Hazardous Materials for First Responders

Questions and Answers

From IFSTA Hazmat for First Responders 4th Edition

Illicit Laboratories

1. Which is created by adding sulfuric acid to rock salt?
p. 633

A.) Hydriodic acid
*B.) Hydrogen chloride
C.) Hydrogen sulfide
D.) Hydrogen iodide

2. What percentage of all illegal clandestine laboratories are estimated to produce methamphetamine?
p. 627

A.) 70 to 80%
B.) 50 to 60%
C.) 60 to 70%
*D.) 80 to 90%

3. Which ignites spontaneously on contact with air and moisture?
p. 633

*A.) Phosphine gas
B.) Hydrochloric acid
C.) Sodium hydroxide
D.) Methyl alcohol

4. Which is used to separate the meth base before salting-out process begins?
p. 632

*A.) Mineral spirits
B.) Pseudoephedrine
C.) Hydrogen chloride
D.) Methyl alcohol

5. Which agency is NOT considered a specialist in dealing with illicit laboratories?
p. 624

A.) FBI
*B.) DOT
C.) DEA
D.) Local Law Enforcement Lab Teams

6. What is based upon careful analysis of the situation presented to responders?
p. 644

*A.) Incident action plan
B.) Site action plan
C.) Rescue action plan
D.) Chemical action plan

7. Which of the following is NOT a minimum piece of monitoring and detection equipment to be used at an illicit lab incident?
p. 643

A.) pH paper
*B.) Fixed air monitor
C.) Oxygen meter
D.) CGI

8. Which of the following is NOT something that responders should do to stay alert for booby-traps?
p. 625

A.) Maintain situational awareness
*B.) Remove items from the lab to an open area
C.) Take aerial photographs for recon before entry
D.) Check doors and openings for wires and/or traps before opening

9. Which is commonly obtained from starting fluids for the production of meth?
p. 631

A.) Iodine
B.) Naphtha
C.) Ethyl
*D.) Ether

10. Which of the following is NOT a hazard of naphtha?
p. 632

A.) Toxic when ingested
*B.) Generates phosphine gas
C.) May affect the central nervous system
D.) Highly flammable

11. Which is often used in meth labs to cool vapors produced during cooking?
p. 634

A.) Turkey basters
B.) Funnels
C.) Filters
*D.) Condenser tubes

12. Which form should responders take special care around when dealing with a biological lab?
p. 641

A.) Liquid
*B.) Powder
C.) Solid
D.) Slurry

13. What is the primary precursor for meth?
p. 630

A.) Hydriodic acid
*B.) Ephedrine
C.) Ethyl ether
D.) Phosphine gas

14. Which of the following is used in the meth production process?
p. 630

A.) Hydrogen peroxide
*B.) Anhydrous ammonia
C.) Naphtha
D.) Toluene

15. Which of the following will a biological lab have a few of?
p. 640

A.) Incubators
*B.) Condenser tubes
C.) Refrigerators
D.) Glove boxes

16. What is the process of making meth called?
p. 627

A.) Riding
*B.) Cooking
C.) Smoking
D.) Pulling

17. What should NOT be done when anything suspicious is noticed at an illicit lab incident?
p. 649

A.) Retrace your footsteps
B.) Back out of the area
*C.) Mark the location
D.) Contact the bomb squad

18. Which is a strong oxidizer that is used in meth production?
p. 631

*A.) Hydrogen peroxide
B.) Hypophosphorous acid
C.) Sodium hydroxide
D.) Methyl alcohol

19. Which of the following is NOT a common ingredient that may be found in a peroxide based explosives lab?
p. 638

A.) Hexamine
B.) Ethanol
C.) Acetone
*D.) Toluene

20. Who should responders coordinate with before performing reconnaissance operations at an illicit lab?
p. 643

A.) EPA
B.) Fire department
*C.) Law enforcement
D.) DOT

21. How many times more hazardous waste than meth is created for each pound (0.5 kg) of meth produced?
p. 635

*A.) Six times
B.) Four times
C.) Five times
D.) Seven times

22. What is considered the most serious hazard associated with meth labs?
p. 628

*A.) Flammability
B.) Poisoning
C.) Corrosiveness
D.) Exposure

23. Which is NOT a section that the room should be examined when looking for booby traps at an illicit lab incident?
p. 649

