

Isotretinoin (13-cis retinoic acid) SDS/MSDS (Safety Data Sheet)

1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product identifier

* Product Name: Isotretinoin (13-cis retinoic acid)

* Catalog Number: S1379

* CAS Number: 4759-48-2

* IUPAC Name: (2Z,4E,6E,8E)-3,7-dimethyl-9-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohex-1-enyl)nona-2,4,6,8-tetraenoic acid

Relevant identified uses and uses advised against

* Identified uses: For research and development use only; laboratory chemicals; manufacture of substances.

* Uses advised against: Not for pharmaceutical, household, or other unapproved uses.

Details of the supplier

* Company: Selleck Chemicals

* TollFree: +1 877 796-6397

* Tel: +1 832 582-8158

* Fax: +1 832 582-8590

Emergency telephone number

* Emergency phone #: +1 832 582-8158

2. HAZARDS IDENTIFICATION

2.1 GHS classification in accordance with 29 CFR 1910 (OSHA HCS):

Skin irritation: Category 2. H315

Serious eye irritation: Category 2. H319

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure): Category 3. H335

Reproductive toxicity: Category 1. H360

Acute aquatic toxicity: Category 1. H400

Chronic aquatic toxicity: Category 1. H410

2.2 GHS Label elements, including precautionary statements

Hazard Pictogram(s)



Signal Word

Danger

Hazard statement(s)

H315: Causes skin irritation

H319: Causes serious eye irritation

H335: May cause respiratory irritation

H360: May damage fertility or the unborn child

H400: Very toxic to aquatic life

H410: Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects

Precautionary statement(s)	None.
Prevention	<p>P203: Obtain, read and follow all safety instructions before use.</p> <p>P261: Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray.</p> <p>P264: Wash hands thoroughly after handling.</p> <p>P264+P265: Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Do not touch eyes.</p> <p>P271: Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area.</p> <p>P273: Avoid release to the environment.</p> <p>P280: Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection/hearing protection.</p>
Response	<p>P302+P352: IF ON SKIN: wash with plenty of water.</p> <p>P304+P340: IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing.</p> <p>P305+P351: IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes.</p> <p>P318: if exposed or concerned, get medical advice.</p> <p>P319: Get medical help if you feel unwell.</p> <p>P321: Specific treatment (see information on this label and safety datasheet)).</p> <p>P332+P317: If skin irritation occurs: Get medical help.</p> <p>P337+P317: If eye irritation persists: Get medical help.</p> <p>P338: Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing.</p> <p>P362+P364: Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse.</p> <p>P391: Collect spillage.</p>
Storage	<p>P403+P233: Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed.</p> <p>P405: Store locked up.</p>
Disposal	P501: P501 Dispose of contents/ container to an approved waste disposal plant.

2.3 Other hazards

None.

3. COMPOSITION/INFORMATION ON INGREDIENTS

3.1 Substances

Product name: Isotretinoin (13-cis retinoic acid)

CAS Number: 4759-48-2

PubChem CID: 5282379

Molecular formula: C₂₀H₂₈O₂

Molecular weight: 300.4 g/mol

IUPAC name: (2Z,4E,6E,8E)-3,7-dimethyl-9-(2,6,6-trimethylcyclohexen-1-yl)nona-2,4,6,8-tetraenoic acid

3.2 Mixtures

Not applicable (pure substance).

4. FIRST-AID MEASURES

4.1 Description of first aid measures

Inhalation: INHALATION: IMMEDIATELY leave the contaminated area; take deep breaths of fresh air. If symptoms (such as wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, or burning in the mouth, throat, or chest) develop, call a physician

and be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital. Provide proper respiratory protection to rescuers entering an unknown atmosphere. Whenever possible, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) should be used; if not available, use a level of protection greater than or equal to t

Skin contact: SKIN: IMMEDIATELY flood affected skin with water while removing and isolating all contaminated clothing. Gently wash all affected skin areas thoroughly with soap and water. If symptoms such as redness or irritation develop, IMMEDIATELY call a physician and be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital for treatment.

Eye contact: EYES: First check the victim for contact lenses and remove if present. Flush victim's eyes with water or normal saline solution for 20 to 30 minutes while simultaneously calling a hospital or poison control center. Do not put any ointments, oils, or medication in the victim's eyes without specific instructions from a physician.

IMMEDIATELY transport the victim after flushing eyes to a hospital even if no symptoms (such as redness or irritation) develop.

