

TABLE 3-1 Categories of Acute Toxic Effects Associated with Human Exposure to Crude Oil

Chemical	Route of Exposure	Symptoms*
VOCs (ethylbenzene, xylene) PAH	Dermal (contact)	Skin/mucous membranes: erythema (redness), edema (swelling), irritation, dermatitis (rash, blisters)
VOCs (benzene, ethylbenzene, xylene)	Inhalation (air) Contact	Ocular (eyes): redness, soreness, watering, itching
VOCs (benzene, ethylbenzene)	Inhalation (air)	Respiratory: cough, throat irritation (dry, scratchy, sore), shortness of breath, wheezing
VOCs (benzene, toluene)	Inhalation (air)	Neurological: nausea/vomiting, headache, dizziness, irritability, confusion, weakness of extremities

* Symptoms more pronounced in sensitive individuals.

Assessing the Effects of the Gulf of Mexico Spill on Human Health: A Summary of the June 2010 Workshop (Institute of Medicine), pg. 49 (TREX-232509.000066)