

ACETONITRILE

Synonyms: Cyanomethane, Ethyl nitrile, Methyl cyanide [Note: Forms cyanide in the body.]

TYPES OF HAZARD/ EXPOSURE	ACUTE HAZARDS/ SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	FIRST AID/ FIRE FIGHTING
FIRE	Highly flammable. Gives off irritating or toxic fumes (or gases) in a fire.	NO open flames, NO sparks, and NO smoking. NO contact with oxidants.	Alcohol-resistant foam, dry powder, carbon dioxide.
EXPLOSION	Vapor/air mixtures are explosive. Risk of fire and explosion on contact with oxidants.	Closed system, ventilation, explosion-proof electrical equipment and lighting. Do NOT use compressed air for filling, discharging, or handling.	In case of fire: keep drums, etc., cool by spraying with water.
EXPOSURE		STRICT HYGIENE!	IN ALL CASES CONSULT A DOCTOR!
•INHALATION	Sore throat. Weakness. Abdominal pain. Labored breathing. Convulsions. Unconsciousness. Vomiting. Symptoms may be delayed (see Notes).	Ventilation or local exhaust	Fresh air, rest. Artificial respiration may be needed. Refer for medical attention.
•SKIN	Redness.	Protective gloves.	Remove contaminated clothes. Rinse skin with plenty of water or shower. Refer for medical attention.
•EYES	Redness. Pain.	Face shield and eye protection	First rinse with plenty of water for several minutes (remove contact lenses if easily possible), then take to a doctor.
•INGESTION	(See Inhalation).	Do not eat, drink, or smoke during work.	Rinse mouth. Induce vomiting (ONLY IN CONSCIOUS PERSONS!). Give plenty of water to drink. Refer for medical attention.

Chemical Dangers: The substance decomposes on burning producing toxic fumes including hydrogen cyanide and nitrogen oxides . Reacts with aqueous acids and bases producing toxic fumes . Reacts with strong oxidants causing fire and explosion hazard. Attacks some forms of plastic, rubber and coatings.

Physical Dangers: The vapor mixes well with air, explosive mixtures are easily formed.

Storage: Incompatibilities and reactivities include strong oxidizers.

Handling, Containment Devices and PPE: Use in exhaust hood with nitrile chemical resistant gloves (if heavy exposure is anticipated contact Safety and Health for other glove options) and chemical goggles. If a splash hazard to the face is present, a face shield is also required.

Waste Disposal: Collect and store in a glass container labeled with the following "Hazardous Waste - Acetonitrile." Call Safety and Health at x5069 on the Health Science Campus and x3600 on the Main Campus for pick up.

Emergency Spill Procedures and Decontamination: call x 77 on the Health Science Campus and x2600 for Campus Police on the Main Campus.