



PUBLIC FACT SHEET

HYDROGEN FLUORIDE

What is hydrogen fluoride?

Hydrogen fluoride is colorless, fuming liquid or gas with a strong, bad odor. It is usually shipped in steel cylinders as a compressed gas. Hydrogen fluoride readily dissolves in water to form colorless hydrofluoric acid.

What are possible methods of exposure?

- breathing air that contains hydrogen fluoride.
- skin or eye contact with hydrogen fluoride.
- ingesting hydrofluoric acid

What are possible symptoms of hydrogen fluoride exposure?

- skin irritation
- eye irritation
- mucous membrane irritation
- respiratory tract irritation
- nausea & vomiting
- stomach pain
- deep tissue damage

How is hydrogen fluoride detected?

Hydrogen fluoride has a disagreeable, bad odor. Hydrogen fluoride exposure causes irritation of eyes and throat.

What is the treatment for exposure to hydrogen fluoride?

If you have been exposed to hydrogen fluoride, contact the emergency medical authorities immediately.

Calcium-containing gels, solutions, and medications can be used to neutralize hydrogen fluoride. Treatment may also include support of respiratory and cardiovascular functions.

For more information on hydrogen fluoride contact:

Ottawa County Health Department
www.miOttawa.org

Center for Disease Control and Prevention
www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/hydrofluoricacid/
Phone: (888) 246-2675