

Ethidium Bromide Use and Disposal FYI

Hello Everyone,

Please take a moment to read the following **ethidium bromide (EtBr)** use and waste disposal information. If you have any additional questions, please contact health.safety@uregina.ca!

What: EtBr is a chemical commonly used in molecular biology laboratories for techniques such as agarose gel electrophoresis.

In certain animals, EtBr is a known mutagen and carcinogen so should be handled with considerable caution. Read the material safety data sheet *before* starting research!! You can access these datasheets through [Chemwatch](#)

Personal Protective Equipment: EtBr should always be handled with

- nitrile gloves;
- laboratory coats; and
- safety goggles.







Gloves must be removed after chemical handling and hands washed extremely well.

Waste Disposal Steps: Like all other University waste chemicals, EtBr must be disposed of properly using the following steps:

- 1) Accumulate liquid waste in jugs and solid waste (e.g. gels, saturated paper towels) in secure leak-proof containers. Science Stores can provide the appropriate waste containers for this.
- 2) The waste containers must be properly labelled with the printed waste labels available from Science Stores. Don't forget to identify the amount of agarose, polyacrylamide, or any other chemicals that may be present in the containers.

CAUTION HAZARDOUS WASTE

Check all that apply

Chemical Name of Waste Components(s)	Percentage in container	CAS #
Laboratory Manager	Building and Room Number	
Account Number		

- 3) Users will need to complete a **Waste Disposal Form** and send the completed form to health.safety@uregina.ca before bringing down and storing the waste in Science Stores! Form can be found online OR email health.safety@uregina.ca for a copy.

Happy and safe researching!!

Realize. **Safety** first.