



University of Massachusetts Amherst

Environmental Health and Safety

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# Ultraviolet Light Fact Sheet

Overexposure to Ultraviolet (UV) light can cause:

- Corneal burn
- Gritty feeling in eye
- Sunburn to face

Devices that emit UV light

- Transilluminator
- Crosslinker
- Biosafety cabinets (sterilization)

ANSI Z78.1 safety glasses or safety shields are rated to be shatterproof ONLY

- They may NOT be UV proof

UV rated face shields are usually composed of special material that contains a UV coating, like Lexan<sup>®</sup> product, or will have an orange tint

Glass in hoods or biosafety cabinets may have a statement that it is UV proof. This may mean that the glass will not deteriorate under constant UV exposure. This may not mean that the glass will protect you from getting UV burns.