



SAFETY DATA SHEET

1. Identification

Product identifier	Dexamethasone	
Other means of identification		
Catalog number	1176007	
CAS number	50-02-2	
Chemical name	9-Fluoro-11β,17,21-trihydroxy-16α-methylpregna-1,4-diene-3,20-dione	
Recommended use	For analytical laboratory use only.	
Recommended restrictions	Not for use as a drug. Not for administration to humans or animals.	
Manufacturer/Importer/Supplier/Distributor information		
Manufacturer		
Company name	U. S. Pharmacopeia	
Address	12601 Twinbrook Parkway Rockville MD 20852-1790 United States	
Telephone	Technical Services	301-816-8129
Website	www.usp.org	
E-mail	RSTECH@usp.org	
Emergency phone number	CHEMTREC within US & Canada	1-800-424-9300
	CHEMTREC outside US & Canada	+1 703-527-3887

2. Hazard(s) identification

Physical hazards	Not classified.	
Health hazards	Serious eye damage/eye irritation	Category 2B
	Reproductive toxicity	Category 2
	Specific target organ toxicity, repeated exposure	Category 1 (endocrine system)
Environmental hazards	Not classified.	
OSHA defined hazards	Not classified.	
Label elements		



Signal word	Danger
Hazard statement	Causes eye irritation. Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child. Causes damage to organs (endocrine system) through prolonged or repeated exposure.
Precautionary statement	
Prevention	Obtain special instructions before use. Do not handle until all safety precautions have been read and understood. Do not breathe dust. Wash thoroughly after handling. Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection.
Response	If in eyes: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention. If exposed or concerned: Get medical advice/attention.
Storage	Store locked up.
Disposal	Dispose of contents/container in accordance with local/regional/national/international regulations.

Hazard(s) not otherwise classified (HNOC)

This product is supplied in a small quantity which does not constitute a combustible dust hazard. The physical properties of this material indicate that in large quantities accumulated dust may be hazardous.

Supplemental information

Potent pharmacologically active material.

3. Composition/information on ingredients**Substance**

Chemical name	Common name and synonyms	CAS number	%
Dexamethasone		50-02-2	100

4. First-aid measures**Inhalation**

If breathing is difficult, remove to fresh air and keep at rest in a position comfortable for breathing. Call a physician if symptoms develop or persist.

Skin contact

Rinse skin with water/shower. Get medical attention if irritation develops and persists.

Eye contact

Immediately flush eyes with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes. Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. If eye irritation persists: Get medical advice/attention.

Ingestion

Rinse mouth. If ingestion of a large amount does occur, call a poison control center immediately.

Most important symptoms/effects, acute and delayed

Endocrine system effects. Potent pharmacologically active material. Occupational exposure to small amounts may cause physiological effects.

Indication of immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically. Treatment of corticosteroid overdose may include the following: Toxicity is low after acute ingestion. Gastrointestinal decontamination is generally not necessary.

General information

Remove from exposure. Remove contaminated clothing. For treatment advice, seek guidance from an occupational health physician or other licensed health-care provider familiar with workplace chemical exposures. In the United States, the national poison control center phone number is 1-800-222-1222. If person is not breathing, give artificial respiration. If breathing is difficult, give oxygen if available. Persons developing serious hypersensitivity (anaphylactic) reactions must receive immediate medical attention.

5. Fire-fighting measures**Suitable extinguishing media**

Water. Foam. Dry chemical or CO₂. Use fire-extinguishing media appropriate for surrounding materials.

Unsuitable extinguishing media

None known.

Specific hazards arising from the chemical

Explosion hazard: Avoid generating dust; fine dust dispersed in air in sufficient concentrations and in the presence of an ignition source is a potential dust explosion hazard.

Special protective equipment and precautions for firefighters

Wear suitable protective equipment.

Fire fighting equipment/instructions

Use water spray to cool unopened containers. As with all fires, evacuate personnel to a safe area. Firefighters should use self-contained breathing equipment and protective clothing.

Specific methods

Cool containers exposed to flames with water until well after the fire is out.

General fire hazards

No unusual fire or explosion hazards noted.

