

Thimerosal SDS/MSDS (Safety Data Sheet)

1. PRODUCT AND COMPANY IDENTIFICATION

Product identifier

* Product Name: Thimerosal

* Catalog Number: S3646

* CAS Number: 54-64-8

* IUPAC Name: Mercurate(1-), ethyl[2-(mercapto-κS)benzoato(2-)-κO]-, sodium (1:1)

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):

Acute toxicity (oral): Category 1. H300

Acute toxicity (oral): Category 3. H301

Acute toxicity (dermal): Category 1. H310

Skin sensitization: Category 1. H317

Eye irritation: Category 2. H320

Acute toxicity (inhalation): Category 1. H330

Germ cell mutagenicity: Category 2. H341

Carcinogenicity: Category 2. H351

Reproductive toxicity: Category 1. H360

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure): Category 1. H370

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure): Category 2. H371

Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure): Category 1. H372

Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure): Category 2. H373

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)	H300: Fatal if swallowed H301: Toxic if swallowed H310: Fatal in contact with skin H317: May cause an allergic skin reaction H320: Causes eye irritation H330: Fatal if inhaled H341: Suspected of causing genetic defects H351: Suspected of causing cancer H360: May damage fertility or the unborn child H370: Causes damage to organs H371: May cause damage to organs H372: Causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure H373: May causes damage to organs through prolonged or repeated exposure H400: Very toxic to aquatic life H410: Very toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects
Precautionary statement(s)	None.
Prevention	P203: Obtain, read and follow all safety instructions before use. P260: Do not breathe dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray. P261: Avoid breathing dust/fume/gas/mist/vapors/spray. P262: Do not get in eyes, on skin, or on clothing. P264: Wash hands thoroughly after handling. P264+P265: Wash hands thoroughly after handling. Do not touch eyes. P270: Do not eat, drink or smoke when using this product. P271: Use only outdoors or in a well-ventilated area. P272: Contaminated work clothing should not be allowed out of the workplace. P273: Avoid release to the environment. P280: Wear protective gloves/protective clothing/eye protection/face protection/hearing protection. P284: [In case of inadequate ventilation] Wear respiratory protection.
Response	P301+P316: IF SWALLOWED: Get emergency medical help immediately. P302+P352: IF ON SKIN: wash with plenty of water. P304+P340: IF INHALED: Remove person to fresh air and keep comfortable for breathing. P305+P351: IF IN EYES: Rinse cautiously with water for several minutes. P308+P316: IF exposed or concerned: Get emergency medical help immediately. P316: Get emergency medical help immediately. P318: if exposed or concerned, get medical advice. P319: Get medical help if you feel unwell. P320: Specific treatment is urgent. P321: Specific treatment (see information on this label and safety datasheet)). P330: Rinse mouth. P333+P317: If skin irritation or rash occurs: Get medical help. P337+P317: If eye irritation persists: Get medical help. P338: Remove contact lenses, if present and easy to do. Continue rinsing. P361+P364: Take off immediately all contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. P362+P364: Take off contaminated clothing and wash it before reuse. P391: Collect spillage.

Storage	P403+P233: Store in a well-ventilated place. Keep container tightly closed. P405: Store locked up.
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: Thimerosal

CAS Number: 54-64-8

PubChem CID: 16684434

Molecular formula: C₉H₉HgNaO₂S

Molecular weight: 404.82 g/mol

IUPAC name: sodium (2-carboxylatophenyl)sulfanyl-ethylmercury

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.

IMMEDIATELY call a physician and be prepared to transport the victim to a hospital even if no symptoms (such as wheezing, coughing, shortness of breath, or burning in the mouth, throat, or chest) develop. 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

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: Some heavy metals are VERY TOXIC POISONS, especially if their salts are very soluble in water (e.g., lead, chromium, mercury, bismuth, osmium, and arsenic). IMMEDIATELY call a hospital or poison control center and locate activated charcoal, egg whites, or milk in case the medical advisor recommends administering one of them. Also locate Ipecac syrup or a glass of salt water in case the medical advisor recommends inducing vomiting. Usually, this is NOT RECOMMENDED outside of a physician

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 dry chemical, carbon dioxide or Halon extinguisher. A water spray may also be used. (NTP, 1992)

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.

WARNING: Highly toxic — only trained personnel should handle spills.

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

Excerpt from ERG Guide 151 [Substances - Toxic (Non-Combustible)]:

IMMEDIATE PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE: Isolate spill or leak area in all directions for at least 50 meters (150 feet) for liquids and at least 25 meters (75 feet) for solids.

SPILL: Increase the immediate precautionary measure distance, in the downwind direction, as necessary.

FIRE: If tank, rail tank car or highway tank is involved in a fire, ISOLATE for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions; also, consider initial evacuation for 800 meters (1/2 mile) in all directions. (ERG, 2024)

Thimerosal (an organic mercury compound) is widely used in the pharmaceutical industry and hospitals. This study examines the removal of mercury (thimerosal and Hg (II)) from a pharmaceutical wastewater using F-400 granular activated carbon (GAC) at bench and pilot scales. Bench scale dynamic column tests are conducted with 30, 60, 90 and 120 min empty bed contact times (EBCTs). The pilot scale study is conducted using two GAC columns-in-series each of 30 min EBCT.

