

Chemical Risk Management Protocol

Safe Methods of Use (SMOU)

Chemicals With Unknown Properties

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1 Purpose

This Safe Method of Use (SMOU) applies to principal investigators (PIs), laboratory managers, designated laboratory person (DLPs), and all staff and students who direct or participate in the use of chemicals with unknown properties at the University of Auckland.

2 Disclaimer

Please read this SMOU in conjunction with the Chemical Risk Management Guidelines.

Note: 'Shall' denotes a mandatory requirement and 'should' denotes a recommendation.

3 Chemicals with unknown properties

The properties of compounds which are synthesised de novo or those which are specialty chemicals are often not known with any degree of certainty. Inferences should however be made from structure, closely related analogues and the use that these compounds will be put to.

As a general rule these compounds shall be treated as probably toxic and the appropriate Safe Method of Use should be followed.

Where the compound is closely related to compounds that are acutely toxic and/or carcinogenic they shall be treated as acutely toxic and the appropriate requirements of the Safe Method of use followed.

4 Disposal

- Chemicals with unknown properties shall never be discharged to sewer.
- Disposal of these compounds shall be undertaken by a licensed chemical waste contractor.
- Please contact the Chemical Safety Advisor for advice regarding disposal.