

Health concerns of the community living in the contaminated area with mercury in the city of Vlora.

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Abstract

Vlora city in the Bay of Vlora in Albania's south - west which represents the natural border between the waters of the Adriatic Sea and Ionian Sea. From 1976-1992 a Soda-PVC (chloro-alkali) plant discharge wastes containing mercury was deposited near seashore and around plant's buildings.

This plant, after its closure in 1992, is populated and has created a community of 130 families in its former buildings. A combination of conservation-decontamination technologies proposed which consist s in encapsulation, excavation of contaminated soil and their landfill deposition

We have monitored these people specifically the nature of pains, in children aged 13-14 years old in families living in the area. Method of exposure to mercury is through respiration, skin and through food. Symptoms were observed in headache, chest pain and muscle pain.

Key words . Mercury poisoning, headaches, chest pain, muscle pain.