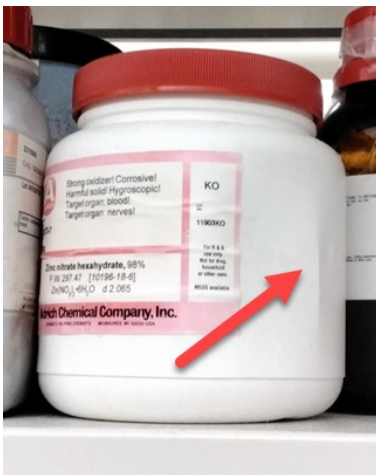


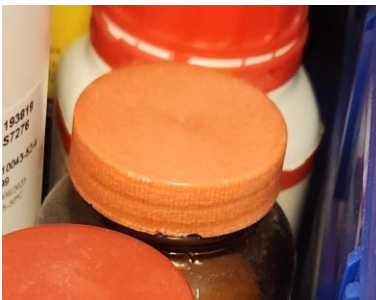
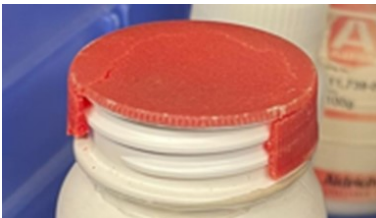


HAZARD ALERT: CONTAINER FAILURES

PREVENTING EXPOSURE FROM CONTAINER FAILURES



Container cracking vertically. Keep an eye out for unusual lines on the container, which can crack open with time (or upon handling the container).



Cracked or damaged lids. Older lids may crack or may fade and become brittle after years of exposure to light. Before handling a chemical container, visually inspect the lid for cracks or other damage.

Containers are the primary barrier that separate the contents inside from the outside environment. The only way to ensure chemicals can be safely stored and used in the workplace is to regularly check the condition of chemical containers.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

- Container failure could lead to a chemical spill, or make the chemicals unusable by exposing them to air. If the container breaks open, anyone could be exposed to the contents, which may be hazardous.
- Plastic containers are more likely to deteriorate sooner than glass or metal containers. Containers that have failed tend to be older than 10 years, but newer containers can also fail.

INSPECT CONTAINERS REGULARLY

- Personnel should regularly inspect their lab's containers for bending and cracks, and for cracked or faded lids. While doing so, they should wear appropriate gloves, safety glasses, and fastened lab coats to prevent exposure.
- All users should be trained to visually inspect containers before picking them up. Cracks and dents may give way to container failure when manual pressure is applied; damaged or brittle lids may break apart when the container is opened. Any container failure may release potentially hazardous contents.

IF DAMAGED CONTAINERS ARE FOUND:

- If damaged containers are found, they should be immediately placed into secondary containment and disposed of. Alternatively, the contents should be immediately transferred to a clean and empty undamaged container with a secure lid. Be sure to choose a container material that is compatible with the transferred chemical. **The name of the chemical and all hazard warnings from the original container must be transferred to the label of the new container.**