

# Technical Data Sheet



## Solmega® DHA - Recommended Handling and Storage

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### Handling of DHA *Schizochytrium* oil, or other highly-concentrated PUFA oils

Triglyceride oils high in polyunsaturated fatty acid (PUFA) content, such as high DHA and EPA oils, should be stored and handled in a manner as to not promote rancidity due to oxidation. Protection from heat, O<sub>2</sub> (atmosphere), and light are important variables for this to be carried out.

The following storage and handling best practices are recommended to protect the oil and extend shelf life.

- **Container.** Oils should be stored in a container that protects from UV and visible light. All containers should be food grade and known not to transfer phthalates or other contaminants, such as metals. Containers should not be filled to full capacity, but with appropriate headspace for expansion of material. The headspace should be voided of atmosphere by sweeping with an inert gas such as nitrogen.
- **Storage Overview.** Oils should always be stored in a cool, dry environment.

Storage Time	1 – 3 Days	4 – 14 Days	≥ 15 Days
Storage Temperature	Room Temperature (20-25 °C)	Refrigeration (4 to 10 °C)	Frozen (-20 to -10 °C)

- **Refrigeration Storage (4 to 10 °C).** Oil will partially solidify under these storage conditions and should be reconditioned (brought to room temperature and made fluid) with as gentle of conditions as possible. This can be done by leaving the oil at room temperature for an extended period, not to exceed 2 days, with occasional mixing or agitation of the

container. The process may be accelerated by submerging the container into a water bath set at  $\leq 50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , with occasional and gentle agitation. The water bath should not exceed  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$  and the oil should remain in the water bath no longer than is necessary to make the oil fully fluid. Ensure total homogeneity by mixing thoroughly after all material has become fluid.

- **Frozen Storage (-20 to -10 °C).** Frozen is the optimum condition for DHA oil that will be stored more than 15 days. Material will fully solidify under these storage conditions and it will take longer to recondition the oil. Refer to the above instructions for reconditioning.
- **Material Transfer.** When transferring material to alternative containers or vessels, sweep headspace with inert gas after filling the containers. Reconditioning or warming cycles should be minimized to maintain the shelf life of the oil.



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