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# Beryllium Metaphosphate

National Cancer Institute

## Source

National Cancer Institute. *Beryllium Metaphosphate*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C45880.

A white colored, crystalline, inorganic compound that emits toxic fumes of beryllium oxides and phosphorus oxides upon heating. Beryllium metaphosphate is used in small amounts for special ceramic compositions and as a catalyst in organic reactions. Inhalation exposure to its dust irritates the nose, throat and lungs and can cause pneumonitis. Prolonged exposure can result in a chronic beryllium disease called berylliosis causing granuloma and fibrosis formation in the lungs. Beryllium is associated with an increased risk of developing lung cancer. (NCI05)