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February 20, 2015

Dr. Jasti  
7373 West Lane  
Kaiser Permanente  
Stockton, CA 95210

RECEIVED

FEB 23 2015

DIVISION OF  
WORKERS COMPENSATION  
STOCKTON OFFICE

Regarding: Your medical opinion

Dear Dr. Jasti:

I hope that you are doing well, personally and professionally. As you will recall, I'm your past patient and we had several years of frequent contact during the years that I worked as a pesticide applicator. I wasn't informed until 2012 (long after I stopped seeing you) that my employer had been using formaldehyde during the entire period of my employment. I am writing to you today to ask if you could look at the enclosed documents and compare the listed symptoms with those that I presented previously.

Please affirm that my past complaints align with the signs of chemical exposure. If you are unable to reach this opinion yourself, then please forward this information to the toxicology doctor within your organization. Thank you for your time and attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Anderson



copies:

✓  
WCAB  
31 E. Channel Street, Room 344  
Stockton, CA 95202

Attorney Sara Skolnik  
Stockwell Harris  
1545 River Park Drive, Ste. 330  
Sacramento, CA 95815



## **What You Should Know about Formaldehyde**

### **What is formaldehyde?**

Formaldehyde is a colorless, strong-smelling gas. It is used to make building materials and household products. Formaldehyde is used to make walls, cabinets, and furniture.

### **What happens when someone breathes too much formaldehyde?**

Formaldehyde can make you feel sick if you breathe a lot of it. People can have symptoms such as:

- sore throat
- cough
- scratchy eyes
- nosebleeds

Scientists use the words “exposed” or “exposure” to talk about how people come in contact with a substance, such as formaldehyde. Some people are more sensitive than others, so an exposure that causes no problems for some people can make other people sick or uncomfortable. Some of these symptoms also happen with other upper respiratory illnesses, such as colds/flu and seasonal allergies, so if you have these symptoms we recommend that you see a doctor or another medical professional.

In general –

- If you are more sensitive to formaldehyde and are exposed to more of it for a longer time, you are more likely to have symptoms.
- If you are exposed to less formaldehyde for a shorter time, you are less likely to have symptoms, especially if you are not sensitive to formaldehyde.

Formaldehyde is known to cause cancer. The cancer of greatest concern is cancer of the nose and throat. Scientific research has not yet shown that a certain level of formaldehyde exposure causes cancer. However, the higher the level and the longer the exposure, the greater the chance of getting cancer. Exposure to formaldehyde might increase the chance of getting cancer even at levels too low to cause symptoms.

### **Sources of formaldehyde**

Formaldehyde is a common chemical that can be emitted from a number of products in the home. Smoking, pressed wood, and particle board have all been shown to be sources of formaldehyde. Higher formaldehyde levels are usually found in newer homes or homes with new construction. The levels decrease over time. Formaldehyde levels also increase with increases in temperature and humidity.



1000 ppb	High	If your reading falls into the <b>higher range</b> , you need to place a high priority on lowering your exposure to formaldehyde. This is especially important if family members are elderly, young children, or have health conditions such as asthma.
100 ppb	Medium	If your reading falls into the <b>intermediate range</b> , your risk of irritation from formaldehyde exposure is lower, but it is still important to take steps to reduce your formaldehyde exposure. This is especially important if family members are elderly, young children, or have health conditions such as asthma.
10 ppb	Low	If your reading falls into the <b>lower range</b> , these levels are found on the streets of many cities and in many buildings. The risk of health problems at these levels is low.

Note: Levels are expressed at parts per billion (ppb). To convert to parts per million (ppm), divide by 1000.

In addition to the formaldehyde level, you should think about other factors.

**Age.** Formaldehyde exposure is a special concern for children and the elderly. Children may become sensitive to formaldehyde more easily, which may make it more likely they will become sick. Elderly people may be less able to tolerate high formaldehyde exposures. If children or elderly people are in your home, it is important to reduce their exposure to formaldehyde.

**Health conditions.** Formaldehyde irritates the airways. People with asthma, bronchitis, or other breathing conditions are especially sensitive to formaldehyde. People with other chronic diseases also may be less able to tolerate formaldehyde exposure. Pregnant women and their unborn children may not be at higher risk, but they should be careful about exposure. If anyone in your home has any of these conditions, it is important to reduce their exposure to formaldehyde.

### How can I improve the air quality in my home?

#### *To protect yourself from formaldehyde exposure:*

- Do not smoke, and especially do not smoke indoors.
- Open windows as much as possible to let in fresh air.
- Try to keep the temperature inside homes at the lowest comfortable setting.
- Run the air conditioner or dehumidifier to control mold.
- Also, spend as much time outdoors in fresh air as possible. This is especially important for families with children, elderly people or those with chronic diseases such as asthma.



