

Phenol Use in Labs

Phenol or phenol-containing products (e.g., Trizol or QIAzol) are commonly used in biomedical research and are toxic by inhalation, skin absorption, and ingestion.

If you use these products in your lab, please adhere to the following safe handling and emergency procedures:

- Always wear appropriate PPE (at a minimum, safety glasses, double exam-style nitrile gloves, and buttoned lab coat).
- Handle these products in a chemical fume hood or other local exhaust device such as a snorkel.
- Review emergency procedures, including what to do in case of skin exposure.
- Ensure that the [phenol poster](#) is prominently displayed near where the phenol is used.
- Locate the PEG treatment kit, which should be used as an initial treatment for skin exposures, in an easily accessible place. Contact your Safety Advisor if your lab uses phenol and does not have a PEG treatment kit.



All laboratories have been asked to complete a [short survey in EHS Integrator](#) regarding phenol use. If your lab has not yet completed this survey, please do so as soon as possible. Once in EHS Integrator, click on "Phenol Survey" on the right to begin. The survey should only take a few minutes to complete and Yale Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) has created a [help guide](#) for your convenience.

Special Requirements for P-Listed Chemical Waste

P-Listed

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection regulate P-listed chemical waste more stringently than other chemical wastes. Some examples of chemicals on their P list include Acrolein, Allyl Alcohol, Carbon Disulfide, Cyanides, Dinitrophenol, Epinephrine, Nicotine, Osmium Tetroxide, Phenylthiourea, Sodium Azide, and Thiophenol. View the [complete list of P-listed chemicals](#).

Waste derived from the chemicals on their P list is considered acutely hazardous waste and generators of acutely hazardous waste shall comply with the requirements for regular hazardous waste, as well as:

- All materials that come in contact with the chemicals and formulations containing the chemicals shall be collected for disposal as chemical hazardous waste.
- All liquids containing any concentration of the chemicals shall be collected for disposal as chemical hazardous waste.
- The Satellite Accumulation Area volume limit is one quart. As soon as there is a total of one quart or more of P-listed waste in the SAA, the date shall be written on each container present and an [online chemical waste pickup request](#) shall be submitted in EHS Integrator so EHS can remove all of the P-listed waste within three calendar days.
- Empty containers (glass ampoules, plastic tubes, bottles, etc.) shall be managed and disposed as chemical hazardous waste.

QUESTIONS?

Please contact
the RCRA
Compliance
Officer at
203-432-9384.