

# Standard Operating Procedure

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## Acutely Toxic Chemicals

**Hazard Description:** Acutely toxic chemicals are those substances that pose significant adverse health effects for immediate or short-term exposures. The route of exposure that causes the adverse effect may be inhalation, absorption, or ingestion, depending on the chemical. Acutely toxic chemicals could be in solid, liquid, or gas form.

**Labeling:** Acutely toxic chemicals have a GHS toxicity category of 1 or 2 and are labeled with the following pictogram:



**Storage:** Storage of acutely toxic chemicals must adhere to the requirements outlined in the Chemical Hygiene Plan.

**Handling:** In addition to the requirements outlined in the Chemical Hygiene Plan the following should be considered when handling acutely toxic chemicals:

- Must be handled in a signed, designated area of the laboratory.
- Must be used in a fume hood if inhalation hazard is present.
- Consider using disposable work surface covers (bench protectors) and dispose daily.
- Immediately close all containers of acutely toxic chemicals after use.
- Do not dispense acutely toxic chemicals directly onto a laboratory balance in the general lab space. Instead, use sealable pre-tared container inside fume hood, then take the sealed container to the balance. Make all adjustments inside a fume hood.

**Personal Protective Equipment:** Reference SDS

**Spill and Decontamination:** For spills of solid materials, do not dry sweep. Decontamination procedures vary depending on the material being handled. Reference SDS. All surfaces and equipment should be wiped with the appropriate cleaning agent following dispensing or handling to prevent accumulation of acutely toxic chemical residue.