

UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO

SUBJECT: LASER SYSTEMS

Procedure No: HM-08-002

PROCEDURE STATEMENT

In accordance with American National Standard for Safe Use of LASERs (ANSI Z136.1), American National Standard for Safe Use of LASERs in Health Care Facilities (ANSI Z136.3) and American National Standard for Safe Use of LASERs in Educational Institutions (ANSI Z136.5), the University has set guidelines to ensure safe and effective operation of Class III and IV LASER Systems.

PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE

To ensure the safe use of all surgical, teaching and research LASER systems at the University of Toledo, and to provide all persons having contact with LASERs with optimal safety and efficiency in operations according to ANSI standards.

PROCEDURE

The Department of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety has designated a LASER Safety Officer (LSO) who has the authority and responsibility for monitoring and overseeing the control of LASER hazards. For Class III and IV embedded LASERs with little or no potential for exposure of personnel to hazards above those associated with Class II LASERs, the following requirements can be waived by the LSO in writing.

Any Department, laboratory, or health care area with personnel who may operate a LASER or be in attendance when a LASER is operated must have policies and procedures addressing safety precautions for those personnel; all such policies and procedures must be reviewed and approved by the LSO. Safety precautions taken during the use of LASERs shall be consistent with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards as interpreted by the LASER Safety Officer. Please reference HM-08-002 Appendix A, LASER Safety Manual.

Any Department, laboratory, or health care area that acquires a new Class 3B or Class 4 LASER must notify the LSO.

Any person who operates a LASER or LASER system in an unsafe manner, or fails to comply with safe LASER use protocol, will need to be retrained by their respective department manager. Any person who continuously fails to comply with LASER safety precautions can lose their LASER privileges. LASER use can be suspended at the discretion of the Director of Environmental Health and Radiation Safety and LSO.

Listings of LASER locations by campus:

Health Science Campus:

- Surgery (Inpatient and Outpatient)
- Research areas (Health Education Building, Block Health Science Building)

Main Campus:

- Bowman Oddy
- McMaster Hall
- Palmer Hall
- North Engineering
- Wolfe Hall

Source: Safety & Health Committee

Effective Date: 6/8/92
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