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**- Abstract-**

**A Survey and Recommendation on Safety and Health for Occupational Health Laboratories**

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This study was conducted at occupational health laboratories in Seoul and Gyunggi district area from December, 1999 to January, 2000. The main purpose of this study was to survey the actual condition of safety and health by questionnaire and checklist and to assess the performance of fume hoods and the airborne exposures to chemicals in the laboratories.

The chemicals in the cabinet were not classified by hazardous properties and the compressed gases were not stored safely. The prevalences of laboratories having first aid kits, fire extinguishers, and safety showers were found to be 18%, 55%, and 9%, respectively. Most laboratory workers were not educated for safety and health. Also, there was no performance evaluation for hazards and risks.

The fume hoods in laboratories had not been annually inspected by checklist and the face velocity had been checked more than one time in

the previous year for only 18% of them. Five percent of fume hoods had the face velocity more than 4.0 m/sec and 17% had no capture performance. Detected organic solvents were methylenechloride, acetone, ethylbenzene, isopropanol, xylene, methylisobutylketone, trichloroethylene, and toluene. The concentrations of organic solvents were much less than the occupational exposure limits proposed by the Ministry of Labor in Korea. This study showed that the actual condition of safety and health was not appropriate for laboratory workers. It is recommended that laboratory workers should be educated for the treatment and storage of hazardous chemicals and compressed gases to improve the working environment of the occupational safety and health laboratories.

**Key Word** : fume hood, hazard, health, occupational health laboratory, organic solvent, safety

1) : 2000 9 18 , 2) : 2000 10 30  
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( 97-27 , 1997).

가

(1995)

가

가 ,

50%

가 가 .

( , 1997). Guarino(1990)

23

가

가

(Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, 1990)

가

“

”

( 6104 , 2000)

(Material Safety Data Sheet, MSDS)

가

1.

1999 12 2000 1

22

(American National Standard Institute, ANSI, 1995)

16

2.

22

. 7

A

15

B

3)

1)

( (1995)

, 1999)

Stricoff 가

Douglas

38 , 1999),  
Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,  
NIOSH, 1994)  
(1999)

( 99-

(National

Institute for Occupational Safety and Health,

6

가

가

가

가

가

가

3

6

2

2)

(

156 , 1999)

30 cm

(ALNOR, USA)

가

1.5 m

0.02-0.2 /min (Gillian and 1.  
 SKC, USA) 가 7 cm, 6 mm  
 100 mg, 50 mg (coconut shell  
 charcoal tubes, Lot 226-01, SKC, USA)

가  
 (teflon film) 2  
 30

MSDS A 1  
 (14%), B 3 (20%)  
 NIOSH MSDS  
 4 Ml  
 1 Ml 가 30 가 55%, MSDS  
 가 가 27%  
 (HP 5890- , Hewlett Packard, USA)  
 1 B 4  
 (18%)가 A  
 1 가 14

Table 1. Analytical instrument and operating condition

Items	Condition
Instrument	
Gas chromatograph	HP 5890- , Hewlett Packard
Detector	FID(Flame ionization detector)
Column	Neutrabond- 1, 60 m x 0.53 mm x 2.0 μm
Operating conditions	
Carrier gas	N , 6.32 Ml/min
Injection mode	split, purge time 0.5 sec
Injection volume	1 μl
Split ratio	1:21.1
Injector temperature	200
Detector temperature	250
Oven temperature	40 (5 min), 3 /min, 150 (1 min)

64% , 3 가 가 ( ) 가 ( )  
A 29%, B 7% , ) 6 m  
A 1 3 14%  
, 가 가 , ,  
, , , 6 27% .  
B 1 . 12 55%  
10  
A 29%(2 45% .  
), B 7%(1 ) ,  
가 3 4 18%  
(14%) B (20%) . 5

