

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Procedure:	Eyewash and safety shower testing
School/Department:	School of Molecular Bioscience
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Section 1 - Personal Protective Equipment

1. Lab coat or lab gown
2. Proper enclosed footwear
3. Hair tied back if long

Section 2 – Equipment involved, Potential Hazards + Safety precautions

1. Equipment: Shower 'sock' and wheelie bin customised for shower testing, a ladder may be required for some showers (obtained from L2 service centre)
2. Be careful not to splash water, wipe up any spills immediately.
3. If climbing a ladder is necessary to reach the shower-head, take care with footing, ensure the ladder is set up correctly and is stable before climbing.

Section 3 – Procedure

Eyewashes need to be tested once per week, as follows:

1. Eyewashes drain directly into sinks – no accessory equipment necessary
2. Turn on eyewash either using push-lever or pulling eyewash away from the wall
3. Ensure a strong flow rate – at least 50% of maximum (not just a trickle of water)
4. Allow water to run through the eyewash for 10 seconds, then switch off
5. Clean up any spills on the floor with mop or paper towel, as appropriate
6. Fill in performance test document adjacent to eyewash

Safety showers need to be tested once per month, as follows:

7. Obtain accessory equipment from designated station, including:
 - shower sock attachment
 - wheelie bin to catch the flow-through water
 - ladder (optional)
8. Place the end of the shower sock with the string tightener over the shower head
9. If you need a ladder, **use care !** do not step above the 3rd-from-top step
10. Tighten string such that the top end of the sock is firmly attached to the shower
11. Place lower end of sock into the slot in the lid of the wheelie bin
12. Turn on shower by pulling the handle down firmly
13. Ensure a strong flow rate – at least 50% of maximum (not just a trickle of water)
14. Allow water to run through the shower for 3-5 seconds, then switch off
15. Clean up any spills on the floor with mop or paper towel if necessary
16. Fill in performance test document adjacent to shower
17. Empty water from bin into gutter in loading dock outside MMB building
18. Return bin and sock to designated station

Section 4 – Disposal / Spills / Incidents

1. Water spills must be cleaned up immediately, e.g. using paper towel.
2. Any incidents resulting in injury must be reported to your supervisor immediately and via the online incident report form within 24 h. Near misses (dangerous situations not leading to an incident) should also be reported

