

## Glutaraldehyde

### Potential Hazard

Employee exposure to glutaraldehyde, found in products such as Cidex, Aldesen, Hospex and others, when instruments or other items are cold sterilized in central supply.

### Possible Solutions

- Store glutaraldehyde products in closed containers, in well ventilated areas. Post signs to remind staff to replace lids after using product.
- Use glutaraldehyde products in rooms that are well ventilated and large enough to ensure adequate dilution of vapor, with a minimum air exchange rate of 10 air changes per hour. Ideally, install local exhaust ventilation such as a properly functioning laboratory fume hood to control vapor.
- Use appropriate PPE to minimize exposure including:
  - Gloves which are impervious to glutaraldehyde such as those made of Butyl Rubber, Nitrile, and Viton® which have been shown to provide full shift protection from glutaraldehyde.
  - Splash proof goggles and/or full-face shields when working with glutaraldehyde to protect eyes.