



Western University Eyewash Inspection Program

The Eyewash Inspection Program has been developed in response to an inspection by the Ministry of Labour (MOL) who issued a directive to test all eyewashes at the university to the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standard.

To comply with this directive, the ANSI standard requires eyewashes to be tested weekly by flushing to ensure that the unit has water and the water runs clear. This is to ensure that the supply line is free of sediment that could block the flow and to minimize microbial contamination due to sitting water.

The program is endorsed by the University Health and Safety Committee (UHSC) and requires laboratory personnel to perform the weekly testing of laboratory eyewashes and record the testing on the tag attached to the eyewash.

Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) staff has attached tags to all of the eyewashes in your lab. Please follow the procedure outlined below on this card.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining compliance with this requirement.

Please contact Elias El-Zouki at extension 84821, or by email at eelzouki@uwo.ca if you have any questions.

There are a number of styles of eyewashes that require testing, these are primarily

- Floor/wall mounted with plumbed drain
- Floor/wall mounted without plumbed drain
- Eyewash/shower combination with plumbed drain
- Eyewash/shower combination without plumbed drain
- Fixed, sink mounted units
- Pull out, sink mounted units
- Tap mounted units

Testing Procedure

1. Ensure the area around the unit is free of obstacles
2. If no drain or sink is available, place a bucket or basin below the unit
3. Activate the eyewash
4. Flush for at least 3 minutes, or until water runs clear
5. Check that the flow is even
6. Sign, date and indicate pass or fail on the attached tag

If the eyewash is not working correctly contact Facilities Management Work Control Centre at 83304

NOTE: Inspection procedures also apply to eyewashes found in kitchens, and other locations that are not laboratories or hallways which are tested by caretaking staff.