



**DGUV**

Deutsche Gesetzliche  
Unfallversicherung  
Spitzenverband

**213-044**

**DGUV Information 213-044**



## **Hazardous Substances at Universities**

Information for Students and  
Scientific Employees

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During training and research at universities, also hazardous substances are used. These may be chemicals, chemical products or micro-organisms.



*Basic Rule:*

*Work with hazardous substances must not pose a danger to the worker, nor to others!*

# How to recognize hazardous substances?

Containers of chemical products must be labelled. The labelling provides basic information about the hazardous properties.

Example:



## Attention!

Reaction apparatuses containing chemicals will generally not be labelled.

Hazardous substance may be released from harmless substances, e. g. welding fumes during welding or emissions from diesel engines.

Areas where micro-organisms are handled are labelled with the „Biohazard“ (German: Biogefährdung) sign. This sign indicates danger of infection.



## Where to get informed?

Many work procedures entail hazards. For these specific hazards, there are special written protocols (operating instructions). At many universities, these are available in English as well.

Furthermore, you receive specific information from the course, lab or workshop supervisors (instruction).

## What to keep in mind?

Pay attention to the information on workplace health and safety which you receive. This includes e. g. consistent wearing of personal protective equipment (protective goggles, protective gloves) and suitable working clothes (lab coat, closed shoes). At workplaces where hazardous substances are used, eating, drinking and smoking is basically prohibited.

In these working areas, specific regulations apply to access and working hours.



### Attention!

For pregnant and nursing women, special regulations are to be complied with.

## Where to find further information?

There is a plethora of specific technical information. Here only informations by the statutory accident insurance providers are listed:

- DGUV Information 212-007  
„Chemikalienschutzhandschuhe“
- DGUV Information 213-026  
„Sicherheit im chemischen Hochschulpraktikum – Eine Einführung für Studierende“
- DGUV Information 213-027  
„Safety in University Chemistry Courses – An Introduction for Students“
- DGUV Information 213-039  
„Tätigkeiten mit Gefahrstoffen in Hochschulen“
- DGUV Informationen 213-086 until 213-090, 213-092, 213-093 zur Sicherer Biotechnologie
- DGUV Information 213-850  
„Sicheres Arbeiten in Laboratorien – Grundlagen und Handlungshilfen“
- DGUV Information 213-851  
„Working Safely in Laboratories – Basic Principles and Guidelines“.

All informations are available in our DGUV Database publications:

<http://www.dguv.de/Publikationen>

GESTIS-Stoffdatenbank –

hazardous substance information system of the German statutory accident insurance

<http://www.dguv.de/ifa/gestis/gestis-stoffdatenbank/index.jsp>

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