

Material Safety Data Sheet

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METRONIDAZOLE

Catalog Number: 1442009 Package Size: 100 mg Revision Date: September 27, 2001

EMERGENCY OVERVIEW - WARNING: This material is a possible human carcinogen.

SECTION 1 - IDENTIFICATION

Common Name: Metronidazole Formula: C6H9N3O3

Synonym: n/f

Chemical Name: 1H-Imidazole-1-ethanol, 2-methyl-5-nitro-

CAS Number: 443-48-1 **RTECS Number:** NI5600000

Chemical Family: An Imidazole

Therapeutic Category: Antiprotozoal (Trichomonas)

SECTION 2 - INGREDIENT INFORMATION

Principle Components Percent Exposure Limits

Metronidazole Pure Material n/f

SECTION 3 - HEALTH HAZARD INFORMATION

Usual Adult Dose: The usual oral adult dose of metronidazole depends upon the condition being treated, but should not exceed

a maximum of 4 grams daily, in divided doses. Metronidazole is also used topically to the skin as a 0.75%

gel.

Adverse Effects: Adverse effects may include dizziness, headache, diarrhea, loss of appetite, nausea or vomiting, stomach

cramps, numbness, tingling pain or weakness in hands or feet, dry mouth, unpleasant taste, seizures, and dark urine. Drinking alcohol or using alcohol-containing preparations while exposed to this material may cause abdominal cramps, nausea, vomiting, headaches, and flushing. Possible allergic reaction to material if

inhaled, ingested or in contact with skin.

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Overdose Effects: Effects of overdose are rare, but may include nausea, vomiting, tremor, weakness, and loss of coordination.

Acute: Possible eye, skin, gastrointestinal and/or respiratory tract irritation.

Chronic: Possible hypersensitization, peripheral neuropathy, furry or swollen tongue, neutropenia, vaginitis and

cancer

Inhalation: May cause irritation. Avoid inhalation. Remove to fresh air.

Eye: May cause irritation. Avoid exposure. Flush with copious quantities of water.

Skin: May cause irritation. Avoid contact. Flush with copious quantities of water. Metronidazole is not

significantly absorbed through the skin.

Ingestion: May cause irritation. Avoid ingestion. Flush out mouth with water. This material is well absorbed from the

gastrointestinal tract.

Medical Conditions

Aggravated by Exposure: Hypersensitivity to material, active alcoholism or alcohol ingestion in last 24 hours, epilepsy or other active

CNS disease, blood dyscrasias and severely impaired liver function.

Cross Sensitivity: Persons sensitive to other nitroimidazole derivatives may be sensitive to this material also.

Pregnancy Comments: Adequate and well-controlled pregnancy studies in humans have not been done. Oral administration of

metronidazole to rats and mice has not shown that it causes adverse fetal effects, however, intraperitoneal administration in mice has caused fetotoxicity. Its therapeutic use by women in the first trimester of

pregnancy is not recommended.

Pregnancy Category: B

SECTION 4 - FIRST AID MEASURES

General: Remove from exposure. Remove contaminated clothing. Persons developing serious hypersensitivity

(anaphylactic) reactions must receive immediate medical attention. If person is not breathing give artificial

respiration. If breathing is difficult give oxygen. Obtain medical attention.

Overdose Treatment: Toxicity is unlikely following ingestion of less than 2 grams. Since there is no specific antidote, treatment

for metronidazole overdose should be symptomatic and supportive.

SECTION 5 - TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

Oral Rat: LD50: 3 grams/Kg

Oral Mouse: LD50: 3800 mg/kg

Irritancy Data: n/f
Target Organ(s): n/f

Listed as a Carcinogen? NTP: Yes IARC: Yes OSHA: No

Other: Metronidazole has been shown to be carcinogenic in mice and rats. It has not been shown to be

carcinogenic or tumorigenic in humans.

SECTION 6 - FIREFIGHTING MEASURES

Flash Point: n/f Upper Flammable Limit: n/f

Auto-Ignition Temperature: n/f **Lower Flammable Limit:** n/f

Extinguisher Media: Water spray, dry chemical, carbon dioxide or foam as appropriate for surrounding fire and materials.

Fire and Explosion Hazards: This material has a high thermodynamic potential (720 cal/Kg). Exothermic decomposition occurs

between 225 - 227° C. As with all dry powders it is advisable to ground mechanical equipment in

contact with dry material to dissipate the potential buildup of static electricity.

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Firefighting Procedures: As with all fires, evacuate personnel to a safe area. Firefighters should use self-contained breathing

equipment and protective clothing.

SECTION 7 - PHYSICAL HAZARDS

Conditions to Avoid: Avoid exposure to light, which causes material to darken.

Incompatibilities: Strong acids, bases, oxidizers, and aluminum.

Decomposition Products: When heated to decomposition material emits toxic fumes of NOx. Emits toxic fumes under fire

conditions.

Stable? Yes **Hazardous Polymerization?** No

SECTION 8 - HANDLING / SPILL / DISPOSAL MEASURES

Handling: As a general rule, when handling USP Reference Standards avoid all contact and inhalation of dust,

mists, and/or vapors associated with the material. Wash thoroughly after handling.

Storage: Store in tight, light-resistant container as defined in the USP-NF. This material should be handled and

stored per label instructions to ensure product integrity.

Spill Response: Wear approved respiratory protection, chemically compatible gloves and protective clothing. Wipe up

spillage or collect spillage using a high efficiency vacuum cleaner. Avoid breathing dust. Wash spill site. Place spillage and all contaminated cleanup materials in a thick plastic hazardous waste disposal bag or

leakproof container and label it CAUTION: HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL WASTE.

Disposal: Place material in a thick plastic hazardous waste disposal bag or leakproof container and label it

CAUTION: HAZARDOUS CHEMICAL WASTE. Dispose of waste in accordance with all applicable

Federal, State and local laws.

SECTION 9 - EXPOSURE CONTROLS / PERSONAL PROTECTION

Respiratory Protection: Use a NIOSH approved respirator, if it is determined to be necessary by an industrial hygiene survey

involving air monitoring. Ift a respirator is not required, an approved dust mask should be used.

Ventilation: Recommended.

Gloves: Rubber

Eye Protection: Safety Goggles

Protective Clothing: Protect exposed skin.

SECTION 10 - PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

NOTE: The data reported below is general information, and is not specific to the USP Reference Standard Lot provided!

Appearance and Odor: White or cream-colored crystalline powder; odorless or slight odor.

Melting Point: $158 - 160^{\circ} \text{ C}$

Solubility in Water: Sparingly soluble Vapor Density: n/f

Boiling Point: n/f **Evaporation Rate:** n/f

Specific Gravity: n/f Reactivity in Water: n/f

Vapor Pressure: n/f % Volatile by Volume: n/f