SRP: The most favorable course of action is to use an alternative chemical product with less inherent propensity for occupational exposure or environmental contamination. Recycle any unused portion of the material for its approved use or return it to the manufacturer or supplier. Ultimate disposal of the chemical must consider: the material's impact on air quality; potential migration in soil or water; effects on animal, aquatic, and plant life; and conformance with environmental and public health regulations.

7. HANDLING AND STORAGE

7.1 Precautions for safe handling

SMALL SPILLS AND LEAKAGE: If you spill this chemical, you should dampen the solid spill material with water, then transfer the dampened material to a suitable container. Use absorbent paper dampened with water to pick up any remaining material. Seal your contaminated clothing and the absorbent paper in a vapor-tight plastic bag for eventual disposal. Wash all contaminated surfaces 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 compound from light and store it under ambient temperatures. (NTP, 1992)

7.2 Conditions for safe storage, including any incompatibilities

Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. Keep container tightly closed.

Store away from incompatible materials (see Section 10).

Protect from light and moisture.

Recommended storage (industry convention for research compounds): -20°C for long-term storage; 2-8°C for short-term use and transport.

[Note: This is a general industry recommendation. Always verify exact storage conditions with the supplier Certificate of Analysis (COA).]

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

Wear NIOSH-approved respirator with appropriate cartridges. SCBA for high concentrations.

8.2.4 Thermal hazards

Not applicable.

9. PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

9.1 Information on basic physical and chemical properties

- a) Appearance: Mercury((o-carboxyphenyl)thio)ethyl, sodium salt is a light cream-colored crystalline powder with a slight odor; pH (1% aqueous solution) 6.7. Slight odor. (NTP, 1992)
- b) Odor: Characteristic odor
- c) Odor threshold: No data available
- d) pH: pH (1% solution): 6.7
- e) Melting point/freezing point: 450 to 451 °F (decomposes) (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: greater than or equal to 100 mg/mL at 66 °F (NTP, 1992)
- o) Partition coefficient: n-octanol/water: Log P: No data available
- 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): 65.4 Å²
Complexity: 180

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.
Avoid strong oxidizing agents, strong acids, and strong bases.

10.5 Incompatible materials

A chemical interaction between thimerosal and aluminum electrodes caused skin burns in a woman following surgical procedure. Thimerosal acted as a catalyst that rapidly oxidized the aluminum electrode, generating heat and causing a subsequent thermal injury.

10.6 Hazardous decomposition products

Thermal decomposition may produce: Carbon monoxide (CO), Carbon dioxide (CO₂), Nitrogen oxides (NO_x), Sulfur oxides (SO_x).

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:

No data available.

Serious eye damage/eye irritation:

No data available.

Respiratory or skin sensitization:

May cause an allergic skin reaction (H317).

Germ cell mutagenicity:

Suspected of causing genetic defects (H341).

Carcinogenicity:

Suspected of causing cancer (H351).

Reproductive toxicity:

May damage fertility or the unborn child (H360).

Specific target organ toxicity (single exposure):

H370, H371, H372, H373

Specific target organ toxicity (repeated exposure):

No data available.

Aspiration hazard:

No data available.

11.2 Additional information

Carcinogen classification:

No indication of carcinogenicity (not listed by IARC). (L135)

Exposure routes:

Oral (L7) ; inhalation (L7) ; dermal (L7)

Signs and symptoms of exposure:

Common symptoms include peripheral neuropathy (presenting as paresthesia or itching, burning or pain), skin discoloration (pink cheeks, fingertips and toes), edema (swelling), and desquamation (dead skin peels off in layers). (A5)

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

12. ECOLOGICAL INFORMATION

12.1 Toxicity

Maximum mercury concentrations were blood 14 mg/L, serum 1.7 mg/L, urine 10.7 mg/L, and cerebrospinal fluid 0.025 mg/L /after an 83 mg/kg ingestion of thimerosal/. Mercury concentration in blood declined with two velocities:

first with half-time 2.2 days, then with half-time 40.5 days. The decline of mercury concentration in blood, urinary mercury excretion, and renal mercury clearance were not substantially influenced by chelation therapy.

Mercury concentrations were determined in various tissues from 6 ... infants /exposed to topical applications of 0.1% thimerosal for the treatment of exomphalos . Mean tissue concentrations in fresh samples of liver, kidney, spleen, and heart ranged from 5152 to 11,330 ppb, suggesting percutaneous absorption from repeated topical applications.

12.2 Persistence and degradability

No data available.

12.3 Bioaccumulative potential

No data available.

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).

DOT label: Poison

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:

- The Australian Inventory of Industrial Chemicals: Chemical: Mercurate(1-), ethyl(2-mercaptobenzoato(2-)-O,S)-, sodium
- FDA Requirements: Drug products containing certain active ingredients offered over-the-counter (OTC) for certain uses. Thimerosal is included in topical antimicrobial drug products--first aid antiseptic drug products.

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: 2026/09/09

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.