6. Accidental release measures**Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures**

Keep unnecessary personnel away. Dust deposits should not be allowed to accumulate on surfaces, as these may form an explosive mixture if they are released into the atmosphere in sufficient concentration. Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. Avoid inhalation of dust from the spilled material. Do not touch damaged containers or spilled material unless wearing appropriate protective clothing. Ensure adequate ventilation.

Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

Avoid the generation of dusts during clean-up. Sweep up or vacuum up spillage and collect in suitable container for disposal. Clean surface thoroughly to remove residual contamination. For waste disposal, see section 13 of the SDS.

Environmental precautions

Avoid discharge into drains, water courses or onto the ground.

7. Handling and storage

Precautions for safe handling

As a general rule, when handling USP materials, avoid all contact and inhalation of dust, mists, and/or vapors associated with the material. Clean equipment and work surfaces with suitable detergent or solvent after use. After removing gloves, wash hands and other exposed skin thoroughly. Avoid significant deposits of material, especially on horizontal surfaces, which may become airborne and form combustible dust clouds and may contribute to secondary explosions. Combustible dust clouds may be created where operations produce fine material (dust). Select and use containment devices and personal protective equipment based on a risk assessment of material potency and exposure potential.

Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Store in tight container. This material should be handled and stored per label instructions to ensure product integrity.

8. Exposure controls/personal protection

Occupational exposure limits

The following constituents are the only constituents of the product which have a PEL, TLV or other recommended exposure limit. At this time, the other constituents have no known exposure limits.

Exposure limit values

Industrial Use Material

Type

Value

Dexamethasone (CAS
50-02-2)

TWA

3 micrograms/m3

Biological limit values

No biological exposure limits noted for the ingredient(s).

Appropriate engineering controls

No open handling. For laboratory operations, use approved ventilation or containment system (biological safety cabinet, ventilated balance enclosure, glovebox). Control exposures to below the occupational exposure level (if available). Select and use containment devices and personal protective equipment based on a risk assessment of exposure potential. Cover all containers for solutions and slurries while being transferred.

Individual protection measures, such as personal protective equipment

Eye/face protection

Wear safety glasses with side shields, chemical splash goggles, or full face shield, if necessary. Base the choice of protection on the job activity and potential for contact with eyes or face. An emergency eye wash station should be available.

Skin protection

Hand protection

Consider double gloves. Wear nitrile or other impervious gloves if skin contact is possible. When the material is dissolved or suspended in an organic solvent, wear gloves that provide protection against the solvent.

Other

Train employees in proper gowning and degowning practices. Wear disposable lab coat, disposable sleeve covers and two pair of gloves as appropriate for the task. Base the choice of skin protection on the job activity, potential for skin contact and solvents and reagents in use. Do not wear protective garments in common areas (e.g., cafeterias) or out-of-doors.

Respiratory protection

Use a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) with HEPA filters, disposable outerware and head cover for spill cleanup. Choose respiratory protection appropriate to the task and the level of existing engineering controls.

Thermal hazards

Wear appropriate thermal protective clothing, when necessary.

General hygiene considerations

Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Pharmacological effects may be seen with occupational exposure. Handling practices in this SDS are recommendations for laboratory use of USP materials.

9. Physical and chemical properties

Appearance

Appearance descriptions are general information and not specific to any USP lot.

Physical state

Solid.

Form

Powder.

Color

White.

Odor

Odorless.

Odor threshold

Not available.

pH

Not available.

Melting point/freezing point

503.6 - 507.2 °F (262 - 264 °C)

Initial boiling point and boiling range

Not available.