***To control mold:***

- Fix water leaks to help keep mold away.
- Clean away any mold you see or smell with detergent and water.

***In addition:***

- Be sure to bring in fresh air when you use cleaning products and insecticides. To do this, open windows or run the air conditioner. Be sure the air conditioner is bringing in air from outside.
- If you smell gas, do not light any flames or sparks and leave the building right away.
- If you have health concerns, see a doctor or another medical professional.

# Material Safety Data Sheet



## Section 1. Chemical Product and Company Identification

Product Name Formalin Solution 10% Neutral Buff. pH 7.0	Product Code 28600
Manufacturer's Name StatLab Medical Products, Inc.	Emergency Telephone Number 800-424-9300
Address (Number, Street, City, State, and ZIP Code) 407 Interchange st.  McKinney Tx 75071	Telephone Number for Information 800-442-3573 x 2 Date Prepared 10/14/2003 (rev 10/20/05) Signature of Preparer (optional)

## Section 2. Composition/Information on Ingredients

Component	CAS #	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV	Other Limits Recommended	Percent
Formaldehyde	50-00-0	0.75 ppm	C 0.3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		3-4
Methyl Alcohol	67-56-1	200 ppm	250 ppm		1-1.5
Sodium Phosphate Monobasic Monohydrate	10049-21-5	N/A	N/A		<1
Sodium Phosphate Dibasic	7558-79-4	N/A	N/A		<1
Water, Deionized	7732-18-5	N/A	N/A		Balance

## Section 3. Hazards Identification

### Emergency Overview

Contains Formaldehyde, a suspected carcinogen. Irritating to the eyes, respiratory system and skin. May cause sensitization by inhalation or skin contact. May be fatal if swallowed. If ingested, dilute with water, induce vomiting then call a physician. Wash areas of contact with water. If inhaled, remove to fresh air.

### Potential Health Effects

Target Organs	Eyes, skin, respiratory system.
Eye	Causes irritation, redness and pain.
Skin	May cause irritation, redness and pain. Frequent or prolonged exposure may cause hypersensitivity leading to contact dermatitis.
Ingestion	May cause severe abdominal pain, vomiting, headache and diarrhea.
Inhalation	Causes irritation of respiratory tract. Symptoms may include sore throat, coughing and shortness of breath.
Chronic/Carcinogenicity	IARC-Formaldehyde is probably carcinogenic. NTP-Formaldehyde is reasonably anticipated to be a carcinogen. OSHA-Yes (Formaldehyde)
Teratology	Mutation data cited in "Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances" on Formaldehyde.
Reproduction	Reproductive effects cited in "Registry of Toxic Effects of Chemical Substances" on Formaldehyde.
Mutagenicity	

# Material Safety Data Sheet



Product Name Formalin Solution 10% Neutral Buff. pH 7.0

28600

## Section 4. First Aid Measures

Eye Irrigate immediately with large quantity of water for at least 15 minutes.

Skin Flush with water for at least 15 minutes.

Ingestion Dilute immediately with water or milk. Induce vomiting. Call a physician.

Inhalation Remove to fresh air. Give artificial respiration if necessary.

All Other Means of Exposure CONTACT POISON CONTROL CENTER IMMEDIATELY. Be prepared to provide hazardous ingredient information from Section 2.

## Section 5. Fire Fighting Measures

Flammable Properties	Flash Point	N/A	Method	N/A
Flammable Limits	Lower	N/A	Upper	N/A
Autoignition Temperature				
Hazardous Combustion Products				
Extinguishing Media	Use any means suitable for extinguishing the surrounding fire. (Water spray, dry chemical, alcohol foam, or carbon dioxide.)			
Fire & Explosion Hazards	Not considered to be a fire or explosion hazard.			
Fire Fighting Instructions	Use normal procedures/instructions.			
Fire Fighting Equipment	Use protective clothing and breathing equipment appropriate for the surrounding fire.			

## Section 6. Accidental Release Measures

Ventilate area of leak or spill. Cover spill with 1:1:1 mixture of Sodium Carbonate, clay cat litter and sand. Scoop into container and transport to fume hood. Add the mixture to cold water (about 10 mL water for each 1 mL of Formaldehyde solution). Slowly add household bleach (2.5 mL bleach for each 1 mL of Formaldehyde solution). Allow to stand for 20 minutes. Decant liquid to drain. Flush with water. Treat solid residue as normal refuse.

## Section 7. Handling and Storage

Handling/Storage As with all chemicals, wash hands thoroughly after handling. Avoid contact with eyes. Protect from freezing and physical damage. Use with adequate ventilation. Store at controlled room temperature, 15-30°C.

