

Hydrochloric Acid – First Aid and Emergency Response

Hydrochloric Acid is highly corrosive colourless liquid in nature. It consists of poisonous Hydrogen Chloride gas, dissolved in water. It may generate heat after reaction with water, and may cause burn or death.

FIRST AID:

Inhalation:

Remove to fresh air. If not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen.

Ingestion:

DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING! Give large quantities of water or milk if available. Never give anything by mouth to an unconscious person. Get medical attention immediately.

Skin Contact:

In case of contact, immediately flush skin with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes while removing contaminated clothing and shoes. Wash clothing before reuse. Thoroughly clean shoes before reuse.

Eye Contact:

Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 10-15 minutes, lifting lower and upper eyelids occasionally. Get medical attention immediately.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE:

Ventilate area of leak or spill.

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

Isolate hazard area. Keep unnecessary and unprotected personnel from entering.

Contain and recover liquid when possible. Neutralize with alkaline material (soda ash, lime), then absorb with an inert material (e. g., vermiculite, dry sand, earth) if possible, and place in a chemical waste container.