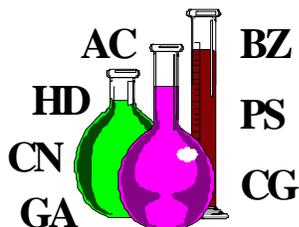


U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine



*General Facts About Tear Agent 2-
Chloroacetophenone (CN)*

218-43-1096

General

The United States considers agent CN (popularly known as mace or tear gas) and its mixtures with various chemicals to be obsolete for military deployment. It is highly toxic by inhalation and ingestion. CN tear compound causes flow of tears and irritation of the skin. Since tear compounds produce only transient casualties, they are wisely used for training, riot control, and situations where long-term incapacitation is unacceptable.

Synonyms

Phenyacyl chloride;
Omega=chloroacetophenone;
Chloroacetophenone;
Chloromethyl phenyl ketone;
Phenyl chloromethyl ketone;
“Tear gas”;
CN.

Description

CN is a colorless-to gray crystalline solid with a sharp, irritating floral odor. The odor threshold for CN is 0.1 mg/m³.

Overexposure Effects

Alpha-chloroacetophenone vapors may cause a tingling or runny nose, burning and/or pain of the eyes, blurred vision, and tears. Burning in the chest, difficult breathing, and nausea may also occur as well as skin irritation, rash, or burns. It can also cause difficulty if swallowed.

**Emergency and First Aid
Procedures**

Inhalation: remove the victim to fresh air immediately; perform artificial respiration if breathing has stopped; keep victim warm and at rest; seek medical attention immediately.

Eye Contact: wash eyes immediately with copious amounts of water, lifting the lower and upper lids occasionally; do not wear contact lenses when working with this chemical; seek medical attention immediately.

Skin Contact: wash the contaminated skin using soap or mild detergent and water immediately; remove the contaminated clothing immediately and wash the skin using soap or mild detergent and water; seek medical attention immediately when there are chemical burns or evidence of skin irritation.

Ingestion: induce vomiting by having victim touch the back of the throat with finger or by giving victim syrup of ipecac as directed; do not induce vomiting if victim is unconscious; seek medical attention immediately.

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