Chapter 53: Chemical Safety

Emergency Eyewash/Shower Use Procedure

The purpose of this procedure is to minimize harm to workers from accidental exposures to chemicals and other hazardous materials. It covers the use of emergency eyewash and shower stations. It applies to workers and supervisors. (This document is to be attached to each emergency eyewash/shower station. See Chemical Safety: Emergency Eyewash/Shower Requirements [SLAC-I-730-0A09S-043].)

In the event of a chemical splash or spill, follow these steps:

1. Do not panic.
2. Shout for help to allow co-workers to assist.
3. Flush the affected area of the body immediately for a minimum of 15 minutes.
4. For chemical spills to the eyes, hold eyes open as wide as possible to permit the water to reach all areas around the eye.

**Warning** Recognize that both eyes move together, so do not leave the uninjured eye open or uncovered. If a protective dressing is used, do not apply pressure over the eyes.

**Warning** Eyewash stations should not be used following injury with a known metal or similarly rigid solid fragment. In this event, seek immediate medical attention.

5. If clothing is contaminated, remove while under the shower.
6. Shut off water:
   - For eyewashes, pull push plate or foot plate back.
   - For showers, push valve actuator back.
7. Call 911, then call SLAC Site Security (ext. 5555 or 650-926-5555 from a cell phone), and your supervisor.
8. Arrange to be examined and treated by a doctor or other trained medical specialist as soon as possible. If you are not transported directly to an emergency room from the scene of the exposure, report immediately to the SLAC Occupational Health Center.