

SMU EHS Standard Operating Procedure for use of

CRYOGENS



Examples: dry ice, liquid nitrogen, liquid argon, liquid helium, liquid oxygen

HAZARDS	Potential Hazards	 Tissue damage (frostbite) Potential explosion due to pressure buildup Oxygen deficiency through displacement of oxygen See Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for specific hazard information. 		
HAZARD CONTROLS	Storage and Transportation	 Never store cryogenic liquids or dry ice in a walk-in cold room. Never store cryogenic liquids or dry ice in areas of poor ventilation. Store and transport cryogenic materials ONLY in Dewars or cryogenic liquid cylinders designed specifically for that cryogen. Inspect storage containers daily to ensure that no air or ice plugs exist in the openings. 		
	Engineering Controls	 Each part of a cryogenic system must have its own pressure relief system. Use and store cryogens in large, well-ventilated areas. Contact EHS to determine if an oxygen deficiency sensor is needed. 		
	Work Practice Controls	 Do not put your head inside a liquid nitrogen freezer, dry ice chest, or other enclosed space containing a cryogen. Check the liquid levels regularly. If the liquid evaporates more rapidly than normal, the container may be losing its vacuum. 		
	Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	Minimum PPE: Safety glasses Lab coat Cryogenic gloves If working with an open container, add: Safety goggles Face shield Cryogenic apron		
	Waste	Return cylinders and unused gas to vendor. Do not dump cryogens in the sink.		
IER	Training	Sign Laboratory Specific Training document to indicate understanding of this SOP.		
ОТНЕВ	Questions	Contact Environmental Health and Safety at 214-768-2430.		
	Additional Guidelines	Please complete page 2 for additional laboratory-specific guidelines		

Laboratory-specific gases and procedures:							