EYE & FACE PROTECTION FOR LAB WORKERS

Everyone working in labs on campus is required to wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) to minimize exposure/injury. Follow the guidelines below for a safer work environment.

Variable Working Situations

- Protective devices must be worn in locations where there is a risk of injury to the face or eyes.
- Due to the variability in laboratory work, PPE must be identified through procedure specific hazard analysis - job specific PPE requirements must be maintained in the laboratory’s Integrated Safety and Environmental Management Plan (ISEM) for ready access by laboratory students, visitors and employees.
- Effective eye/face protection device requirements can differ between or within a laboratory.
- When laboratory procedures require the use of eye/face protection, everyone in the laboratory (even if wearing glasses/contacts) must wear the required protective devices (goggles/face shield).

Eye & Face Protection

- Please refer to Laser Protective Eyewear and Hazards of Ultraviolet Radiation to select protective eyewear when working with lasers or UV light.
- Guidelines for choosing other types of protective eyewear best suited to the job can be found at www.labsafety.com/refinfo/ezfacts/ezf125.htm.

Special Considerations for Contact Lens Users

- Don't handle or store contact lenses in labs or areas where chemical, biohazard or radiological materials are used/ stored.
- Don’t insert contacts in areas where chemical, biohazard or radiological materials are used/ stored.
- Certain chemicals should not be used when wearing contact lenses - contact EH&S for recommendations on appropriate eye protection if you need advice about wearing contact lenses in areas where chemicals are stored/used.
- You must inform the supervisor and co-workers if you wear contact lenses.

Visit www.ehs.ucr.edu for additional information or call EH&S at 827-5528 if you have any questions.