

Emergency Eyewash and Emergency Showers

Emergency eyewash and emergency safety showers are important for the prevention of injury caused by biological, chemical and radioactive material. It is imperative that such equipment is located all areas in which the risk of such an exposure is present. In addition, this equipment should be maintained, tested and inspected as outlined below.

Emergency Shower: Formal inspections of emergency safety showers are performed semi-annually by members of the Facilities Department. Inspection date and inspector is documented on a label located at the safety shower.

Laboratory personnel should conduct routine inspections of safety showers. Inspections should be conducted at least monthly and address the following:

- Is the safety shower free from obstructions?
- Is the safety shower prominently posted with a highly visible sign indicating its location?
- Is there any visible damage to the safety shower?
- Has the safety shower been inspected by the Facilities Department within the last six months?

Emergency Eyewash: Formal inspections of emergency eyewashes are performed semi-annually by members of the Facilities Department. Inspection date and inspector is documented on a label located at the eyewash.

Laboratory personnel should conduct routine inspections of eyewashes. Inspections should be conducted at least monthly and address the following:

- Is the eyewash free from obstructions?
- Is the eyewash free from nearby equipment and other electrical hazards?
- Is the eyewash prominently posted with a sign indicating its location?
- Is the eyewash activation trigger functioning?
- Is there any visible damage to the eyewash?
- Are the protective caps clean and covering water dispensing nozzles?
- Are the dispensing nozzles clean from dust, dirt and other contaminants?
- Has the eyewash been flushed to remove stagnant or dirty water? Note: For eyewashes that are not hard-plumbed to a drain, a container will be needed to capture water.
- Has the eyewash been inspected by the Facilities Department within the last six months?

If the inspection of emergency eyewash and emergency safety showers indicate a deficiency, it should be immediately corrected. Repairs or formal inspections can be completed by contacting your campus Facilities Department.