

Benzene – First Aid and Emergency Response

Benzene is a colorless, toxic and highly flammable liquid with a sweet smell. It is less dense than water, hence floats on water.

FIRST AID:

Eye Contact: Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Hold eyelids open to ensure adequate flushing. Get medical attention immediately.

Skin Contact: In case of contact, immediately flush skin with plenty of water. Wash contaminated areas thoroughly with soap and water or waterless hand cleanser. Remove contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse.

Ingestion: Do NOT induce vomiting unless directed to do so by medical personnel. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Loosen tight clothing such as a collar, tie, belt or waistband.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

Evacuate nonessential personnel and remove or secure all ignition sources. Consider wind direction; stay upwind and uphill, if possible.

Carefully contain and stop the source of the spill, if safe to do so. Protect bodies of water by absorbents, if possible.

For small fire, use DCP, CO₂, water spray or regular foam.

For large fire, don't use DCP, CO₂. Only use the water spray, fog, or regular foam.