3.20. Chemical Allergens – Procedures for Safe Handling and Storage

Allergens include a wide variety of substances that can produce skin and lung hypersensitivity. Examples include diazomethane, chromium, nickel bichromates, formaldehyde, isocyanates, and certain phenols. Many substances of unknown allergic activity can also produce responses.

- Conduct all aerosol-producing activities in a fume hood.
- Use appropriate personal protective equipment in the laboratory for handling these chemicals (e.g., lab coat, safety glasses, and gloves).
- Select suitable gloves based on the chemical resistance to prevent hand contact.
- Remove personnel from exposure if allergic reactions appear.
- Seek medical attention when appropriate. Refer to Section 5.0, Medical Consultations and Examinations.