

# **Cancer Risks Due To Heavy Metals Carried Through Aquatic Food Chain (Fish)**

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**Key Words:** Food Chain (Fish), Bio-concentration, Heavy metals, Cancer risks, Chronic daily intake.

## **Abstract**

Presence of heavy metals in streams and lakes allows their entry into aquatic food chain (fish) through bio-concentration and are likely to pose health risks when consumed regularly. This study carried out on fish harvested from Notwane river at Oodi bridge in Botswana, has shown the presence of heavy metals like zinc and lead at objectionable levels. The study has indicated that heavy metals accumulation is very high in the gills and the skins of the fish compared to other parts of the body, hence human intake of these should be avoided. It has also shown that regular consumption of fish from this source can result in cancer risks of about 448 – 4280 people in a million.