

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY EYE WASHES AND SAFETY SHOWERS Procedure No: S-08-016

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

Emergency eye washes and safety showers will be provided where their use is indicated due to the presence of corrosive compounds.

PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE

To provide treatment to individuals who may be exposed to injurious compounds.

PROCEDURE

Eye washes and safety showers shall be readily available to individuals and clearly labeled in accordance with the OSHA Standard 1910.151(c), and recognizing the ANZI 23581-2004 guidelines.

It is the responsibility of the Laboratory Director or Department Manager to ensure eye washes and safety showers are provided.

Department managers shall contact Safety & Health for selection, acquisition and installation of emergency eye wash stations and appropriate signage.

Contact Safety & Health for a site/process evaluation to determine if eyewashes/safety showers are necessary.

Eye wash bottles are not an acceptable substitute for eye washes where plumbed water is available. Further, the potential for microbial growth within bottled solutions may present additional hazards to potential users. Thus their use is generally not recommended, except as approved by the Safety and Health Department.

Eyewashes and Safety Showers in Clinical Areas

Eyewashes in clinical areas shall be inspected weekly and documented on or near the unit on an inspection checklist. Replacement inspection checklists can be obtained from Safety and Health. An eyewash risk assessment for clinical areas is available in the Safety & Health Department. It is the responsibility of Facilities Maintenance (or their designee) to check/test safety showers in clinical areas.

Eyewashes and Safety Showers in Non-Clinical Areas

Eyewashes in university areas will be tested by Safety & Health (or their designee) at least once a year and documented on or near the unit on an inspection checklist. Replacement inspection checklists can be obtained from Safety and Health. Laboratory Directors or Department Managers are encouraged to inspect/test eyewashes weekly if exposure to compounds/processes could significantly impair a user's vision. It is the responsibility of Facilities Maintenance (or designee) to ensure that all safety showers are tested at least once a year.

Source: Safety & Health Committee

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