Ingestion: INGESTION: DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. If the victim is conscious and not convulsing, give 1 or 2 glasses of water to dilute the chemical and IMMEDIATELY call a hospital or poison control center. Be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital if advised by a physician. If the victim is convulsing or unconscious, do not give anything by mouth, ensure that the victim's airway is open and lay the victim on his/her side with the head lower than the body. DO NOT INDUCE VOMITING. IMMEDIATELY transport

4.2 Most important symptoms and effects, both acute and delayed

See Section 11 (Toxicological Information).

4.3 Indication of any immediate medical attention and special treatment needed

Treat symptomatically. Contact a poison control center or physician for severe exposure.

5. FIRE-FIGHTING MEASURES

5.1 Extinguishing media

Suitable: Water spray, dry chemical, carbon dioxide (CO₂), alcohol-resistant foam.

Unsuitable: None known.

5.2 Specific hazards arising from the substance or mixture

Fires involving this material can be controlled with a carbon dioxide, dry chemical or Halon extinguisher. (NTP, 1992)

Suitable extinguishing media: Use water spray, alcohol-resistant foam, dry chemical or carbon dioxide.

Advice for firefighters: Wear self-contained breathing apparatus for fire fighting if necessary.

5.3 Advice for firefighters

Wear self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and full protective clothing.

Fight fire from upwind. Cool containers with water spray until fire is extinguished.

6. ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES

6.1 Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment (see Section 8).

Avoid breathing dust/vapor. Ensure adequate ventilation.

Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Keep people away from and upwind of spill.

6.2 Environmental precautions

Prevent product from entering drains, waterways, or soil.

Contain spill with inert absorbent material.

6.3 Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up

ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES: Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures: Use personal protective equipment. Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing vapors, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid breathing dust. Environmental precautions: Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not let product enter drains. Discharge into the environment must be avoided. Methods and materials for containment and cleaning up: Pick up and arrange disposal without creating dust. Sweep up and shovel. Keep in suitable, closed containers for disposal.

SRP: Expired or waste pharmaceuticals shall carefully take into consideration applicable DEA, EPA, and FDA regulations. It is not appropriate to dispose by flushing the pharmaceutical down the toilet or discarding to trash. If possible return the pharmaceutical to the manufacturer for proper disposal being careful to properly label and securely package the material. Alternatively, the waste pharmaceutical shall be labeled, securely packaged and transported by a state licensed medical waste contractor to dispose by burial in a licensed hazardous or toxic waste landfill or incinerator.

Product: Offer surplus and non-recyclable solutions to a licensed disposal company. Contact a licensed professional waste disposal service to dispose of this material. Dissolve or mix the material with a combustible solvent and burn in a chemical incinerator equipped with an afterburner and scrubber. Contaminated packaging: Dispose of as unused product.

ACCIDENTAL RELEASE MEASURES: Personal precautions, protective equipment and emergency procedures: Use personal protective equipment. Avoid dust formation. Avoid breathing vapors, mist or gas. Ensure adequate ventilation. Evacuate personnel to safe areas. Avoid breathing dust. Environmental precautions: Prevent further leakage or spillage if safe to do so. Do not let product enter drains. Discharge into the environment must be avoided.

Precautions for safe handling: Avoid contact with skin and eyes. Avoid formation of dust and aerosols. Provide appropriate exhaust ventilation at places where dust is formed.

Appropriate engineering controls: Handle in accordance with good industrial hygiene and safety practice. Wash hands before breaks and at the end of workday.

Gloves must be inspected prior to use. Use proper glove removal technique (without touching glove's outer surface) to avoid skin contact with this product. Dispose of contaminated gloves after use in accordance with applicable laws and good laboratory practices. Wash and dry hands.

For more Preventive Measures (Complete) data for 13-cis-Retinoic acid (7 total), please visit the HSDB record page.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

7.1 Precautions for safe handling

SMALL SPILLS AND LEAKAGE: If a spill of this chemical occurs, **FIRST REMOVE ALL SOURCES OF IGNITION**, then you should dampen the solid spill material with acetone and transfer the dampened material to a suitable container. Use absorbent paper dampened with acetone to pick up any remaining material. Seal your contaminated clothing and the absorbent paper in a vapor-tight plastic bag for eventual disposal. Solvent wash all contaminated surfaces with acetone followed by washing with a soap and water solution. Do not reenter the contaminated area until the Safety Officer (or other responsible person) has verified that the area has been properly cleaned.

