

# Just a Quick Arsenic Quiz

1. What is the currently enforceable Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for arsenic as set by the EPA?
  - a) 100 ppb (parts per billion)
  - b) 50 ppb
  - c) 20 ppb
  - d) 10 ppb
2. At What level does the World Health Organization recommend the MCL be set at?
  - a) 50 ppb
  - b) 20 ppb
  - c) 10 ppb
  - d) 5 ppb
3. True or False---Arsenic is a naturally occurring metal.
  - a) True
  - b) False
4. Where are you most likely to consume arsenic?
  - a) From your well water
  - b) From a municipal water supply
  - c) From your spouse
  - d) At Red Lobster Restaurant
5. True or False---You should test your water for arsenic contamination if you notice a bitter taste in your water.
  - a) True
  - b) False
6. List 3 symptoms of arsenic poisoning.  
1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_
7. True or False---Arsenic Poisoning is very difficult to detect through conventional urine or blood test.
  - a) True
  - b) False

8. What was the largest concern and delay over reducing the arsenic MCL?
- a) Money
  - b) Health
  - c) Politics
  - d) Education
9. True or False---The most cost effective treatment for arsenic reduction is a carbon filter such as a Britta.
- a) True
  - b) False
10. True or False---Most Water Treatment companies will test for arsenic for free.
- a) True
  - b) False
11. USEPA regulations require home owners with private wells to test for arsenic at least once every 3 years.
- a) True
  - b) False
12. With elevated levels of arsenic, children should not bathe or swim for more than 30 minutes per day.
- a) True
  - b) False

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Compliance date, 2003

2. At What level does the World Health Organization recommend the MCL be set at?

- a) 50 ppb
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Obviously they prefer 0 ppb.

3. True or False---Arsenic is a naturally occurring metal.

- a) True**
- b) False

Arsenic is the 23<sup>rd</sup> most abundant element on the earth.

4. Where are you most likely to consume arsenic?

- a) From your well water
- b) From a municipal water supply
- c) From your spouse
- d) At Red Lobster Restaurant**

Organic arsenic, which is the minimally carcinogenic form of arsenic is found most commonly in shellfish,

5. True or False---You should test your water for arsenic contamination if you notice a bitter taste in your water.

- a) True
- b) False**

Arsenic is odorless, colorless and tasteless.

6. List 3 symptoms of arsenic poisoning.

Nausea, diarrhea, stomach pain, vomiting, decreased production of red and white blood cells which may cause fatigue, abnormal heart rhythm, blood-vessel damage resulting in bruising, and impaired nerve function.

7. True or False---Arsenic Poisoning is very difficult to detect through conventional urine or blood test.

- a) True
- b) False**

8. What was the largest concern and delay over reducing the arsenic MCL?

- a) Money**
- b) Health**
- c) Politics**
- d) Education**

Any one of these can be correct.

9. True or False---The most cost effective treatment for arsenic reduction is a carbon filter such as a Britta.

- a) True
- b) False**

Won't do a thing.

10. True or False---Most Water Treatment companies will test for arsenic for free.

- a) True
- b) False**

Some will but a consumer should make sure the company is reputable and should be ready to have any results verified by an independent lab.

11. USEPA regulations require home owners with private wells to test for arsenic at least once every 3 years.

- a. True
- b. False**

The EPA does not regulate private wells. This is left to State and local organizations.

12. With elevated levels of arsenic, children should not bathe or swim for more than 30 minutes per day.

- a) True
- b) False**

At most levels of arsenic, there is little or no evidence to suggest that it will be absorbed through the skin. Ingestion is the concern.