

POTENTIAL HEALTH HAZARDS OF MATERIALS USED IN METHAMPHETAMINE PRODUCTION

Typical Chemicals Found at Lab Site	Common Legitimate Uses	Poisonous	Flammable	Toxic Vapors	Explosive	Corrosive	Skin Absorption	Potential Health Hazard
Acetone	Fingernail polish remover, solvent	X	X	X			X	Reproductive disorders
Methanol	Brake cleaner fluid, Fuel	X	X	X			X	Blindness, eye damage
Anhydrous Ammonia	Farm fertilizer	X		X		X	X	Blistering, respiratory tract damage
Benzene	Dye, varnishes, lacquers	X	X		X	X	X	Cancer, leukemia
Ether	Starter fluids, anesthetic	X	X		X			Respiratory failure
Freon	Refrigerant, propellants	X		X		X		Frostbite, lung damage
Hydriodic Acid	Driveway cleaner	X		X		X	X	Burns, thyroid damage
Hydrochloric Acid (HCL gas)	Iron ore processing, mining	X		X		X	X	Respiratory, liver damage
Iodine Crystals	Antiseptic, Catalyst	X	X		X	X		Birth defects, kidney failure
Lithium Metal	Lithium batteries	X				X	X	Burns, pulmonary edema
Muriatic Acid	Swimming pool cleaner	X		X		X		Burns, toxic vapors
Phosphine Gas	Pesticides	X		X			X	Respiratory failure
Pseudoephedrine/Ephedrine	Cold medicine	X						Abuse, heart damage
Red Phosphorus	Matches, fireworks	X	X	X	X			Unstable, flammable substance
Sodium Hydroxide	Drain cleaners, lye	X		X		X	X	Burns, skin ulcers
Sulfuric Acid	Battery acid	X		X		X	X	Burns, Thyroid damage
Toluene	Paint, thinners, solvents	X	X	X	X		X	Fetal damage, pneumonia
Liquid Lab Waste	None	X	X	X	X	X	X	Unknown long-term effects

For additional information on health issues in Kentucky, contact your local County Extension Office or visit the HEEL website at: www.ca.uky.edu/HEEL

Reference: <http://dec.co.riverside.ca.us/fyi/hazards.htm>

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