



Asphyxiant Gases

Potential asphyxiants are compressed gases that have the potential to displace a large enough amount of oxygen in the event of a release, that breathing becomes difficult or impossible. These become particularly hazardous in smaller or poorly ventilated spaces.



Examples of common asphyxiant gases include carbon dioxide and noble gases such as Argon or Helium.

Personal Protective Equipment & Personnel Monitoring



Lab Coat

Traditional white lab coat.



Gloves

Nitrile gloves



Eye Protection

ANSI Z87.1-compliant safety glasses or safety goggles.

Labeling & Storage

Store upright in a cool, dry location.

Compressed gas cylinders should be individually anchored to a stable structure such as a wall with a chain or strap approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way up the cylinder. Additionally, cylinders should be tagged as full, in-use, or empty. Untagged cylinders are assumed to be full. Cylinders not in use should have regulators removed and safety caps in place.

Engineering Controls, Equipment & Materials

Fume Hood

Typically a fume hood is not feasible or necessary for the handling of these materials. If you have a question about a lab-specific protocol or procedure involving the use of asphyxiant gases and proper engineering controls, please contact the Office of Research Safety at 706-542-5288.

First Aid & Emergencies

Skin or Eye Contact

Remove contaminated clothing and accessories; flush affected area with water. If symptoms persist, get medical attention.

Inhalation

Move person into fresh air. If symptoms persist, get medical attention.