

Title	IMDG Code 2016 / SUPPLEMENT / MFAG / Table 18
Effective Date	1-1-2012
Invalid from	1-1-2014
Note	Incorporating Amendment 35-10

TABLE 18

CYANIDES

Cyanides are fast acting, highly poisonous materials. They may be fatal if inhaled, swallowed, or absorbed through the skin and are extremely hazardous when in liquid and vapour form under pressure.

Signs and symptoms may include

- Headache, nausea and dizziness
- Drowsiness, drop in blood pressure, rapid pulse
- Convulsions, unconsciousness
- Impaired respiration

With prompt rescue and treatment following exposure, recovery is normally quick and complete. Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation should be avoided in CPR to prevent the rescuer from being exposed.

Treatment for EYE CONTACT in all cases of exposure, regardless of symptoms

- **IMMEDIATE** washing of the eye with copious amounts of water.

Further advice on eye treatment: See Table 7

Treatment for SKIN CONTACT in all cases of exposure, regardless of symptoms

- **IMMEDIATE** washing with soap or shampoo and copious amounts of water for at least 10 minutes while removing contaminated clothing, rings, wristwatches, etc.
- Remove the casualty to the ship's hospital.

Treatment for INHALATION in all cases of exposure, regardless of symptoms

- Remove the casualty from the polluted atmosphere. Ensure that rescuers are equipped with respiratory protection so that they do not become poisoned also.
- After removal of the casualty from the polluted atmosphere, usually no specific treatment is necessary unless breathing is depressed or absent.

If breathing is absent, give CPR and oxygen: See Tables 2 and 3

Treatment for INGESTION in all cases of exposure, regardless of symptoms

- Have the casualty rinse his mouth with water.
- **RADIO FOR MEDICAL ADVICE**

SIGNS & SYMPTOMS

irrespective of routes of exposure

Nausea or dizziness; slurred speech, confusion or drowsiness; difficulty in breathing and impaired consciousness

TREATMENT

- Give oxygen at a flow rate of 8 litres per minute until symptoms resolve.
- Observed in a place of safety for eight hours.
- **RADIO FOR MEDICAL ADVICE**
- If the casualty becomes free of symptoms within eight hours after exposure, no further action is required.