

Principal Investigator:

Date Approved:

This document covers basic chemical safety information for sensitizers. The use of any sensitizer is subject to pre-approval by the Principal Investigator (PI) and/or Supervisor. DO NOT USE ANY SENSITIZER UNTIL YOU HAVE OBTAINED THE NECESSARY PRE-APPROVAL.

Sensitizers

A sensitizer is a substance that can cause allergic reactions in individuals after repeated exposure to the substance. Direct contact for sensitized individuals must be avoided. Substances that exhibit a high frequency of severe allergic reactions in humans or indicate a high potency in animals that can be presumed to have the potential to produce significant sensitization in humans are classified as 'GHS Category 1A Sensitizers'.

Careful handling and stringent controls are essential with sensitizers to minimize risk to researchers and the environment. Sensitizers often have other potential hazard characteristics such as carcinogenicity and corrosivity.

Examples of compounds that may cause sensitization in some individuals are diazomethane, isocyanates, formaldehyde, and benzylic and allylic halides.



Personal Protective Equipment & Personnel Monitoring



Lab Coat

Traditional lab coat.



Gloves

For proper glove selection, review the chemical safety data sheet and consult glove manufacturer recommendations with your PI or supervisor.



Eye Protection

ANSI Z87.1-compliant safety glasses or safety goggles.

Labeling & Storage

All hazardous materials must be labeled with their identity as well as all applicable warning statements. Manufacturer labels will contain all the necessary information including an appropriate pictogram. Be able to clearly differentiate 'Category 1A Sensitizers' from other materials that are not particularly hazardous, or which may be chemically incompatible.

Engineering Controls, Equipment & Materials

Fume Hood

If your protocol does not permit the handling of these materials in a fume hood or other containment device, contact EHSS to determine whether additional respiratory protection is warranted.

Housekeeping

Spills

Notify others in the area of the spill, including your PI/Responsible Safety Person. If it is a small spill that you can easily handle, use the contents of your lab spill kit to clean it up. If it is a large spill, then evacuate the area where the spill occurred. Call

Vanderbilt University Public Safety (VUPS) at 615-421-1911 or use the Vandysafe app on your smart phone. Report any exposure through Risk and Insurance Management's Origami portal and mark that it occurred in research when prompted. Both VUPS and the Origami system will notify EHS of the incident. Remain on-site at a safe distance to provide detailed information to first responders.

Decontamination

Decontamination methods will vary based on the materials handled and equipment being used. Please review the chemical Safety Data Sheet for guidance on cleaning materials. Dispose of contaminated absorbent materials, such as paper towels, as solid hazardous waste.

Waste

Refer to the laboratory *Chemical Hygiene Plan* (Section 6.7) for information on proper chemical waste disposal procedures.

First Aid & Emergencies

Skin or Eye Contact

Remove contaminated clothing and accessories; flush affected area with water. If symptoms persist, get medical attention.

Inhalation

Move person into fresh air. If symptoms persist, get medical attention.

Ingestion

Rinse mouth with water. If symptoms persist, get medical attention.

