

Eyewash Stations

Despite taking safety precautions, accidents can occur in the workplace. Eyewash stations are used in situations that require irrigation of the eyes of a person who has been exposed to substances that can cause irritation or tissue damage. Receiving immediate and proper treatment following exposure can be key to minimizing serious injury.

In most laboratories there are sink eyewashes, which should be used if a splash occurs. Please be aware that these eyewashes are a piece of safety equipment and should be treated as such. On a monthly basis you should test the sink eyewash by letting water run through it for about a minute.

Also, in the corridors, there are eyewash stations. Some of these stations do not have drains and water will pour onto the floor. In case of emergency where an eyewash is used and the floor is wet, please contact housekeeping to help dry the floor to avoid slips and falls.

To use an eyewash:

- Activate by pushing the handle on the activator to begin the water flow.
- Hold eyes open by using your fingers to hold your eyelids open to ensure the water reaches all surfaces of the eye and under the eyelids.
- Continuously flush both eyes for at least 15 minutes while rolling your eyeballs back and forth during flushing to help rinse the entire surface.
- After flushing, immediately seek further medical treatment, even if your eyes feel better.

If a situation occurs, call EH&S at x4150 and if an eyewash is not functioning properly, please contact the Engineering at x3000 to have it repaired.

