PHENOL

An organic compound with a sweet, tarry odor. Commonly used in tissue preservation as a disinfectant, and in combination with chloroform for nucleic acid extraction. A component of the reagents Trizol and QIAzol.

HAZARDS

Toxic if inhaled, ingested, or absorbed through skin

Causes severe skin burns and eye damage

Initial skin contact can cause numbness, so burn may not be immediately apparent

Breaks through 8 mil (0.2mm) nitrile gloves within 10 minutes; even faster when combined with chloroform

Reacts with strong oxidizers

REDUCE RISK

Always work in a fume hood

Wear splash goggles

Wear a buttoned lab coat

Wear fully enclosed shoes

Choose gloves using...

C<sub>3</sub>D<sub>2</sub>

Chemicals

Concentration

Contact Type

Duration

Dexterity

If necessary, wear a rubber apron and face shield

Never work alone

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Ensure there is a working safety shower and eyewash within 10 seconds of work area

Small Skin Exposure

Irrigate or swab with PEG until the Phenol smell is no longer detectable and seek medical attention

Large Skin Exposure

Seek immediate medical attention, treat with PEG until help arrives, if PEG is unavailable use a safety shower to thoroughly flush with water

Stock Polyethylene Glycol

PEG-300 or PEG-400

(Available through CyBuy)

Seek immediate medical attention and use an eyewash to FLUSH EYES WITH WATER until help arrives