Table 2. Storage of chemicals

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
<b>MSDS</b>			
All chemicals	1(14)	3(20)	4(18)
A part of chemicals	4(57)	8(53)	12(55)
None	2(29)	4(27)	6(27)
<b>Chemicals arrangement</b>			
By hazardous property	0( 0)	4(27)	4(18)
By alphabet	4(57)	10(67)	14(64)
By frequency of usage	2(29)	1( 7)	3(14)
None	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 4)
Anti-acidity cabinet	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
Food storage in refrigerator	2(29)	1( 7)	3(14)
Chemicals list on the refrigerator	0( 0)	3(20)	3(14)

A: Laboratory of university hospital

B: Laboratory of the other hospital

Table 3. Usage of safety equipments

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
Fire extinguisher	4(57)	8(53)	12(55)
Isolation over 6 m between flammable gases and oxidizing gases	1(14)	2(13)	3(14)
Fixing of compressed gas cylinders	2(29)	4(27)	6(27)
<b>First aid kit</b>			
In box	1(14)	3(20)	4(18)
In drawer	1(14)	4(27)	5(23)
Eyewash fountain	0( 0)	0( 0)	0( 0)
Safety shower	0( 0)	2(13)	2( 9)

23%, 4 1 (5%) ,  
 13 59% .  
 가 1  
 B .  
 가 ,  
 ,  
 5 (23%)  
 ANSI A 3 (43%) B 2 (13%)  
 15 m 30 .  
 가 2 (9%) 5  
 B (13%) . 2 6 1 1 1  
 ANSI 2 (9%) B  
 A  
 1 1  
 가 . 3  
 4 (18%) A 1 (14%),

Table 4. Safety education and risk evaluation

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
Safety education for laboratory workers	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
Risk evaluation with checklist	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)

Table 5. Air monitoring for laboratory and special health examination for laboratory workers

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
Air monitoring for laboratory			
Once every 6 months	0( 0)	2(13)	2( 9)
Once every 1 year	0( 0)	2(13)	2( 9)
Once last 3 years	1(14)	3(20)	4(18)
Once since laboratory establishment	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)
None	5(71)	8(53)	13(59)
Special health examination for laboratory workers			
Once every 6 months	1(14)	1( 7)	2( 9)
Once every 1 year	1(14)	1( 7)	2( 9)
Once last 3 years	0( 0)	3(20)	3(14)
Once since laboratory establishment	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
None	5(71)	9(60)	14(63)

B 3 (20%) . 1 1 (14%), B 2 (13%) .  
A 1 (5%)가 2 A 2 (29%),  
B 3 (20%) ( 23%). A  
13 (59%) 4 (57%), B 10 (67%)  
A 71%(5 ) B 53%(8 )가 ( 63%).  
6  
1 1 1 2.  
A, B 1 14%  
7% . 3  
B 3 (20%) , (AIHA, 1992)  
B 1 (7%) . A 71%  
(5 ) B 60%(9 ) 가 21  
95% A 1 가  
( 14 , 63%). ( 6).  
13  
(59%) A 3 (43%), B 10  
3 3 (14%) A (67%) . 7

Table 6. Usage of fume hood

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
Installation of fume hood	6(86)	15(100)	21(95)
Handling of hazardous chemicals			
Always in hood	3(43)	10(67)	13(59)
Sometimes in hood	3(43)	4(27)	7(32)
Outside of hood	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)
Lighting in hood			
Explosion proof	0( 0)	0( 0)	0( 0)
No explosion proof	6(86)	15(100)	21(95)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)
Chemicals storage in hood			
Yes	6(86)	14(93)	20(90)
No	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)

32% A 3 (43%), B 1 8  
 4 (27%) . A 3 (43%), B 5  
 (33%) .  
 가 6 1  
 . 3 (A 1 , B 2 ) 13%,  
 1 1 B 1 가  
 가 , 가  
 A 2 , B 3  
 ,  
 가 A 2 , B 1 ,  
 B 53% . A 14%,  
 (Pepitone, 1991) B 1 가  
 가 ANSI 0.4 m/sec  
 B 1 .  
 가 A 1 (14%)  
 1 B 3 (20%) 4  
 , , , .  
 7 1  
 , 가 20% B 1

