

## Emergency Eyewash Testing



Principal Investigators/Laboratory Directors are responsible for ensuring that the emergency eyewash stations located in their laboratories are inspected and tested weekly. Testing of emergency eyewashes located in hallways or outside buildings is the responsibility of the department located in the area or having the laboratory nearest to the unit. See the [UAB General Health and Safety Management Program Manual](#) for more details on unit specifications.

**NOTE:** Hand-held drench hoses support shower and eyewash units, but shall not replace them.

Eyewashes should be inspected weekly and maintained according to the manufacturer's instructions, which may include but is not limited to the following:

- Ensure access is unobstructed.
- Verify protective eyewash covers are properly positioned, clean, and intact.
- Check that the bowl and spouts are clean and free of trash.
- Place a pan or bucket under non-plumbed drainpipes to collect water during flushing.
- Check that flow is effective and continuous by activating the unit (pushing the paddle or foot pedal).
  - Verify that protective eyewash covers come off when the eyewash is activated.
  - Check that water flows from both eyepieces.
  - Evaluate for adequate flow based on manufacturers instructions.
  - Verify that flow continues until deactivation or according to manufacturers instructions.
- Check that water drains from the bowl.
- Document the inspection and performance test.

UAB Maintenance periodically tests emergency safety showers. Report problems with eyewash stations or safety showers to UAB Maintenance: campus maintenance at 4-5355; hospital maintenance at 4-6181.

Train all laboratory workers in the use of an emergency eyewash station and document training.

## Weekly Testing of Eye-Wash Station

**Instructions:** Place date and initials of inspector/tester beside the appropriate week, indicating that the emergency eyewash was inspected and tested; one form per eyewash unit.

**Lab Location:**

Week	Week
1	27
2	28
3	29
4	30
5	31
6	32
7	33
8	34
9	35
10	36
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