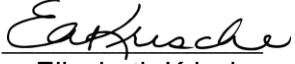


POLICY: EMERGENCY SHOWER AND EYEWASH STATIONS			NUMBER: S-25
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PREPARED BY: Facilities Management (FM)	AUTHORIZED BY:  Elizabeth Krische	CLASSIFICATION: Safety Procedure	EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2021
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INTRODUCTION

Facilities Management (FM) personnel required to work with hazardous biological or chemical agents must have access to emergency eyewash and shower equipment as per R.R.O. 1990, Reg. 851, s. 124.

Currently there is no Canadian standard for the design or placement of eyewash stations or emergency showers. As a result, the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard Z358.1-2014 “Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment” is generally used as a guide.

RESPONSIBILITY

Compliance with this Policy is the responsibility of Facilities Management leadership and those working in areas with the potential for exposure to biological or chemical agents.

INSTRUCTIONS

Where practicable, FM will install eyewash stations and emergency showers where workers are exposed to biological or chemical agents.

In remote locations where the installation of plumbed eyewash stations or an emergency shower is not practical, personnel must take with them to the job site any of the following:

- A portable ANSI Z358.1 approved eyewash station capable of delivering 15 minutes of constant flow.
- An antidote flushing fluid or wash. These may be in the form of small dispensing bottles of Diphoterine solution that can be delivered to the affected eye or skin immediately following exposure.
- ***Training must be provided on the proper use of these products. Please contact Occupational Health & Safety to register for training.***

NEW INSTALLATIONS

All new emergency showers and eyewash stations will be manufactured and installed according to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z358.1-2014 “Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment” and in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendation.

EYEWASH AND EMERGENCY SHOWER TESTING

- Eyewash stations in laboratories to be inspected/tested weekly by Laboratory personnel.
- Eyewash stations in corridors/general areas to be inspected/tested weekly by FM Building Services.
- Emergency showers to be inspected/tested monthly by FM Building Services.
- Emergency showers and eyewash stations in restricted areas, such as Power Plant and Mechanical Rooms, to be tested by FM Operations. Emergency showers to be tested monthly and eyewash stations to be tested weekly.
- All emergency showers and eyewash stations to be tested annually by the Plumbing shop.

DEFINITIONS

Biological Agent: A substance made from an organism, its products, or a virus. Hazardous biological agents have the potential to cause adverse health effects.

Chemical Agent: A chemical compound that has toxic effects on human health.

Diphoterine: A sterile, active washing solution used to treat skin and eye tissue that has come in contact with a corrosive chemical.

Emergency Shower: a device specifically designed and intended to deliver flushing fluid in sufficient volume to cause the fluid to cascade over the entire body while the hands are free.

Eyewash Station: A device used to provide tepid fluid to irrigate and flush both eyes simultaneously at a velocity low enough not to be injurious to the user.

Hazardous Material: Any substance or compound that has the capability of producing adverse effects on the health and safety of humans.

Personal Eyewash: A supplementary eyewash that supports plumbed or self-contained eyewash equipment by delivering immediate flushing to the eyes or body.

Plumbed Eyewash: An eyewash unit permanently connected to a continual source of potable water.

REFERENCES

American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard Z358.1-2014 “Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment”

Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS), Emergency Showers and Eyewash Stations

https://www.ccohs.ca/oshanswers/safety_haz/emergency_showers.html

Western University Eyewash Inspection Program, Occupational Health and Safety

https://www.uwo.ca/hr/form_doc/health_safety/doc/procedures/eye_wash_inspection_program.pdf