



## ARSINE (AsH<sub>3</sub>)

- What is ARSINE?** Arsine is an industrial chemical and is considered a chemical warfare agent. Arsine is a flammable and highly toxic gas. Arsine has a garlic-like or fishy odor. Even if arsine's odor is not noticed, those present could have been seriously exposed.
- Exposure:** Inhalation is the major route of exposure. There is little information about toxic effects on the skin or eyes. Liquid arsine exposure to the skin may result in frostbite injury.
- Signs and symptoms:** Common symptoms include body aches, headaches, thirst, shivering, abdominal pain, and difficulty breathing. These symptoms usually occur within 30 to 60 minutes with heavy exposure but can be delayed for two to 24 hours. A blood disorder can occur within hours, followed by yellowing of the skin within one to two days. It can also result in kidney failure and death.
- What can you do?** Emergency response leaders may direct people to evacuate, or "shelter in place." Because no antidote exists for arsine exposure, the best thing to do is avoid it. First, get fresh air by leaving the area where the arsine was released. This is a good way to reduce the possibility of death from exposure to arsine.
- Treatment:** There is no specific treatment or antidote. Remove contaminated clothing immediately and wash exposed skin and eyes. Supportive hospital care is necessary. Seek medical care if you were exposed.
- Diagnosis:** Based on known or suspected exposure.
- Whom do you call?** Division of Public Health: 1-888-295-5156.
- For more information:** Visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/>.

**Emergency Medical Services and Preparedness Section**  
**24/7 Emergency Contact Number: 1-888-295-5156**  
**Contact Number: 302-223-2999**

Revised: 02/2023

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