Standard Operating Procedure

Chromium (VI / Hexavalent) compounds

*This is an SOP template and is not complete until: 1) lab specific information is entered into the box below 2) lab specific protocol/procedure is added to the protocol/procedure section and   
3) SOP has been signed and dated by the PI and relevant lab personnel.*

Print a copy and insert into your   
*Laboratory Safety Manual* and *Chemical Hygiene Plan*.   
Refer to instructions for assistance.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Department:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Date SOP was written:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Date SOP was approved by PI/lab supervisor:** | Click here to enter a date. |
| **Principal Investigator:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Internal Lab Safety Coordinator/Lab Manager:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Lab Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Office Phone:** | Click here to enter text. |
| **Emergency Contact:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Name and Phone Number)* |
| **Location(s) covered by this SOP:** | Click here to enter text. |
| *(Building/Room Number)* |

**Type of SOP:** ☐ Process ☒Hazardous Chemical ☐ Hazardous Class

**Purpose**

(*State the procedure the specific chemical is used for in lab/the purpose of the chemical*)

**Physical & Chemical Properties/Definition of Chemical Group**

CAS# (*insert # and properties for specific chemical used in lab*)

Class: **OSHA Regulated Carcinogen**

Carcinogen (IARC Group 1)

Molecular formula:

Form (Physical State):

Melting Point:

**Potential Hazards/Toxicity**

Oral LD50: 80 mg/kg [Rat] (*given for chromium (VI) oxide, change according to specific chemical used in lab*)

Permissible Exposure Limits (PEL): 100 ug/m3

* *Inhalation:* Corrosive. Extremely destructive to tissues of the mucous membranes and upper respiratory tract. May cause ulceration and perforation of the nasal septum. Symptoms may include sore throat, coughing, shortness of breath, and labored breathing. May produce pulmonary sensitization or allergic asthma. Higher exposures may cause pulmonary edema.
* *Ingestion:* Corrosive. Swallowing can cause severe burns of the mouth, throat, and stomach, leading to death. Can cause sore throat, vomiting, diarrhea. May cause violent gastroenteritis, peripheral vascular collapse, dizziness, intense thirst, muscle cramps, shock, coma, abnormal bleeding, fever, liver damage and acute renal failure.
* *Skin Contact:* Corrosive. Symptoms of redness, pain, and severe burn can occur. Dusts and strong solutions may cause severe irritation. Contact with broken skin may cause ulcers (chrome sores) and absorption, which may cause systemic poisoning, affecting kidney and liver functions. May cause skin sensitization.
* *Eye Contact:* Corrosive. Contact can cause blurred vision, redness, pain and severe tissue burns. May cause corneal injury or blindness.
* *Chronic Exposure:* Repeated or prolonged exposure can cause ulceration and perforation of the nasal septum, respiratory irritation, liver and kidney damage and ulceration of the skin. Ulcerations at first may be painless, but may penetrate to the bone producing "chrome holes." Known to be a human carcinogen.
* *Aggravation of Pre-existing Conditions:* Persons with pre-existing skin disorders, asthma, allergies or known sensitization to chromic acid or chromates may be more susceptible to the effects of this material.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

All persons shall wear personal protective equipment when handling chromium. This includes wearing a lab coat, nitrile gloves, and closed toe shoes when working with chromium. Gloves should be changed frequently. Leave lab coats, gloves, and other personal protective equipment in the lab once your work is complete to prevent the spread of this or other chemicals outside of the lab.  
  
Lab personnel intending to use/wear a respirator mask must be trained and fit-tested by ORS and should contact occhealt@uga.edu. This is a UGA requirement described in more detail in the [UGA Respiratory Protection Plan](https://esd.uga.edu/sites/default/files/respiratoryprotection.pdf) and supported by the [Office of Research Occupational Health and Safety Program](https://research.uga.edu/ohsp/).

**Engineering Controls**

* All operations involving chromium should be carried out in a certified chemical fume hood, glovebox, or a ducted Biosafety cabinet to keep airborne level below recommended exposure limits.
* Chemical fume hoods used as containment areas for particularly hazardous chemicals must have a face velocity of 100 feet/min, averaged over the face of the hood and must be certified annually.
* Laboratory rooms must be at negative pressure with respect to the corridors and external environment. The laboratory/room door must be kept closed at all times.
* Vacuum lines are to be protected by HEPA (high efficiency particulate air) filters or higher efficiency scrubbers.

