Oil was being removed from sodium hydride using wet hexanes. This mixture was capped and H₂O reacted with NaH to produce hydrogen gas that built dangerous pressure.

The vial was uncapped quickly and left in the hood overnight. Toluene and isopropanol was added to the vial slowly to quench.

NaH should be used in an inert environment and with dry solvent. CaH₂ can be substituted in some cases as a less dangerous option and is bench stable.

Near-Miss Anonymous

NaH is highly reactive when in contact with H₂O and produces flammable H₂ gas that can ignite. Because of this reactivity, NaH is often sold in oil to protect it from moisture, which must be removed by a dry and inert organic solvent before use.

Career Preparation
- NESACS event; Catalyst II: Navigating your Career Path; September 26th at Blueprint Medicines (Cambridge, MA)
- NSF GRFP Applications; Due October 25, 2019
- AAAS Science & Technology Policy Fellowships Applications; Due November 1, 2019
- GEM Fellowship Application; Due November 12, 2019