Emergency Eyewash and Shower
Fact Sheet

Many areas across MUSC are equipped with emergency eyewashes and/or showers. This equipment is designed to be used by employees when a splash to the eye(s) or bodily contamination occurs. In order to ensure that the equipment is properly functioning during an emergency, eyewashes and showers require regular testing and maintenance.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STAFF:
- Identify locations of emergency eyewashes/showers in your area
- Understand how to use the eyewash/shower
- Keep eyewash and shower areas clean and free of obstructions
- Perform a weekly test of eyewashes (see left side-bar)
  NOTE: STAFF SHOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO TEST EMERGENCY SHOWERS.
- Maintain a log documenting weekly eyewash tests
- Sign and date log after performing weekly eyewash test
- Report any malfunction, missing parts, or problems to Facilities

RESPONSIBILITIES OF FACILITIES:
- Perform detailed quarterly tests of eyewashes and safety showers
- Maintain database documenting quarterly eyewash tests
- Sign and date tag after performing quarterly test
- Fix any malfunctioning or broken eyewashes/showers

RESPONSIBILITIES OF OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH PROGRAMS:
- Perform risk assessment of areas working with hazardous materials
- Determine where emergency eyewashes/showers are necessary
- Inspect eyewashes/showers to ensure testing compliance
- Provide resources and training materials to aid staff compliance
- Coordinate with Facilities for installation, removal or repairs

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES
In the event of a splash to the eye(s):
1. Proceed to nearest eyewash.
2. Push or pull eyewash lever to activate water flow.
3. Flush eyes for a minimum of 15 minutes.
4. Proceed to Employee Health Services or the Emergency Room (after hours).

In the event of full body contamination:
1. Proceed to nearest shower.
2. Pull chain or lever to activate water flow.
3. Use shower for a minimum of 15 minutes.
4. Proceed to Employee Health Services or the Emergency Room (after hours).