

CONDENSED SAFETY DATA SHEET

SUBSTANCE: Formaldehyde (formalin solution)

STORAGE: Store at room temperature, keep away from heat, do not freeze, use with adequate ventilation

HAZARD: Poisonous, corrosive, carcinogen, irritant to eyes, skin, and respiratory system

EXPOSURE CONTROLS, PERSONAL PROTECTION: Use safety glasses and gloves, fume hood is recommended

INGESTION: Do not ingest. Ingestion of solution may cause burning in the mouth and esophagus, nausea and vomiting, severe abdominal pain and diarrhea, vertigo, convulsions, and unconsciousness. A mean fatal dose in humans is about 2 oz. of concentrated solution (2 ½ cups or 620 cc 10% solution).

FIRST AID FOR SKIN: Remove any contaminated clothing immediately. Wash affected area with soap or mild detergent and large amounts of water until no evidence of chemical remains. Suggested time is 15 minutes. In case of chemical burns, cover area with sterile, dry dressing. Bandage securely, but not too tightly. Get medical attention immediately. Treatment should be administered by qualified medical personnel.

FIRST AID FOR EYES: Wash eyes immediately with large amounts of water, occasionally lifting upper and lower lids, until no evidence of chemical remains (at least 15-20 minutes). Continue irrigating with normal saline (30-60 min.) until the pH has returned to normal. Cover with sterile bandages. Get medical attention immediately. Treatment should be administered by qualified medical personnel.

FIRST AID FOR INGESTION: Dilute, inactivate or absorb the ingested formalin by giving milk, activated charcoal, or tap water. Do not induce vomiting. Any organic material will inactivate formalin. Get medical attention immediately. Treatment should be administered by qualified medical personnel.

ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES: Ventilate area of leak or spill. Cover spill with 1:1:1 mixture of Sodium Carbonate, clay cat litter and sand. Scoop into container and transport to fume hood. Add the mixture to cold water (about 10 mL water for each 1 mL of formaldehyde solution). Slowly add household bleach (2.5 mL bleach for each 1 mL of formaldehyde solution). Allow to stand for 20 minutes. Decant liquid to drain. Flush with water. Treat solid residue as normal refuse.

Reviewed: 6/2017 LAA, 7/2018 LAA