-0.376	0.001
career (years)	-149.2	212.9	-0.039	0.484
Organic solvent (Em)	-284.6	149.0	-0.090	0.057
Noise level (dBA)*	-33.1	336.5	-0.004	0.922
Tinnitus (yes/no)	-1124.7	266.8	-0.164	0.001
Alcohol drinking (yes/no)	-93.1	177.3	-0.030	0.428
Smoking (yes/no)	354.7	228.6	0.059	0.121

R²=0.285, adjusted R²=0.276 Model F=29.7, p=0.001

*: analysis with three categories (officer(0), below 85 dBA(1), and over 85 dBA(2))

Table 4. Partial correlation coefficient between upper limit hearing and organic solvent exposure level and its typical metabolites.

	ULH	Em	Hippuric acid	Methyl HA	Mandelic acid
ULH [†]	-				
Em [†]	-0.127*	-			
Hippuric acid	0.080	0.057	-		
Methyl HA	0.035	0.018	0.111*	-	
Mandelic acid	0.057	-0.008	0.007	0.004	-

*: p<0.05, partial correlation coefficient adjusted by age, career, tinnitus, noise level.

[†]: ULH : Upper limit of hearing, [†]: Em: Exposure index of mixed organic solvent

Pryor (1983)

가 , 2 (Bilski, 2003).

가 가 (Pryor , 1991).

5 (Johnson Canlon, 1994).

가 가 가 가 가

(Pryor 1987).

가

2,000 ppm

가

가 (additive) (synergistic) (Johnson Nylen, 1995).

60 dBHL 75±10 dBA

, Morioka 가

가

(Upper

limit of hearing)

가

가

가

, ADP

가

가

space of Nuel

, GABA(gamma-amino benzoic acid)

:
 :
 350 , 150 ,
 297 797 2
 : 1) 41.0±8.5
 14.1±7.3
 35.5%가 , 49.8%가
 82.4±9.7 dB ,
 0.51±0.73 13610
 ±2879 Hz , 19.1%
 2)
 14656±2425 Hz,
 13285±2795 Hz, 12543±2990
 Hz
 가 (p<0.05).
 3)
 가
 (p<0.05),
 (p=0.057),
 4)
 가 (p<0.05).
 5)
 13882 Hz,
 13930 Hz, 13322 Hz
 가
 (F=2.681, p=0.069)
 :

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