Flash point	Not available.
Evaporation rate	Not available.
Flammability (solid, gas)	Not available.
Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits	
Flammability limit - lower (%)	Not available.
Flammability limit - upper (%)	Not available.
Explosive limit - lower (%)	Not available.
Explosive limit - upper (%)	Not available.
Vapor pressure	< 0.0000001 kPa (77 °F (25 °C))
Vapor density	Not available.
Relative density	Not available.
Solubility(ies)	
Solubility (water)	Practically insoluble.
Solubility (other)	Acetone: Sparingly soluble. Chloroform: Slightly soluble. Ethanol: Sparingly soluble. Ether: Very slightly soluble. Methanol: Sparingly soluble.
Partition coefficient (n-octanol/water)	1.83
Auto-ignition temperature	Not available.
Decomposition temperature	Not available.
Viscosity	Not available.
Other information	
Chemical family	Corticosteroid.
Dust explosion properties	
Minimum ignition energy (MIE) - dust cloud	< 1 mJ
Molecular formula	C22H29FO5
Molecular weight	392.46

10. Stability and reactivity

Reactivity	The product is stable and non-reactive under normal conditions of use, storage and transport.
Chemical stability	Material is stable under normal conditions.
Possibility of hazardous reactions	No dangerous reaction known under conditions of normal use.
Conditions to avoid	Avoid temperatures exceeding the decomposition temperature. Contact with incompatible materials.
Incompatible materials	Strong oxidizing agents. Strong acids. Acid chlorides. Acid anhydrides.
Hazardous decomposition products	Irritating and/or toxic fumes or gases. Emits toxic fumes under fire conditions. F-.

11. Toxicological information

Information on likely routes of exposure

Inhalation	Knowledge about health hazard is incomplete.
Skin contact	Knowledge about health hazard is incomplete.
Eye contact	Causes eye irritation.
Ingestion	Based on information from therapeutic use, this material may cause: Endocrine effects.

Symptoms related to the physical, chemical and toxicological characteristics

Corticosteroids: Fluid and electrolyte imbalance. Adrenal suppression. Immunosuppression. Cushing's syndrome. High blood pressure. Gastrointestinal disturbances. Headache. Lightheadedness. Weakness. Visual disturbances. Mood or mental status changes. Infection. Thinning skin. Swelling. Bruising. Bone fractures. Back pain. Joint pain. Tremors. Menstrual irregularities. Impotence.

Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity

Product	Species	Test Results
Dexamethasone (CAS 50-02-2)		
Acute		
Oral		
LD50	Mouse	6.5 g/kg
	Rat	> 3 g/kg

Skin corrosion/irritation

Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.

Serious eye damage/eye irritation

Causes eye irritation.

Local effects

Eye irritation
Result: Irritant.
Species: Rabbit
Severity: Mild.
Skin irritation
Result: Irritant.
Species: Rabbit
Severity: Mild.

Respiratory or skin sensitization

Respiratory sensitization

Knowledge about health hazard is incomplete.

Skin sensitization

Knowledge about health hazard is incomplete.

Germ cell mutagenicity

Knowledge about mutagenicity is incomplete.

Mutagenicity

Ames test (Salmonella typhimurium)
Result: Negative
Micronucleus test
Result: Positive
Mutagenicity: human lymphocytes
Result: Positive

Carcinogenicity

Knowledge about carcinogenicity is incomplete.

IARC Monographs. Overall Evaluation of Carcinogenicity

Not listed.

OSHA Specifically Regulated Substances (29 CFR 1910.1001-1053)

Not listed.

US. National Toxicology Program (NTP) Report on Carcinogens

Not listed.

Reproductive toxicity

Suspected of damaging fertility or the unborn child. Most studies have concluded that therapeutic use of corticosteroids by pregnant women does not cause adverse effects on the fetus. A small increase in the incidence of cleft palate was seen in some human studies. Infants born to mothers who received substantial doses of corticosteroids during pregnancy should be observed for signs of hypoadrenalism. Epidemiological studies have not shown an association between therapeutic use of this material during pregnancy and an increased incidence of birth defects.

Reproductivity

1 mg/kg/day Reproductivity, Caused structural malformations in the offspring.
Result: Positive
Species: Rat
Reproductivity, Fetotoxicity; increased incidence of malformations at maternally toxic doses.
Result: Positive

Specific target organ toxicity - single exposure

Knowledge about health hazard is incomplete.

Specific target organ toxicity - repeated exposure	Causes damage to organs (endocrine system) through prolonged or repeated exposure.
Aspiration hazard	Based on available data, the classification criteria are not met.
Further information	Potent pharmacologically active material. Occupational exposure to small amounts may cause physiological effects.

