

**UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA**  
**SCHOOL OF ELECTRICAL, ELECTRONIC & COMPUTER ENGINEERING**  
**FIRST AID**  
**HYDROFLUORIC ACID**

**HF ANTIDOTE GEL (calcium gluconate) is available in the first aid kit. Read these instructions for use BEFORE commencing work.**

- ✘ Hydrofluoric acid is corrosive and can cause severe burns to skin and eyes.
- ✘ Contact with skin may not cause pain immediately
- ✘ Appearance of symptoms can be delayed for up to 24 hours
- ✘ Hydrofluoric acid is highly irritant to respiratory system and very toxic if swallowed

**SKIN EXPOSURE: *First Aider should wear Nitrile gloves for protection***

- Move casualty immediately to water source or emergency shower  
Flood with water for 5 to 10 minutes
- Remove all contaminated clothing whilst flushing with running water
- Apply HF Antidote Gel on and around affected area (note the time applied)  
Gently massage into skin until at least 15 minutes after pain is relieved  
Cover the area with a gel soaked dressing and lightly bandage
- **Take casualty immediately to hospital** with HF antidote gel, repeat application as necessary during transit. Detailed instructions on treatment for hospital personnel are in the sheet protector attached to the first aid kit. Take these with you to the hospital.
- **Dial 2222 if ambulance required**, inform the call handler the accident involves hydrofluoric acid.

**EYE EXPOSURE**

- Immediately flush eye with copious cool running water for at least 20 minutes and continue during transit to hospital
- **Take casualty immediately to hospital.** Detailed instructions on treatment for hospital personnel are in the sheet protector attached to the first aid kit. Take these with you to the hospital.
- **Dial 2222 if ambulance required**, inform the call handler the accident involves hydrofluoric acid
- Continue treatment during transit to hospital.

**INHALATION**

- Remove casualty away from contamination to clean air.
- **Dial 2222 for ambulance immediately**, inform the call handler the accident involves hydrofluoric acid
- If necessary, resuscitate the casualty

**CALCIUM GLUCONATE GEL IS IN THE FIRST AID KIT**