STORAGE PRECAUTIONS: You should protect this chemical from exposure to light. Keep the container tightly closed under an inert atmosphere, and store it in a freezer. (NTP, 1992)

Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place. Recommended storage temperature -20 °C. Light sensitive.

Store at 20 deg to 25 °C (68 deg to 77 °F). Protect from light.

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Keep container tightly closed in a dry and well-ventilated place. Recommended storage temperature -20 °C. Light sensitive.

Store at 20 deg to 25 °C (68 deg to 77 °F). Protect from light.

Store away from incompatible materials (see Section 10).

[Note: Specific storage temperature not available in public databases. Refer to supplier Certificate of Analysis (COA) for exact storage conditions.]

8. EXPOSURE CONTROLS/PERSONAL PROTECTION

8.1 Exposure controls

8.1.1 Occupational exposure limits (OEL)

OSHA PEL: Not established.

ACGIH TLV: Not established.

NIOSH REL: Not established.

No occupational exposure limit values are established for this substance.

Use the lowest feasible exposure level (ALARA principle).

8.1.2 Appropriate engineering controls

Use only in a chemical fume hood or with local exhaust ventilation.

Ensure adequate ventilation to keep airborne concentrations below exposure limits.

8.2 Individual protection measures

8.2.1 Eye/face protection

Wear chemical safety goggles.

8.2.2 Skin protection

Wear protective gloves. Recommended material: Nitrile rubber.

Wear suitable protective clothing (lab coat).

8.2.3 Respiratory protection

Use NIOSH-approved dust/mist respirator (N95 or higher) if ventilation is inadequate.

8.2.4 Thermal hazards

Not applicable.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

a) Appearance: Cis-retinoic acid is a yellow-orange to orange crystalline powder; orange-brown chunky solid. (NTP, 1992)

b) Odor: No data available

c) Odor threshold: No data available

d) pH: No data available

e) Melting point/freezing point: 372 to 374 °F (NTP, 1992)

f) Initial boiling point and boiling range: No data available

g) Flash point: No data available

h) Evaporation rate: No data available

- i) Flammability (solid, gas): No data available
- j) Upper/lower flammability or explosive limits: No data available
- k) Vapor pressure: No data available
- l) Vapor density: No data available
- m) Relative density: No data available
- n) Water solubility: less than 1 mg/mL at 72 °F (NTP, 1992)
- o) Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water: Log P (n-octanol/water): 6.3
- p) Auto-ignition temperature: No data available
- q) Decomposition temperature: No data available
- r) Viscosity: No data available
- s) Explosive properties: No data available
- t) Oxidizing properties: No data available

9.2 Other information

Topological Polar Surface Area (TPSA): 37.3 Å²

Complexity: 567

10. STABILITY AND REACTIVITY

10.1 Reactivity

No specific reactivity hazards identified under normal handling conditions.

10.2 Chemical stability

Stable under recommended storage conditions.

10.3 Possibility of hazardous reactions

No hazardous reactions under normal conditions.

10.4 Conditions to avoid

Avoid heat, sparks, open flames, direct sunlight, and moisture.

10.5 Incompatible materials

Incompatible materials: Strong oxidizing agents.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

Thermal decomposition may produce: Carbon monoxide (CO), Carbon dioxide (CO₂).

See also Section 5 (Fire-fighting measures) for combustion products.

11. TOXICOLOGICAL INFORMATION

11.1 Information on toxicological effects

Acute toxicity:

No acute toxicity data available.

Skin corrosion/irritation:

Causes skin irritation (H315).

Serious eye damage/eye irritation:

Causes serious eye irritation (H319).

Respiratory or skin sensitization:

No data available.

Germ cell mutagenicity:

No data available.

Carcinogenicity:

No data available.

Reproductive toxicity:

May damage fertility or the unborn child (H360).

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure):

No data available.

Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure):

No data available.

Aspiration hazard:

No data available.

11.2 Additional information

Carcinogen classification:

No indication of carcinogenicity to humans (not listed by IARC).

Exposure routes:

1-31% (topical)

Data source: Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB) via PubChem.