Table 7. Inspection of fume hood

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
<b>Inspection</b>			
With checklist	0( 0)	0( 0)	0( 0)
Without checklist	3(43)	5(33)	8(36)
None	3(43)	10(67)	13(59)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)
<b>Measurement of face velocity</b>			
Once every 6 months	1(14)	2(13)	3(13)
Once every 1 year	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
In case of chemicals odor	2(29)	3(20)	5(23)
Use of smoke tester	2(29)	1( 7)	3(13)
None	1(14)	8(53)	9(41)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)



Table 8. The face velocity of the fume hood

Items	A(%) n=7	B(%) n=15	Total(%) n=22
Average face velocity(m/sec)			
More than 0.4	0( 0)	1( 7)	1( 5)
More than 0.2 and below 0.4	3(43)	6(40)	9(40)
Above 0.0 and below 0.2	2(29)	5(33)	7(32)
0.0	1(14)	3(20)	4(18)
No hood	1(14)	0( 0)	1( 5)

, 30% B 3 14% 가 (American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists, ACGIH, 1997)

, 50% A 4 , B

8 12 55%

3. (geometric mean, GM)  
(geometric standard deviation, GSD)

9 가 0.4 m/s  
가 가  
acetone, ethylbenzene, isopropanol, xylene, methylenechloride, methylisobutylketone, trichloroethylene, toluene 가 0.4 m/s 가 1 가

Table 9. Concentrations of airborne exposures classified by face velocity of fume hood

(unit : ppm)

Chemicals name	More than 0.4 m/sec n=1			More than 0.2 and below 0.4 m/sec n=9			Above 0.0 and below 0.2 m/sec n=7			0.0 m/sec & no hood n=5			Total n=22		
	GM	GSD		GM	GSD		GM	GSD		GM	GSD		GM	GSD	
Acetone	0	-	-	4	0.48	1.89	4	0.38	1.72	3	0.22	1.38	11	0.36	1.85
Ethylbenzene	0	-	-	3	0.04	1.49	2	0.07	1.65	3	0.02	1.29	8	0.04	1.65
Isopropanol	0	-	-	6	0.26	1.55	5	0.54	2.62	3	0.30	2.27	14	0.34	2.23
m,p- Xylene	0	-	-	6	0.05	1.44	4	0.06	1.59	4	0.04	1.58	14	0.05	1.54
o- Xylene	0	-	-	3	0.06	1.34	2	0.10	1.60	3	0.04	1.23	8	0.06	1.47
Methylenechloride	0	-	-	2	0.26	2.89	2	0.16	2.26	1	0.06	1.00	5	0.20	2.77
Methylisobutylketone	1	0.03	1.00	5	0.05	1.45	5	0.07	1.52	4	0.04	1.54	15	0.05	1.62
Trichloroethylene	0	-	-	0	-	-	0	-	-	5	0.06	1.73	5	0.06	1.73
Toluene	1	0.05	1.40	9	0.09	2.22	7	0.10	1.95	5	0.08	2.07	22	0.09	2.08

: Number of laboratories chemicals detected

GM : Geometric mean

GSD : Geometric standard deviation

11 acetone  
0.36 ppm 750 ppm  
100 ppm ethylbenzene 8  
0.04 ppm 가  
Isopropanol 400 ppm 14 가  
0.34 ppm 가  
m,p- xylene o- xylene 100 ppm 가  
14 8  
0.05 ppm 0.06 ppm  
methy-  
lenechloride 5 가  
0.20 ppm 50 ppm methy-  
lisobutylketone trichloroethylene 15  
5 0.05 1998 66  
ppm 0.06 ppm Toluene 22 가 1  
가 0.09 ppm  
100 ppm 가  
10 ( , 2000).

