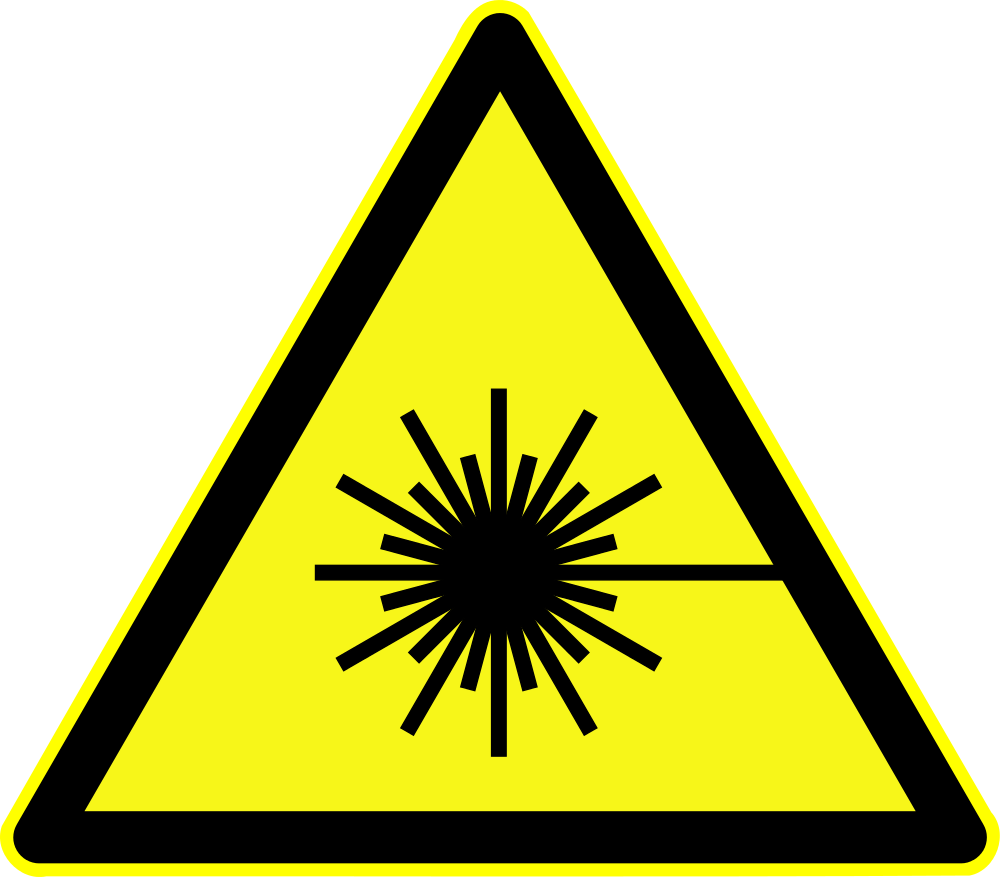
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| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Stop ALL work in the lab.** |
| **2.** | **Shut down ALL lasers in the lab immediately.**   * Use the ‘Emergency Shut-Off’ button, key control panel, or circuit breaker if necessary. |
| **3.** | **Seek medical attention. Have a co-worker call for help and give assistance.**   * For **Severe Injuries**, such as total loss of vision, bleeding from the eye, 2nd or 3rd degree burns to the eye area or face, electrocution, or hazardous gas exposure, **CALL 911** to request transport to the nearest hospital emergency room. * For **Minor Injuries**, contact the HealthPoint Occupational Health Program to determine your next steps for medical treatment. |
| **4.** | **Notify the laser user’s supervisor (P.I.), and the UT Austin Laser Safety Officer as soon as possible.** |
| **5.** | **Do NOT alter the laser setup, or resume work without EHS Approval.** |

* **LASER INJURY GUIDE** 

**If injured by a laser, follow this guide:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **EMERGENCY CONTACTS** | | |
| **Contact** | **Phone** | **After Hours** |
| **HealthPoint** | 512-471-4647 | 512-471-4647, then press 1 for on-call contact |
| **Laser Safety Officer** | 512-471-3511 | 512-875-0911 |
| **UT Police** | 911 or 512-471-4441 | 911 or 512-471-4441 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **YOUR LOCATION INFORMATION** | | | |
| **Address:** | 1200 East Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd, Suite 1200 | | |
| **Building:** | East Campus Garage | **P.I. Name:** | Dewayne Holcomb |
| **Room:** | 1.220 | **P.I. Phone:** | 512-471-2038 |

**Laser Injury Guide *- Immediate Actions:***

1. Stop work and turn off all lasers.
2. Warn others in the area if a hazard still exists.
3. Seek medical attention for Class 3B & 4 exposures to the eye or exposure resulting in injury to the skin (e.g. burns). Have a co-worker call for help, if needed. When speaking with medical or safety representatives, be sure to state the type and extent of injury, and to clearly request any assistance you might need.
   * For severe injuries such as total loss of vision, bleeding from the eye, 2nd or 3rd degree burns to the skin around the eye or to the face, call 911 and request transport to the nearest hospital emergency room that accepts eye injuries. A co-worker may apply a light dressing to the involved eye(s) to control any drainage and/or protect the eye. Do not apply any pressure to the eye itself. If swelling occurs, apply a cold compress to the area surrounding the eye for 5-minute periods while waiting for EMS transport.
   * For exposures not resulting in severe injury (headaches, photophobia, visual disturbance but otherwise medically stable, etc.), contact the University of Texas at Austin HealthPoint Occupational Health Program (OHP) to discuss the nature and duration of the exposure. OHP will partner with the employee to help determine the next steps for evaluation and treatment of the exposure, as applicable. This may include OHP scheduling a laser post-exposure evaluation with an ophthalmologist experienced in laser eye examinations during normal business hours or an immediate referral to a St. David’s HealthCare affiliated emergency room.
   * Note: Not all eye injuries will have pain; laser retinal burns may be painless while laser burns to the cornea or sclera may have burning pain at the site of exposure.
   * For electrical shock injuries including electrocution, call 911 immediately and request medical assistance. Only administer CPR if properly trained to do so. A co-worker may use the Emergency Shut Off button, key control panel, or circuit breaker to remove power from the laser system. Do not touch or alter the system as electrical energy may still be stored. Secure the area and warn others in the lab.
   * For exposures to highly hazardous chemicals, such as fluorine gas, immediately evacuate all personnel to a well-ventilated area. Do not attempt to re-enter the area without notification to EHS, as proper respiratory protection equipment is needed. Secure the area from further entry and seek medical attention by calling 911 to explain the nature of the exposure. Notify EHS and the laser user’s supervisor immediately.
4. Notify the laser user’s work lead or supervisor and the UT Austin Laser Safety Officer.
5. Do not alter the laser setup (this allows analysis of the cause of the accident), or resume work without EHS approval.

After the immediate medical needs of the injured employee have been addressed, OHP will assist the employee with the necessary information required to report a confirmed work injury to the UT System Workers’ Compensation Plan. Exposures without injury may not meet the criteria for compensable coverage and associated benefits under the workers’ compensation plan. OHP will assist the employee in navigating the payment options for medical expenses associated with post-exposure laser eye evaluations and any resulting treatment. For this reason, employees are strongly discouraged from seeking laser post-exposure evaluations from their personal physicians unless they are certain their provider accepts workers’ compensation insurance and is experienced with laser eye examinations.