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

12.1 Toxicity

EC50; Species: *Xenopus laevis* (African clawed frog) embryo; Conditions: freshwater, renewal; Concentration: 0.002 mg/L for 96 hr; Effect: abnormal morphology /formulation/

LC50; Species: *Xenopus laevis* (African clawed frog) embryo; Conditions: freshwater, renewal; Concentration: 0.018 mg/L for 96 hr /formulation/

/AQUATIC SPECIES/ Previously reported ...characteristic deformities were induced by retinoic acid (RA) treatment of the Japanese flounder, *Paralichthys olivaceus*, at 6-9 days post-hatching (dph). To evaluate the toxic potency of nuclear retinoid receptors in induction of deformities by RA, ...the effects of retinoic acid isomers on postembryonic development of this species /were investigated/. Larvae were exposed to either 25 nM of all-trans RA (atRA), 9-cis RA (9cRA) or 13-cis RA (13cRA) at 6-9 dph. All RA isomers induced deformities in the lower jaw, caudal fin and vertebrae. In the lower jaw, growth retardation of the dentary was evident. In the vertebrae, the major abnormalities were hypertrophy of the centrum, central fusion, and an increase in the number of abdominal vertebrae. Caudal fin deformities included deformity of caudal bone complex and absence of the entire caudal fin. The absence of the hypural primordium at 12 dph was the first sign of abnormality in caudal fin development, and resulted in complete blocking of the caudal fin development. Among the RA isomers, atRA induced the most severe deformity in all skeletons examined. Retinoic acid receptor (R

12.2 Persistence and degradability

No data available.

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

Log P (n-octanol/water): 6.3

Potential for bioaccumulation exists (Log P > 3).

12.4 Mobility in soil

No data available.

12.5 Results of PBT and vPvB assessment

PBT/vPvB assessment not available.

12.6 Other adverse effects

This substance is classified as hazardous to the aquatic environment.

13. DISPOSAL CONSIDERATIONS

13.1 Waste treatment methods

Waste Treatment Methods: Waste material must be disposed of in accordance with national and local regulations. Leave chemicals in original containers and do not mix with other waste. Handle uncleaned containers in the same manner as the product itself.

14. TRANSPORT INFORMATION

14.1 UN number

Not regulated as dangerous goods (research quantities typically exempt).

14.2 UN proper shipping name

Not subject to transport regulations (small quantities for research use).

14.3 Transport hazard class(es)

Not classified as dangerous goods for transport (research quantities).

14.4 Packing group

Not applicable (not regulated as dangerous goods in typical research quantities).

14.5 Environmental hazards

Marine pollutant: Yes (classified as environmentally hazardous per GHS).

14.6 Special precautions for user

Transport in original packaging. Ensure containers are tightly sealed.

For bulk or commercial quantities, consult applicable transport regulations (DOT, IATA, IMDG).

14.7 Transport in bulk according to Annex II of MARPOL 73/78 and the IBC Code

Not applicable.

15. REGULATORY INFORMATION

15.1 Safety, health and environmental regulations/legislation specific for the substance or mixture

US EPA / TSCA: Subject to EPA TSCA regulations

EU ECHA / REACH: Not available in public databases.

SARA 302 Components:

No chemicals in this material are subject to the reporting requirements of SARA Title III, Section 302.

SARA 313 Components:

This material does not contain any chemical components with known CAS numbers that exceed the threshold (De Minimis) reporting levels established by SARA Title III, Section 313.

SARA 311/312 Hazards:

Acute (short-term) health hazard

Chronic (long-term) health hazard

Environmental hazard

Massachusetts Right To Know Components:

This material contains components subject to the Massachusetts Right to Know Act. See Section 2 for hazard classification.

Pennsylvania Right To Know Components:

This material contains components subject to the Pennsylvania Right to Know Act. See Section 2 for hazard classification.

New Jersey Right To Know Components:

This material contains components subject to the New Jersey Right to Know Act. See Section 2 for hazard classification.

California Prop. 65 Components:

This product does not contain any chemicals known to the State of California to cause cancer, birth defects, or any other reproductive harm.

Other regulatory listings:

- California Safe Cosmetics Program (CSCP) Reportable Ingredient: Hazard Traits - Developmental Toxicity Authoritative List - Prop 65 Report - regardless of intended function of ingredient in the product
- FDA Requirements: The Approved Drug Products with Therapeutic Equivalence Evaluations identifies currently marketed prescription drug products, including isotretinoin, approved on the basis of safety and effectiveness by FDA under sections 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act.

15.2 Chemical safety assessment

A chemical safety assessment has not been carried out for this substance.

For research-use-only compounds, no CSA is required under REACH Annex I.

16. OTHER INFORMATION

Revision Date: 2026/09/08

Further Information: The information provided is believed to be correct but is not exhaustive and should be used only as a guideline based on current knowledge. It does not represent a guarantee of the properties of the product.

Selleck Chemicals Corporation and its Affiliates shall not be held liable for any damage resulting from handling or contact with the product.