

# Hydrogen Peroxide

## Summary:

Hydrogen Peroxide is on the Hazardous Substance List because it is regulated by OSHA and cited by NIOSH, ACGIH, DOT, NFPA, and EPA. This chemical is also on the Special Health Hazardous Substance List because it is corrosive, reactive, and a mutagen. Mutagens may have a cancer risk. All contact with this chemical should be reduced to the lowest possible.

## Your Right to Know

### Exposure Risks

Hydrogen Peroxide is a mutagen and should be handled as a carcinogen with extreme caution. Hydrogen Peroxide is a corrosive chemical and contact can irritate and burn the eyes and skin causing damage. Breathing hydrogen peroxide can irritate the nose and throat. It can irritate the lungs causing coughing and/or shortness of breath. Higher exposures can cause a build-up of fluid in the lungs (pulmonary edema), a medical emergency, with severe shortness of breath.

#### Chronic Health Effects:

#### Cancer Hazard:

Hydrogen peroxide causes mutations (genetic changes). Such chemicals may have a cancer risk.

#### Reproductive Hazard:

There is insufficient information available to evaluate hydrogen peroxide for its ability to affect reproduction.

#### Other Long Term Effects:

Hydrogen peroxide can irritate the lungs. Repeated exposure may cause bronchitis to develop with cough, phlegm, and/or shortness of breath.

Prolonged or repeated skin contact can cause a rash with redness and blisters.

Hydrogen peroxide use is found in sterilization environments, in the manufacture of propellants, in chemical synthesis, and as a promoter of polymerization of other compounds.

### Do You Know Your Hydrogen Peroxide Exposure?

*Passive dosimeters are the most convenient way to monitor your environment!*

The *Kem Medical VAPOR-TRAK*<sup>®</sup> 8560 Hydrogen Peroxide monitor has been validated for the OSHA 8-hour TWA exposure limit of 1.0 ppm.

All VAPOR-TRAK<sup>®</sup> badges are:

- Accurate, with reproducible results
- Easy to Use
- Designed for personal and area monitoring
- Full validation studies available
- Phone Notification of High Results
- Technical Assistance
- Pre-paid return postage and laboratory analysis inclusive

