

Safetygram

NCI-Frederick

ISM-114

General

January 2012

Emergency Safety Equipment

Eyewash Stations

The first 15 seconds are critical when a chemical or biological agent is splashed in the eyes, so eyewash stations must be readily accessible wherever chemical or biological agents are used. Check your work area - if there is no eyewash station, contact EHS to assess the need, or place a trouble call to have an ANSI approved eyewash installed. Every potentially exposed individual should know the location of the nearest eyewash and how to use it. In an emergency, immediately flush the eyes for 15 minutes, holding the eyelids open, and then seek medical attention. Remember that an emergency eyewash is no substitute for primary protective devices such as safety glasses, goggles, or face shields.

Emergency eyewash stations must be activated monthly. This will ensure that the unit will work properly in an emergency. Call the Trouble Desk (x1068) if the unit does not work properly. Keep a clear area around your eyewash station at all times.

Safety Showers

For immediate treatment of chemical splashes and clothing fires, safety showers are vitally important safety equipment. They should be readily accessible and in proper working order. You should know where the nearest safety shower is located and how to operate it. Safety showers are tested semi-annually by FME; should you experience any problems with a safety shower, contact the Trouble Desk (x1068) to have the problem corrected.

First Aid Kits

First aid kits are placed in many buildings at NCI-Frederick for minor accidents or injuries. Once first aid has been administered, employees should proceed to Occupational Health Services to report the accident and complete the accident/illness form. All accident/injuries should be treated and reported immediately, regardless of how minor. First aid kits may be purchased by your program. They should be inspected weekly and supplies replenished as needed.

If you have any questions regarding emergency eyewash stations, safety showers, first aid kits, or any other safety equipment in your work area, contact EHS at x1451.