

# ARSENIC THRESHOLD INFORMATION

## Arsenic Threshold

GAR 83 (11) was introduced in 2016 and sets the Arsenic Threshold at 800ng/ml:

Arsenic at or below a mass concentration of 800 nanograms per millilitre in a sample of urine taken from a greyhound, will not be in breach of prohibited substance rules.

A number of breaches of this rule have occurred in NSW lately. This factsheet serves as a reminder to participants to examine their husbandry practices and treatments that may increase their risk of breaching this threshold.

GWIC accepts that in many cases there is no intent to administer a prohibited substance to a greyhound but the responsibility to present a greyhound to race free of prohibited substances remains with the participants.

**ARSENIC:** metalloid substance found in the environment in trace quantities. Found in in-organic (soil, sea water) and organic (supplement) forms.

Contamination of human foodstuff like rice and seafood is monitored by Food Standards Aus-NZ:

<http://www.foodstandards.gov.au/consumer/chemicals/arsenic/Pages/default.aspx>

Water quality is monitored for the presence of arsenic. (<10ug/L). Bore water may contain higher levels of heavy metals and should be tested.

The following practices and substances may result in a threshold breach:

### 1. Injectable Supplements containing arsenic:

Injectable supplements close to racing should always be avoided including:

- Ferrocyl (Sodium cacodylate)
- Jurocyl (Sodium arsanilate)
- TROY Invigorate (Sodium arsanilate)
- Jurox ARCYL (Sodium arsanilate)

### 2. Seaweed/Kelp based Supplements:

Some seaweed based animal nutritional supplements have been tested and found to contain high concentrations of arsenic.

Participants who choose to administer these products do so at their own risk, and should avoid feeding these supplements close to racing.

### 3. Sardines/Pilchards:

Whilst not scientifically proven, sardines and other seafood may potentially lead to a breach in the threshold. Seafood can be a major source of arsenic due to contamination of sea water.

Participants should be aware of the risk associated with feeding these products, and should avoid feeding seafood within 48 hours of racing.

### 4. Copper Chrome Arsenate (CCA) treated timber:

CCA is a wood preservative used to treat timber against rot and pests. Wood freshly treated with CCA has a greenish tinge which fades over time. Licking or chewing of kennels or yards with treated timber has been implicated in threshold breaches.

Whilst not scientifically proven, participants should be mindful of this and remove sources of potential contamination from kennels.