

# FORMALDEHYDE

## Chemical Information

- Colorless, flammable gas at room temperature.
- Distinct, pungent smell.
- Highly toxic by inhalation.
- Moderate fire risk.
- Strong irritant and human carcinogen.

## Uses

- Preservative in foods; found in antiseptics, medicines, and cosmetics; to make fertilizer, paper, plywood and urea-formaldehyde resins.

## Hazards Identification

### ACUTE EXPOSURE:

- Rapid onset of eye, nose and throat irritation, which can result in cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, and wheezing.
- Significant inflammation of the lower respiratory tract, if exposed to high concentrations.
- Lung injury may continue to worsen for 12 hours or more after exposure.
- May result in corneal damage if solution splashes in eye.

### CHRONIC EXPOSURE:

- Can cause asthma and contact dermatitis in sensitive individuals.



For assistance managing exposures to hazardous substances, please call North Carolina Poison Control at 1-800-222-1222.

**In case of a life threatening emergency, dial 9-1-1 immediately.**



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