



UNIVERSITY
OF MANITOBA

ENVIRONMENTAL
HEALTH AND SAFETY

Main Office

191 Extended Education Complex
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 2N2
Tel: (204) 474-6633
Fax: (204) 474-7629

Bannatyne Office

P310 Pathology Building
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3E 0W3
Tel: (204) 789-3613
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Laser Exposure/Injury

Accidental exposure to a laser beam may cause eye and skin damage or injury.

Beware of the possibility of exposure to non-beam hazards by way of fire, chemical, laser generated air contaminants, cryogenic or electrical.



POST EXPOSURE PROTOCOL FOR A LASER EXPOSURE/INJURY

1. **Recognize the problem** - it is important to remain alert when surveying the scene.
2. **Evaluate the hazards** – assess the danger when planning an appropriate and safe course of action.
3. **Take control** - someone needs to take immediate action to control the situation. This could include turning off the laser, stopping all other operations, notify co-workers or asking for resources.
4. **Call out for help** - It is safer to overestimate the situation than to underestimate with serious consequences!

For all emergencies requiring Fire Department, Ambulance (or Police) call “911”

- If a fire has occurred, activate fire alarm and follow your local procedures.
- If exposure to hazardous materials is indicated; follow the instructions in your emergency plan.
- If electrocution, perform CPR if you are trained to do so.
- **Laser beam exposure or injury**, take action to lessen the impact:
 - If an **eye exposure** is suspected:
 - ⇒ keep person calm
 - ⇒ keep person in the upright position
 - ⇒ cover both eyes to immobilize
 - If **skin** appears damaged, provide first aid.

Seek Medical Advice as soon as practical (within 48 hours) of any suspect exposure as follows:

LASER EYE EXPOSURE/INJURY - ALL CAMPUS STAFF

Report directly to: Misericordia Hospital - Patient Registration at 99 Cornish Avenue entrance	Call paging (204-774-6581) and ask to have the ophthalmologist on call paged or Phone (204-788-8600)
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OTHER INJURIES - FORT GARRY CAMPUS STAFF

Report to: Victoria Hospital Urgent Care 2340 Pembina Hwy.	State circumstances of the exposure
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OTHER INJURIES - BANNATYNE CAMPUS STAFF

Proceed to: HSC Emergency Department	State circumstances of the exposure
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The next business day contact the: Occupational Health Coordinator

Environmental Health and Safety
191 Extended Education Complex
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