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A-Hexachlorocyclohexane

National Cancer Institute

Source

National Cancer Institute. *[a-Hexachlorocyclohexane](#)*. NCI Thesaurus. Code C44330.

A brownish-white colored, sand-like powder with a phosgene-like odor that emits toxic fumes of phosgene gas, hydrochloric acid and other chlorinated compounds when heated to decomposition. a-Hexachlorocyclohexane is the alpha-isomer of hexachlorocyclohexane and is used as an insecticide to treat lice and scabies. Inhalation exposure to this substance causes severe irritation of the nose, throat and lungs; causes anemia, and affects the liver, kidneys, nervous system, cardiovascular system and immune system. a-Hexachlorocyclohexane is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen. (NCI05)