

Job Hazard Analysis: Chemical Use

Glutaraldehyde

(Glutaraldehyde, 25 wt%)











Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Required:

Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection. Do not breathe dust/fumes/gas/mist/vapors/spray. Wash skin thoroughly after handling. Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace. Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray. Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood. Use personal protective equipment as required.

Hazards: Toxic if swallowed [Danger Acute toxicity, oral]. Causes severe skin burns and eye damage [Danger Skin corrosion/irritation]. May cause an allergic skin reaction [Warning Sensitization, Skin]. Toxic if inhaled [Danger Acute toxicity, inhalation]. May cause allergy or asthma symptoms or breathing difficulties if inhaled [Danger Sensitization, respiratory]. Very toxic to aquatic life [Warning Hazardous to the aquatic environment, acute hazard].

(Review supplier Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for complete hazard information)

Job Steps	Hazards	Controls
Receiving and Storing Glutaraldehyde	 Exposure to vapors or spills Skin contact with liquid Improper storage leading to leaks or reactions 	 Use appropriate PPE: gloves, goggles, and laboratory coat Store in a well-ventilated area, away from incompatible substances Ensure proper labeling and secure storage to prevent leaks
Handling and Preparing Solutions	 Inhalation of fumes Skin and eye contact Spill or splash during mixing 	 Use appropriate PPE: gloves, goggles, and laboratory coat Perform work in a fume hood or well-ventilated area Follow proper procedures for mixing and handling to avoid spills
Application and Use in Processes	 Prolonged exposure to vapors Accidental release or spill Contact with eyes, skin, or mucous membranes 	 Use appropriate PPE: gloves, goggles, and laboratory coat Limit exposure time and ensure adequate ventilation Have spill kits and emergency showers/eyewash stations readily available
4. Cleaning and Disposal	 Exposure during cleaning of equipment Improper disposal methods leading to environmental contamination Inhalation of fumes during disposal 	 Use appropriate PPE: gloves, goggles, and laboratory coat Follow protocols for cleaning and decontaminating equipment Dispose of waste according to local regulations and ensure it is in properly labeled containers

Description of Activities	Control Measures	
Emergency Procedures	Spill Response: Evacuate the area and alert others Use spill containment materials to control the spill Clean up using appropriate PPE and disposal methods First Aid: Inhalation: Move to fresh air immediately and seek medical attention if symptoms persist Skin Contact: Rinse skin thoroughly with water for at least 15 minutes; remove contaminated clothing Eye Contact: Rinse eyes with water for at least 15 minutes and seek medical attention Ingestion: Seek immediate medical attention; do not induce vomiting	
Training	 Employees should: Be trained on glutaraldehyde hazards and safe handling procedures Be trained on the use of PPE and emergency response procedures Regularly review SDS for glutaraldehyde. 	

Description of Activities	Control Measures	
Review and Monitoring	 Conduct regular audits to ensure compliance with safety procedures Monitor air quality in areas where glutaraldehyde is used 	
	Review and update the Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) periodically or when new hazards are identified	

Resource: National Library of Medicine – Pub Chem - Glutaraldehyde

This resource is intended for informational purposes only and should not replace laboratory-specific procedures. References to non-CDC resources do not constitute or imply endorsement by CDC or U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This job aid is a component of the free, on-demand CDC training course "Fundamentals of Working Safely with Formaldehyde and Glutaraldehyde". Find the course at https://reach.cdc.gov/training