

## CLIP, Chemical Laboratory Information Profile

"Only when you know the hazards, can you take the necessary precautionary measures."

**Mercury(I) chloride****CAS No.: 10112-91-1**

Synonym: Calomel

**Physical Properties****Exposure Limits**

White powder; when exposed to light forms Hg and HgCl<sub>2</sub>.  
 Vapor pressure at 20 °C: negligible  
 Melting point: 302 °C  
 Mercury(I) chloride sublimates at 273 °C

OSHA PEL: 0.1 mg/m<sup>3</sup>  
 ACGIH TLV: 0.025 mg/m<sup>3</sup> as Hg

**Hazardous Characteristics**

| Overall toxicity | Flammability | Destructive to skin/eye | Absorbed through skin | Sensitizer? | Self-reactive? | Incompatible with:                      |
|------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------|---|
| 3                | 0            | 2                       | 3                     | No          | No             | No known significant incompatibilities. |

0: None (or very low); 1: Slight; 2: Moderate; 3: High; 4: Severe.

Cited as known to be or reasonably anticipated to be carcinogenic in NTP-9?

No

Identified as a reproductive toxin in Frazier and Hage, *Reproductive Hazards of the Workplace?*

Yes

**Typical symptoms of acute exposures:**

Sore throat, coughing, shortness of breath, skin redness and/or pain, eye redness and/or pain, metallic taste, abdominal pain, diarrhea, vomiting, unconsciousness.

**Principal target organ(s) or system(s):**

Central nervous system, brain, kidneys, eyes, skin, respiratory tract.

**Storage Requirements**

Keep with other poisons in a cool, dry, well-ventilated, and locked location.

**Additional Remarks**

At room temperature, inhalation of air-borne dust is possible; at high temperatures, vapor inhalation becomes an additional hazard.

**Notes****ReadMe**

This Chemical Laboratory Information Profile is *not* a Material Safety Data Sheet. It is a brief summary for teachers and their students that describes some of the hazards of this chemical as it is typically used in laboratories. On the basis of your knowledge of these hazards and before using or handling this chemical, *you need to select the precautions and first-aid procedures to be followed.* For that information as well as for other useful information, refer to Material Safety Data Sheets, container labels, and references in the scientific literature that pertain to this chemical.

**Reproductive Toxins**

Some substances that in fact are reproductive toxins are not yet recognized as such. For the best readily available and up-to-date information, refer to "DART/ETIC". See the TOXNET home page at [www.sis.nlm.nih.gov](http://www.sis.nlm.nih.gov) and click on "Toxicology search". *Note that some of the data in DART/ETIC have not been peer-reviewed.* See also Linda M. Frazier and Marvin L. Hage, *Reproductive Hazards of the Workplace*, Wiley, 1998; and T. H. Shepard, *Catalog of Teratogenic Agents*, 9th ed.; Johns Hopkins University Press, 1998.

**Abbreviations**

ACGIH TLV—American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists—Threshold Limit Value. C—Ceiling. CAS—Chemical Abstracts Service. mg/m<sup>3</sup>—milligrams per cubic meter. NA—Not applicable. NE—Not established. NI—No information. NTP-9—National Toxicology Program, Ninth Annual Report on Carcinogens. OSHA PEL—Occupational Safety and Health Administration—Permissible Exposure Limit. ppm—parts per million. STEL/C—Short-term exposure limit and ceiling.

Prepared by: Jay A. Young

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