**First Aid Procedures**

* *Inhalation*: Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen. Get medical attention.
* *Ingestion*: If swallowed, DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. Give large quantities of water. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical attention immediately.
* *Skin Contact*: Immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Get medical attention immediately. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse. Contaminated work clothes should be laundered by individuals who have been informed of the hazards of exposure to this substance.
* *Eye Contact*: Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Get medical attention immediately.

**Special Handling and Storage Requirements**

* All work with chromium is to be done in the "chromium" designated area in order to keep contamination to a minimum. (*State the location of the designated area including the fume hood where work should be done and the storage location)*
* All chemicals containing chromium must be secondarily contained with proper signage. Containers of chromium and designated areas, including storage cabinets, must be labeled with a “CANCER HAZARD” warning. Any persons in this area are required to wear personal protective equipment. Safety shower and eye wash stations must be easily accessible (<100 feet / 10 seconds travel time) where chromium is used.
* All laboratory equipment (such as beakers, pipettes, etc.) used in the "chromium" designated area are to be labeled as " chromium contaminated" and are not to be removed from the area without first being decontaminated.
* Store away from incompatible chemicals including the following: arsenic, ammonia gas, hydrogen sulfide, phosphorus potassium; sodium and selenium will produce incandescence. Corrosive to metals. Store away from any combustible, organic or other readily oxidizable material (paper, wood, sulfur, aluminum or plastics).

**Spill and Accident Procedure**

**Chemical Spill Dial 911**

**24-7 On-Call Response to Research, Environment, Health or Safety Concerns Dial 2-5561 from a campus phone or 706-542-5561 from a non-campus line.**

**Spill** – Follow the procedures set out in the [UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.](http://research.uga.edu/docs/units/safety/manuals/Chemical-Laboratory-Safety-Manual.pdf)

[If there are any chemical-specific protocols for responding to a spill, insert them here or mark “none”:]

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# **Medical Emergency Dial 911**

**Life Threatening Emergency, After Hours, Weekends And Holidays** – Dial **911** or the emergency phone numbers listed at the beginning of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Non-Life Threatening Emergency** – Follow the instructions in the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.

*Note: All incidents that result in an injury or property damage must be reported to ORS / ESD using a University Incident/Accident Report.*

**Decontamination/Waste Disposal Procedure**

**For general hazardous waste disposal procedures, see Appendix H of the UGA Chemical and Laboratory Safety Manual.**

**Chemical Specific Procedures: [to be inserted or marked as “none”]**

Waste disposal procedures

1. All solid chromium contaminated waste shall be disposed of into waste containers specifically designated for chromium waste. Examples of solid chromium waste material include gloves, pipette tips, and paper towels.
2. Waste containers must be labeled with “CANCER HAZARD” warning.
3. Once the waste container is full, dispose of as hazardous waste.

Decontamination of Equipment

Equipment that needs to be decontaminated (for repair or change of location etc.) must be washed with soapy water and rinsed with copious amounts of water.

**Safety Data Sheet (SDS) Location**

UGA personnel can access Online SDS through a link in the upper left corner of the ESD home page (<https://esd.uga.edu>) and logging in by using their UGA email user name and password.

**Protocol/Procedure**

*(Add specific description of procedure.)*

**Note:** Any deviation from this SOP requires written approval from PI.

**Documentation of Training** *(signature of all users is required)*

* Prior to conducting any work with chromium, designated personnel must provide training to his/her laboratory personnel specific to the hazards involved in working with this substance, work area decontamination, and emergency procedures.
* The Principal Investigator must provide his/her laboratory personnel with a copy of this SOP and access to the SDS provided by the manufacturer.
* The Principal Investigator must ensure that his/her laboratory personnel have attended appropriate laboratory safety training or refresher training within the last 12 months.

**Principal Investigator SOP Approval**

Print name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Signature\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Approval Date:

I have read and understand the content of this SOP:

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| **Name** | **Signature** | **Date** |
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