

Washtenaw/Livingston MCA, HEMS MCA
System Protocols – Hazardous Materials Medical Response Team
HAZMAT EYE IRRIGATION

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Section 11-7

HAZMAT Eye Irrigation

Eye irrigation should be performed on all patients with a significant exposure to a gas or when the eye is contaminated by a substance.

Pre-Medical Control

PARAMEDIC

1. Remove contact lenses.
2. Eyes should be flushed with 1000cc of Normal Saline minimum for each eye.
3. Use Tetracaine hydrochloride 0.5% 1 - 2 drops in each eye.
4. Insert an irrigation lens into each eye.
5. Hook lenses up to Normal Saline and irrigate with minimum of 1000 cc for each eye.
6. If the chemical the patient was exposed to creates a potential for secondary exposure, care should be taken to contain the run-off.
7. For corrosive agents, continue eye irrigation until arrival at hospital.
8. For Hydrogen Fluoride irrigate with a 1% aqueous solution of Calcium Gluconate (50ml of 10% Calcium Gluconate in 450 ml of NS).

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

Care should be taken that the patient does not rub eyes after administration of Tetracaine as damage can occur.

If available, perform a pre-treatment pH test.