



### HSC Safety Tips No. (8)

1. All solutions of formaldehyde and tissues preserved in formalin **MUST** be stored in tightly sealed, properly labeled, containers to prevent leakage, spills and evaporation.
2. All work with concentrated formalin solutions **MUST** be done in a chemical fume hood.
3. **DO NOT** pour formalin or formalin waste into sinks or drains. Formalin waste solutions **MUST** be placed in tightly sealed, labeled containers and segregated for disposal as hazardous chemical waste.
4. Formaldehyde splashed in the eye can cause irreversible damage to the cornea. Safety glasses with side shields **MUST ALWAYS** be worn when working with formaldehyde. If it happens to splash into your eyes, flush with water for at least 15 minutes in an eyewash then immediately report to your supervisor.
5. Small spills of dilute formalin solutions **MUST** be cleaned up **IMMEDIATELY**. First, cover the spill with paper towel or other suitable absorbent material. **DO NOT** mop up a spill with reusable mops. If dry absorbents are used, scoop the absorbed formaldehyde solution with a dustpan into a plastic bag. Be sure to wear gloves (butyl or nitrile gloves) and eye protection. Double bag, seal, and label the material.

