



# PUBLIC FACT SHEET

## RIOT CONTROL AGENTS

### What are Riot Control Agents?

Riot control agents are solid and liquid chemical compounds that temporarily make people unable to function by causing irritation to the eyes, mouth, throat, lungs, and skin.

Several different compounds are considered to be riot control agents. The most common compounds are known as CN and CS.

### What are possible methods of exposure?

- released in the air as fine droplets or particles
  - skin contact
  - eye contact
  - breathing

### What are possible symptoms of riot control agent exposure?

#### Eyes:

- excessive tearing
- blurred vision
- redness

#### Nose:

- runny nose
- burning
- swelling

#### Mouth:

- burning
- irritation
- difficulty swallowing
- drooling

#### Lungs:

- chest tightness
- coughing
- choking sensation
- noisy breathing
- shortness of breath

#### Skin:

- burns
- rash

### What is the treatment for exposure to riot control agents?

If you have been exposed to riot control agents, contact the emergency medical authorities immediately.

Treatment consists of helping the affected person get more oxygen and stopping agent-caused chemical burns from getting worse.

Eye exposures are treated by rinsing the eyes with water until there is no evidence of riot control agents in the eyes.

### For more information on riot control agents contact:

Ottawa County Health Department  
[www.miOttawa.org](http://www.miOttawa.org)

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

[www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/riotcontrol/](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/riotcontrol/)  
Phone: (888) 246-2675