

Laser Safety



The use of lasers is widespread in medicine, research and industry. Usage continues to increase with changes and development in technology and the fields of science. The Laser Safety Guide provides the requirements needed to implement University Policy. All personnel using lasers classed above 3a are required to comply with the requirements of the Laser Safety Guide. A combination of standards and laws provides hospital and university personnel with the information needed to properly develop and practice a comprehensive laser safety program.

In efforts to ensure the safe use of laser producing machines throughout the UAB campus and hospitals, The UAB Radiation Safety Program is in the process of procuring an inventory and a registry of all lasers in use or in storage at UAB. Below are directions outlining the registration of lasers and other exposure producing machines (EPMs).

1. UAB Radiation Safety Program defines EPMs as electronic devices that are capable of producing non ionizing radiation by use of electronic means. EPMs (exposure producing machines) include all x-ray, industrial microwave, infrared laser, and ultraviolet wave producing machines.
2. All owners/operators of EPMs must report/register each EPM with the OH&S Laser Safety Program. Links are provided on the [OH&S website](#) to the applicable registration forms. A separate registration form should be completed for each devise.
3. If you have an EPM and are not certain that it should be registered, please feel free to contact Domenica Pringle, UAB Radiation Safety Program at 934-2487 with questions or concerns.