Standard Operating Procedure

**Fluorine**

*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**

Fluorine is a **corrosive gas** and **oxidizer.** May accelerate combustion and will react vigorously or explosively with many materials. Keep away from combustible materials.

Use extreme caution. Severely corrosive to the eyes and skin and causes severe burns. Is a compressed gas. Contact with rapidly expanding gas may cause burns or frostbite. It is very toxic by inhalation and severely corrosive to the respiratory system. It is severely corrosive to the skin. May be fatal if inhaled.

Flourine gas is relatively rare and is mined typically as fluorite. Used in the production of metallic and other fluorides, and fluorocarbons. Active constituents are in toothpaste and fluoridating compounds are in drinking water. Other uses include conversion of uranium tetrafluoride to uranium hexafluoride.

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

CAS#: 7782-41-4

Class: **Corrosive Gas, Oxidizer**

Molecular Formula: F2

Form (physical state): gas

Color: N/A

Boiling point: −188.12 °C

**Potential Hazards/Toxicity**

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Inhalation of corrosive fumes/gases may cause coughing, choking, headache, dizziness, and weakness for several hours. Pulmonary edema may occur with tightness in the chest, shortness of breath, bluish skin, decreased blood pressure, and increased heart rate. Delayed pulmonary edema may occur.

Extended exposure to inorganic fluorides causes fluorosis, which includes signs of joint pain and stiffness, tooth discoloration, nausea and vomiting, loss of appetite, diarrhea or constipation, weight loss, anemia, weakness and general un-wellness.

Has the following permissible exposure limit data available: TWA 1.6 mg/m³ for 8 hours or 1 ppm for 8 hours.

The following acute toxicity data is available:

LD50 Inhalation 1250 mg/m3 [rat]

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

**Respirator Protection**

Use a full-face particle respirator with type N100 (US) respirator cartridges.

Respirators should be used only under any of the following circumstances:

* As a last line of defense (i.e., after engineering and administrative controls have been exhausted).
* When Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) has exceeded or when there is a possibility that PEL will be exceeded.
* Regulations require the use of a respirator.
* An employer requires the use of a respirator.
* There is potential for harmful exposure due to an atmospheric contaminant (in the absence of PEL)
* As PPE in the event of a chemical spill clean-up process

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/).

**Hand Protection**

Gloves must be worn. Use proper glove removal technique to avoid any skin contact. Nitrile gloves are recommended.

NOTE: Consult with your preferred glove manufacturer to ensure that the gloves you plan on using are compatible with Fluorine.

Refer to glove selection chart from the links below:

<http://www.ansellpro.com/download/Ansell_8thEditionChemicalResistanceGuide.pdf>

OR

<http://www.allsafetyproducts.biz/page/74172>

OR

<http://www.showabestglove.com/site/default.aspx>

OR

<http://www.mapaglove.com/>

**Eye Protection**

ANSI approved properly fitting safety glasses or chemical splash goggles. Face shield is also recommended.

**Skin and Body Protection**

Flame resistant lab coats must be worn and be appropriately sized for the individual and buttoned to their full length. Laboratory coat sleeves must be of sufficient length to prevent skin exposure while wearing gloves. Full length pants and close-toed shoes must be worn at all times by all individuals that are occupying the laboratory area. The area of skin between the shoe and ankle should not be exposed.

**Hygiene Measures**

Wash thoroughly and immediately after handling. Remove any contaminated clothing and wash before reuse.

**Engineering Controls**

Handle using a chemical fume hood with good ventilation and electrically grounded lines and equipment.

**First Aid Procedures**

**If inhaled**

Move into the fresh air immediately and give oxygen. If not breathing give artificial respiration. Seek medical attention immediately.

**In case of skin contact**

Immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash any contaminated clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse. Seek medical attention immediately.

**In case of eye contact**

Check for and remove any contact lenses. Rinse thoroughly with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes and consult a physician. Seek immediate medical attention and continue eye rinse during transport to hospital.

**If swallowed**

Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Seek medical attention immediately.

**Special Handling and Storage Requirements**

Precautions for safe handling: Oxidizer, keep away from combustible materials. Avoid contact with skin and eyes and inhalation. Avoid inhalation of vapor or mist. Avoid formation of dust.

Conditions for safe storage: Oxidizer, keep away from combustible materials. Keep in a dry place. Keep container tightly closed in a cool, dry, and well ventilated. Gas cylinders should be stored upright with valve protection cap in place, and firmly secured to prevent falling or being knocked over. Cylinder temperatures should not exceed 52 °C (125 °F). Keep away from incompatible materials and conditions. Keep cool and protect from sunlight.

**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”]**

Use proper personal protective equipment and properly dispose chemical.

**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 lab specific Protocol/Procedure here)**

Click here to enter text.

**NOTE**

Any deviation from this SOP requires approval from PI.

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

* Prior to conducting any work with Fluorine, 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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