

# Formaldehyde Hazards in Nail Salons

## WORKER HEALTH & SAFETY



Salon owners using products that contain formaldehyde or may release formaldehyde products **must comply** with the following OSHA standards:

### OSHA Formaldehyde Standard 1910.1048:

[osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1048](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1048)

### OSHA Hazard Communication Standard 1910.1200:

[osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1200](https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1200)



#### Know the health risks.

- Breathing certain levels can cause/worsen asthma, cause eye/nose irritation, and result in allergic reactions.
- Fairly low levels can cause nose/throat irritation, causing coughs, chest pain, shortness of breath, and wheezing.
- Higher levels can cause throat swelling, lung inflammation, and fluid in the lungs.
- Long-term exposures may lead to certain cancers.



#### Understand the exposure.

- Exposure can occur while using nail enamels and hardeners.
- Harmful vapors are inhaled while using product. Product can also get on skin or in eyes.
- Best way to decrease exposure to formaldehyde and other chemicals is by increasing ventilation.



#### Read the labels.

- Read the label on the product bottle or box and the products safety data sheet.
- Formaldehyde might be listed as methylene glycol, formalin, methylene oxide, paraform, formic aldehyde, methanal, oxomethane, oxymethylene, or CAS Number 50-00-0.



Scan the QR code to access our factsheet with more detailed information and resources on how to protect nail salon workers from formaldehyde exposure.