SAFETY STORAGE CODE: HEALTH

# Material Safety Data Sheet



Product Name Formalin Solution 10% Neutral Bufl Product Code

28600

## Section 8. Exposure Controls, Personal Protection

Engineering Controls	Use of a fume hood is recommended.
Respiratory Protection	If the exposure level is exceeded, wear a full facepiece respirator equipped with a formaldehyde cartridge.
Skin Protection	Gloves
Eye Protection	Safety glasses or goggles.

### Permissible Exposure Levels (see also Section 2)

Component	CAS #	OSHA PEL	ACGIH TLV	Other Limits Recommended	Percent
Formaldehyde	50-00-0	0.75 ppm	C 0.3 mg/m <sup>3</sup>		3-4
Methyl Alcohol	67-56-1	200 ppm	250 ppm		1-1.5
Sodium Phosphate Monobasic Monohydrate	10049-21-5	N/A	N/A		<1
Sodium Phosphate Dibasic	7558-79-4	N/A	N/A		<1
Water, Deionized	7732-18-5	N/A	N/A		Balance

## Section 9. Physical and Chemical Properties

Boiling Point	approx. 100°C	Specific Gravity (H <sub>2</sub> O = 1)	approx. 1.02
Vapor Pressure (mm Hg)	N/A	Melting Point	approx. 0°C
Vapor Density (AIR = 1)		Evaporation rate (Butyl Acetate = 1)	
Solubility in Water	Infinite	Physical State	
Appearance and Odor	Clear, colorless/pungent odor	Other	pH: 7.0

## Section 10. Stability and Reactivity

Chemical Stability	Stable under normal conditions of use and storage.
Incompatibility	Strong oxidizers, strong alkalis, acids, phenol, urea.
Hazardous Decomposition Products	May form Carbon Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide and Formaldehyde when heated to decomposition.
Hazardous Polymerization	Nonhazardous polymerization may occur, forming paraformaldehyde, a white solid.

## Section 11. Toxicological Information

LD<sub>50</sub>, Oral, Rat: (Formaldehyde) 100 mg/kg; LD<sub>50</sub>, Oral, Rat: (Sodium Phosphate Diabasic) 17,000 mg/kg; Details of toxic effects not reported other than lethal dose value.

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Product Name Formalin Solution 10% Neutral Bufl Product Code

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## Section 12. Ecological Information

Ecotoxicological Information: Formaldehyde is expected to be slightly toxic to aquatic life.

Chemical Fate Information: Formaldehyde is expected to readily biodegrade when released into water.

## Section 13. Disposal Considerations

Whatever cannot be saved for recovery or recycling should be disposed of in a RCRA approved waste disposal facility. Dispose of in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations.

## Section 14. Transport Information

GROUND SHIPMENTS: Not regulated

AIR SHIPMENTS: Aviation Regulated Liquid n.o.s. (formaldehyde), 9, UN3334

NOTE: It is ultimately the shippers responsibility to make hazard class determination based on their best information available.

## Section 15. Regulatory Information

OSHA Status: This item meets the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200) definition of a hazardous material.

TSCA Status: All components of this solution are listed on the TSCA Inventory.

CERCLA Reportable Quantity: Formaldehyde, RQ 100 pounds.

SARA TITLE III:

Section 302 Extremely Hazardous Substances: Formaldehyde TPQ 500 pounds

Section 311/312 Hazardous Categories: No

Section 313 Toxic Chemicals: Formaldehyde, 0.1% De Minimus concentration

RCRA Status: No

California Proposition 65: No listed (Formaldehyde gas is listed)

Florida: Formaldehyde is listed on the state Toxic Substances List.

Pennsylvania: Formaldehyde is listed as an environmental and special hazard on the Hazardous Substances List.

## Section 16. Other Information

NFPA Ratings: Health: 2 Flammability: 2 Reactivity: 0 Special Notice Key: None

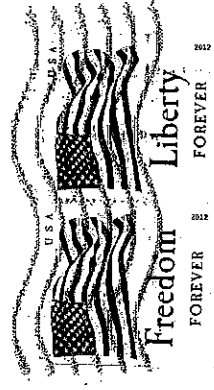
HMIS® Ratings: Health: 4 Flammability: 2 Reactivity: 0 Protective Equipment: C  
(protective eyewear and gloves)

When handled properly by qualified personnel, the product described herein does not present a significant health or safety hazard. Alteration to its characteristics by concentration, evaporation, addition of other substances, or other means may present hazards not specifically addressed herein and which must be evaluated by the user. The information furnished herein is believed to be accurate and represents the best data currently available to us. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made and STATLAB MEDICAL PRODUCTS, INC. assumes no legal responsibility or liability whatsoever resulting from its use.



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