12. Ecological information

Ecotoxicity	The product is not classified as environmentally hazardous. However, this does not exclude the possibility that large or frequent spills can have a harmful or damaging effect on the environment.
Persistence and degradability	No data is available on the degradability of this product.
Bioaccumulative potential	
Octanol/water partition coefficient log Kow	
1.83	
Mobility in soil	No data available.
Other adverse effects	No other adverse environmental effects (e.g. ozone depletion, photochemical ozone creation potential, endocrine disruption, global warming potential) are expected from this component.

13. Disposal considerations

Disposal instructions	Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations. Under RCRA, it is the responsibility of the user of the product to determine, at the time of disposal, whether the product meets RCRA criteria for hazardous waste.
Local disposal regulations	Dispose in accordance with all applicable regulations.
Hazardous waste code	The waste code should be assigned in discussion between the user, the producer and the waste disposal company.
Waste from residues / unused products	Empty containers or liners may retain some product residues. This material and its container must be disposed of in a safe manner (see: Disposal instructions).
Contaminated packaging	Empty containers should be taken to an approved waste handling site for recycling or disposal. Since emptied containers may retain product residue, follow label warnings even after container is emptied.

14. Transport information

DOT	Not regulated as dangerous goods.
IATA	Not regulated as dangerous goods.
Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code	Not applicable.
General information	It is the shipper's responsibility to determine the correct transport classification at the time of shipment.

15. Regulatory information

US federal regulations	This product is a "Hazardous Chemical" as defined by the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, 29 CFR 1910.1200.
Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)	
TSCA Section 12(b) Export Notification (40 CFR 707, Subpt. D)	
Not regulated.	
CERCLA Hazardous Substance List (40 CFR 302.4)	
Not listed.	
SARA 304 Emergency release notification	
Not regulated.	
OSHA Specifically Regulated Substances (29 CFR 1910.1001-1053)	
Not listed.	
Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA)	
SARA 302 Extremely hazardous substance	
Not listed.	
SARA 311/312 Hazardous chemical	Yes

Classified hazard categories

Serious eye damage or eye irritation
Reproductive toxicity
Specific target organ toxicity (single or repeated exposure)

SARA 313 (TRI reporting)

Not regulated.

Other federal regulations**Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 112 Hazardous Air Pollutants (HAPs) List**

Not regulated.

Clean Air Act (CAA) Section 112(r) Accidental Release Prevention (40 CFR 68.130)

Not regulated.

Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA)

Not regulated.

US state regulations

California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): This material is not known to contain any chemicals currently listed as carcinogens or reproductive toxins.

California Proposition 65

California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 (Proposition 65): This material is not known to contain any chemicals currently listed as carcinogens or reproductive toxins. For more information go to www.P65Warnings.ca.gov.

International Inventories

Country(s) or region	Inventory name	On inventory (yes/no)*
Australia	Australian Inventory of Chemical Substances (AICS)	Yes
Canada	Domestic Substances List (DSL)	No
Canada	Non-Domestic Substances List (NDSL)	Yes
China	Inventory of Existing Chemical Substances in China (IECSC)	Yes
Europe	European Inventory of Existing Commercial Chemical Substances (EINECS)	Yes
Europe	European List of Notified Chemical Substances (ELINCS)	No
Japan	Inventory of Existing and New Chemical Substances (ENCS)	Yes
Korea	Existing Chemicals List (ECL)	Yes
New Zealand	New Zealand Inventory	Yes
Philippines	Philippine Inventory of Chemicals and Chemical Substances (PICCS)	Yes
Taiwan	Taiwan Chemical Substance Inventory (TCSI)	Yes
United States & Puerto Rico	Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) Inventory	Yes

*A "Yes" indicates that all components of this product comply with the inventory requirements administered by the governing country(s)

A "No" indicates that one or more components of the product are not listed or exempt from listing on the inventory administered by the governing country(s).

16. Other information, including date of preparation or last revision

Issue date 02-11-2008

Revision date 02-04-2021

Version # 04

Further information Refer to NFPA 654, Standard for the Prevention of Fire and Dust Explosions from the Manufacturing, Processing, and Handling of Combustible Particulate Solids, for safe handling.

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