

## ETHIDIUM BROMIDE

TYPES OF HAZARD/ EXPOSURE	ACUTE HAZARDS/ SYMPTOMS	PREVENTION	FIRST AID/ FIRE FIGHTING
<b>FIRE</b>	Upon thermal decomposition, it may emit toxic gases	No open flames, No sparks, and no smoking	Dry chemical powder, carbon dioxide, water spray, alcohol or polymer foam
<b>EXPLOSION</b>			
<b>EXPOSURE</b>	***Possible Mutagen***		
<b>•INHALATION</b>	Irritant	Ventilation or local exhaust	May be harmful. Remove to fresh air. Restore or support breathing as necessary.
<b>•SKIN</b>	Irritant	Avoid contact. Protective clothing.	Avoid contact. May be harmful. Remove contaminated clothing and flush with large amounts of water for at least 15 minutes.
<b>•EYES</b>	Irritant	Face shield and eye protection	Flush with water for at least 15 minutes.
<b>•INGESTION</b>	Irritant	Do not eat, drink, or smoke during work.	May be harmful. Keep person warm and at rest. Treat symptomatically and supportively.

**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:**

#### Gels

- Less than 0.1% ethidium bromide: place in laboratory trash.
- More than or equal to 0.1%: Place in biohazard box for incineration.
- NEVER AUTOCLAVE Ethidium Bromide

#### Solutions

- Aqueous solutions containing < 10ug/ml Ethidium Bromide can be released to the drain.
- Aqueous solutions containing > 10ug/ml Ethidium Bromide must be collected into appropriate containers and disposed of through Safety and Health. Contact x5069 on the Health Science Campus and x3600 on the Main Campus for pick up.
- Aqueous solutions containing > 10ug/ml Ethidium Bromide can be filtered if you wish to purchase filtration kits. The filtrate can be poured down the drain and the filter placed in a red biohazard bin for disposal.

- Aqueous solutions that contain heavy metals, organics, cyanides, or other hazardous chemicals must be managed as hazardous waste. Contact Safety and Health for pick up.

Gloves, equipment and debris

- Gloves, test tubes, paper towels, etc., that are grossly contaminated with Ethidium Bromide should be placed into a red biohazard bin for disposal. Consider deactivating in bleach before disposal if the items are significantly contaminated.
- Contaminated pastuer pipettes and other sharps must be accumulated in sharps containers and managed as biological waste.

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