

Weekly Eyewash Flushing

Eyewash stations must be flushed weekly by laboratory personnel to ensure station is working properly and that the water is clean. Flushing stagnant water for a full three minutes greatly reduces the presence of acanthamoeba, reducing the risk of serious eye infections following the use of emergency eyewash stations.

The following steps should be followed during each weekly eyewash flushing:

- ✓ Verify access to the eyewash station is unobstructed. This includes easily moved items such as chairs and carts, as these could become a hazard during an emergency situation in which eyesight may be limited.
- ✓ Place water bucket under eyewash station. Plastic sleeves may be placed over eyepieces during flushing to reduce splashing and spillage to floor.
- ✓ Ensure eyewash station activates easily with one hand, and that water flows consistently from each eyepiece.
- ✓ Allow eyewash station to flush for three full minutes. Water should be clear and free of any debris.
- ✓ Make sure floor is wiped dry in order to avoid slippage of staff and students. A wet Floor sign may be obtained from housekeeping if needed.



- Any malfunctions must be reported immediately to Facility Services (229-4742).
- Emergency Eyewash and Shower stations are checked annually by Facility Services. Contact Facility Services (229-4742) if test record is not up to date.
- All other questions or concerns may be directed toward the laboratory manager.