Protect your face with a face shield:

When a hazard involves a lot of energy or aggressive chemicals, **your face may be at risk as well as your eyes**. Also, Z87.1 or Z81+ rated eye protection may not be adequate to protect your eyes, so additional protection might be prudent. Some examples of high-energy hazards are:

- **Grinding** using either hand tools or an open grinding or lapping machine;
- **High-pressure water jets** such as 1000 psi jet cutters;
- **Liquid streams** that could dislodge chemical goggles from your face;
- **Cryogenic-temperature (below –40°C) chemical splashes**;
- **High temperature work** with significant quantities of hot material;
- **Arc welding**, where a few minutes of arc exposure can cause severe sun burns.

WEARING A FACE SHIELD

If you could injure your face in an accident, use a face shield to protect your face.

- **Do not use a face shield as a substitute for eye protection**. Wear the face shield **over your safety glasses or goggles** (as appropriate to the hazard).
- **Ensure that the face shield will resist any chemicals you are handling or protect from other hazards (e.g., radiant energy).**
- When possible, **opt for face shields with chin guards**. This will help avoid particles or streams of liquid splashing up from under the face shield.

Sometimes, when the energy involved is too high, face shields are not enough: you may need fixed shields or barriers. If you have concerns, ask your principal investigator and the Laboratory Safety Advocate to help you determine exactly what personal protective equipment (PPE) is appropriate.

Vision is one of your most important senses. You only get one pair of eyes, and in an accident, you may have only one chance to protect them.

Contact Dr. Dan Kuespert, Laboratory Safety Advocate,
at 410-516-5525 or dkuespert@jhu.edu for
more information about this JHU Safety Note.