

## Role of activated carbon fabric mask to prevent lead absorption – a short report

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An attempt was made to study the usefulness of activated carbon fabric (ACF) mask to prevent lead absorption. Indigenous ACF masks were provided to eight workers involved in the manufacture of batteries. Their blood lead levels were determined before and after using these masks. There was a substantial decrease in blood lead level after using the mask among those who were under treatment for high blood lead levels. Three workers who were not under treatment for lead also showed a decrease in blood lead level, after using this ACF mask, suggesting the usefulness of ACF in preventing further exposure. Such a study has not been reported anywhere in the available literature and similar such studies with more number of masks is necessary to evaluate its effectiveness. *Toxicology and Industrial Health* 2008; **24**: 569–572.

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