Table 10. Concentrations of airborne exposures classified by laboratory classification

(unit : ppm)

Chemicals name	A n=7		B n=15			Total n=22			
	GM	GSD	GM	GSD	GM	GSD			
Acetone	4	0.28	2.06	7	0.38	1.80	11	0.36	1.85
Ethylbenzene	4	0.03	1.57	4	0.04	1.70	8	0.04	1.65
Isopropanol	6	0.26	1.70	8	0.44	2.49	14	0.34	2.23
m,p- Xylene	5	0.04	1.47	9	0.05	1.58	14	0.05	1.54
o- Xylene	4	0.05	1.24	4	0.07	1.55	8	0.06	1.47
Methylenechloride	1	0.32	2.81	4	0.11	2.12	5	0.20	2.77
Methylisobutylketone	6	0.05	1.65	9	0.05	1.63	15	0.05	1.62
Trichloroethylene	2	0.06	1.56	3	0.07	2.00	5	0.06	1.73
Toluene	7	0.07	2.00	15	0.09	2.09	22	0.09	2.08

: Number of laboratories chemicals detected

가 55%  
 가 18%  
 (Williamson, 1983), 2 (1995)  
 22 20  
 18% 가  
 18% 가  
 가 3 (14%)  
 19 가  
 가 1  
 가 1  
 3 가 가  
 가 가 ( ) 가 ( ) 6 m 6 3 1  
 3 , 가 가 , 6 2 1  
 27%(3 ) 6 1  
 가 1 1 2 (9%)  
 (safety shower) 13 (59%)  
 6 1 1  
 15 m 1 2 (9%)  
 30 ( , 1999) 14 (63%)  
 가 2  
 가

(eyewash fountain)

가 1 1 4

9 (41%)

가 (1990)

( ) (American Industrial Hygiene Association, AIHA)  
ANSI(1992), ACGIH  
0.4- 0.5 m/sec 가  
가 0.4  
1 가 m/sec 1 (5%) 가 0  
Rose(1984) m/sec 가 4 (17%)  
가 4  
, , , 20 3  
(91%) 가 (1997)  
0.4 m/sec 65%  
가  
36 73  
가 acetone, ethylbenzene, isopropanol, xylene,  
methylenechloride, methylisobutylketone, trichloro-  
ethylene, toluene 1 ppm  
1  
가 가  
1 (1997) 2  
ethylether, meth-

ylenechloride, n-hexane, ethylacetate, chloroform, tetrahydrofuran, benzene

가 0.1 ppm      48.13 ppm      ,      ,  
methylene chloride      55%

가      .      가      .

methylenechloride 5  
toluene 22      1999 12      2000 1  
22

,      toluene 가      ,      가      ,      가

가      .      1)      가

2)      18%, 가      55%, 가      9%

3)      가      ,

4)      1      1

가      ,      가      18%      5)      가 0.4 m/sec      5%

가      .      17%      .

6) 실험실 공기중의 시료를 분석결과 발암성(추정) 물질은 methylenechloride가 검출되었으며, 기타 acetone, ethylbenzene, isopropanol, xylene, methylisobutylketone, trichloroethylene, toluene 등의 유기용제가 검출되었으나 공기중의 농도가 ACGIH의 TLV 및 노동부의 노출기준보다 훨씬 낮았다.

이상의 결과로 보아 산업보건관련 기관 분석실험실의 안전보건실태를 개선하기 위한 대책으로는 분석실험실 종사자에 대한 안전보건교육의 고취가 요구되고, 분석실험실의 안전보건 수준을 향상시키기 위한 세부적인 실험실 안전지침의 교육이 강화되어야 하며, 분석실험실의 안전보건 환경을 개선하기 위한 시설 투자가 필요하다.

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