A.) Waist to chin
B.) Chin to ceiling
*C.) Waist to arms
D.) Floor to waist

24. How should the information about booby-traps on the premises of an illicit laboratory be used by the
responders?
p. 624-625

A.) Removal of the device
B.) Dismantling of the device
*C.) Awareness of the device
D.) Location of the device

25. Which of the following types of labs would be indicated if antibiotics and vaccines are present?
p. 639

A.) Etiological
B.) Explosives
C.) Chemical agent
*D.) Biological

26. What makes coordination among agencies difficult at an illicit drug lab incident?
p. 642

A.) Danger levels in the labs
B.) Lack of common resources
C.) Unwillingness to work together
*D.) No two labs are alike

27. Which agency is NOT involved in the remediation of an illicit drug lab?
p. 646

A.) EPA
B.) Local environmental agencies
*C.) DOT
D.) DEA

28. Which chemical may indicate an attempt to make sarin?
p. 636

A.) Anhydrous ammonia
B.) Mineral spirits
C.) Lithium metal
*D.) Methyl iodide

29. How should the responder work when examining a door for signs of tampering?
p. 648

*A.) Start low and work upwards
B.) Start on the edge and work inwards
C.) Start center and work outwards
D.) Start high and work downwards

30. Contact with which chemical may cause blindness?
p. 633

A.) Methyl alcohol
*B.) Sulfuric acid
C.) Acetone
D.) Ethyl ether

31. What is the favorite way of transporting raw materials used to construct IEDs?
p. 638

A.) In brown paper wrapping
B.) In everyday suitcase
*C.) On ice in a cooler
D.) In a pressurized container

32. Which of the following is NOT a law enforcement duty when securing the scene of an illicit lab?
p. 642

A.) Protecting evidence from potential damage
B.) Documenting any items disturbed within the crime scene
C.) Rendering safe any explosive ordinance
*D.) Neutralizing any logistical threat

33. Which of the following will most likely be missing from a biological lab?
p. 639

A.) Incubator
*B.) Propane
C.) Autoclaves
D.) Refrigerator

34. Which of the following is NOT a common clue that a meth lab may be present in a structure?
p. 635

A.) Unusual security systems or other devices
*B.) Knowledge of renters who pay their rent late
C.) Increased activity, especially at night
D.) Smell of ammonia or starting fluid

35. Which organization's rules should be followed when operating at an illicit lab location?
p. 641

*A.) OSHA
B.) DEA
C.) EPA
D.) NFPA

36. Which of the following is the peroxide-based explosive NOT extremely sensitive to?
p. 637

A.) Shock
*B.) Moisture
C.) Friction
D.) Heat

37. What should the decontamination procedures be based upon at the illicit drug lab incident?
p. 645

A.) Incident action plan
*B.) Risk assessment process
C.) Type and location of hazards
D.) Tactical operations

38. What is the second most common type of lab discovered?
p. 636

A.) Drug lab
B.) Etiological lab
*C.) Explosives lab
D.) Biological lab

39. Which chemical is used for pill extraction?
p. 630

A.) Ethyl alcohol
*B.) Acetone
C.) Ephedrine
D.) Iodine

40. What are the basic ingredients for an improvised explosive device?
p. 637

*A.) A fuel and oxidizer
B.) A fuel and corrosive
C.) A fuel and toxin
D.) A fuel and vapor

41. Where do operators of meth labs get their sodium metal?
p. 628

A.) Drink cans
B.) Silverware
*C.) Batteries
D.) Thermometers

42. Which of the following is responsible for mitigating hazards from anti-personnel devices around and within the laboratory?
p. 624

*A.) Bomb squad personnel
B.) Law enforcement tactical teams
C.) Technician-Level responders
D.) Operations-Level responders