

Should You Be Worried About Formaldehyde Exposure?

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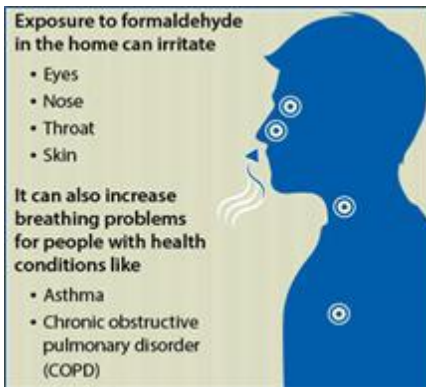
DANGER
FORMALDEHYDE
MAY CAUSE CANCER



Formaldehyde in Urine

Introduction

Formaldehyde is a colourless and flammable gas at ambient temperature. Workplace exposure is usually associated with the use of formalin. Exposure to formaldehyde occurs during the synthesis of formal-based plastics, manufacture of several chemical substances; any activity that need for disinfection, including embalming. In the textile industry; in healthcare sector (pathology lab). It is also released during combustion of organic materials and from chipboard made using formaldehyde-based resin. (*Guidelines on The Diagnosis of Occupational Disease, 2nd Ed 2019*)



Exposure to formaldehyde in the home can irritate

- Eyes
- Nose
- Throat
- Skin

It can also increase breathing problems for people with health conditions like

- Asthma
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD)

...And why should we care?

It is a known **carcinogen**. Long term exposure to high level of formaldehyde has been associated with cancer in humans and laboratory animal.



Sample Storage and Preservation



- Sample size required: 5 mL
- Sample container: Sterile, preservative-free plastic container.
- Sealed & Air-tight container to minimize losses of formaldehyde
- Temperature: 0 °C – 8°C (transport & storage)

Sampling Time:

Biomonitoring: Varies. However, it is advisable to sample immediately following exposure.

ALS Method

| Parameter | Limit of Reporting | Test Method |
|--------------|--------------------|---|
| Formaldehyde | 1 µg/L | Headspace-Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (HS-GC-MS) |

**This method has Low Detection Limit & Low interferences*

Turnaround Time (TAT): 5 days upon sample receipt at laboratory.

Please contact us to discuss your analysis requirement and we will assist you with the proposal:

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