

Handling Bio-Hazards On Site Risk Assessment

| | | |
|-------------------|--------|--------|
| Business Name: | ABN: | |
| Business Address: | | |
| Contact Person: | Phone: | Email: |

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THIS PROJECT

Under the Work Health and Safety Regulation (WHS Regulation), a person conducting a business or undertaking (PCBU) is required to ensure that a RISK ASSESSMENT is prepared before the proposed work starts.

| | | |
|------------|--------|-------|
| Full Name: | | |
| Signature: | Title: | Date: |

CLIENT OR PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR DETAILS

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Client: | SCOPE OF WORKS |
| Project Name: | |
| Project Address: | |
| Project Manager: | |
| Contact Phone: | |
| Date Risk Assessment supplied to Project Manager: | |

| RISK MATRIX | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|------------|--------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| LIKELIHOOD | INSIGNIFICANT | MINOR | MODERATE | MAJOR | CATASTROPHIC | SCORE | ACTION | HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS | |
| ALMOST CERTAIN | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | | | Elimination Remove the hazard. | |
| LIKELY | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 4A ACUTE | DO NOT PROCEED | Substitution Replace the hazard. | |
| POSSIBLE | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 4 ACUTE | 3H HIGH | Review before work starts. | Isolation Isolate People from the hazard | |
| UNLIKELY | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 4 ACUTE | 2M MODERATE | Ensure control measures in place. | Engineering Isolate the hazard | |
| RARE | 1 LOW | 1 LOW | 2 MODERATE | 3 HIGH | 3 HIGH | 1L LOW | Monitor and keep records. | Administrative Change | |
| | | | | | | | | PPE | |

Risk Rating & Required Action:

| | |
|----|---|
| 4A | Stop work. The risk is intolerable. Eliminate the hazard or redesign the activity before proceeding. A Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or higher-level authorisation is required. |
| 3H | Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed. |
| 2M | Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions. |
| 1L | Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records. |

Consequence Scale:

| Consequence | People (injury/illness) | Project / Assets | Compliance / Reputation |
|---------------|---|--------------------|--|
| Catastrophic | Fatality or permanent total disability | project shutdown | Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution |
| Major | Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days) | critical delay | Improvement notice; major media coverage |
| Moderate | Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day | moderate delay | Minor breach; adverse client comment |
| Minor | First-aid only, no lost time | negligible delay | Isolated non-conformance |
| Insignificant | No injury | no schedule impact | Deviation caught and corrected on site |

Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:

Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:

1. **Eliminate**
2. Substitute
3. Isolate
4. Engineering
5. Administrative
6. PPE

Always document **why** a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.

aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.

| JOB STEP | POTENTIAL HAZARDS | IR | CONTROL MEASURES | RR |
|---|--|--------------|---|---------------|
| SPECIFIC WORK STEPS | HAZARDS THAT MAY ARISE | INITIAL RISK | SPECIFIC MEASURES TO BE PUT IN PLACE TO ELIMINATE OR CONTROL THE RISKS | RESIDUAL RISK |
| 1. Preparation | Exposure to pathogens, Spillages | 4A | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct pre-work safety briefing Ensure availability of spill kits Install hand sanitising stations Inspect PPE for integrity Secure biohazard disposal bins in each work area Review emergency procedures Verify all safety signs and labels are visible Ensure first aid kits are accessible Establish a contamination control zone Designate a decontamination area | 2M |
| 2. Access to Site | Unauthorized entry, Contaminated equipment | 3L | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement sign-in procedure Secure all entry points with locks Train staff on biosecurity protocols Conduct regular audits on equipment cleanliness Display clear signage disallowing unauthorized personnel Implement a controlled access system Ensure surveillance cameras cover all entrances Maintain a visitor log Conduct equipment contamination assessments regularly Restrict access to trained personnel only | 1L |
| 3. Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) | Improper PPE use, Defective PPE | 3H | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conduct PPE training sessions Ensure PPE fits all team members correctly Establish regular PPE inspection schedules Ensure PPE is stored in a clean, dry area Provide easy-to-read PPE donning/doffing instructions Replace damaged PPE immediately Conduct regular PPE competency checks Ensure a variety of PPE sizes are available | 2M |

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| | | | Use PPE suitable for specific hazards Rotate PPE stock to prevent degradation | |
| 4. Handling Specimens | Needlestick injuries, Specimen spills | 4A | [REDACTED] | 2M |
| 5. Equipment Decontamination | Inadequate decontamination, Chemical exposure | 4A | [REDACTED] | 1L |
| 6. Waste Disposal | Improper waste segregation, Exposure to biohazardous waste | 4A | [REDACTED] | 2M |

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|-------------------------------------|---|--------------|--|---------------|
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| | | | | |
| 7. Transport of Biohazard Materials | Transport accidents, Leakage during transport | 4A | | 1L |
| 8. Incident Response | Delayed response, Improper management | 4A | | 2M |
| 9. Cleaning Procedures | Cross-contamination, Chemical exposure | 3H | | 2M |

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| | | | | |
| 10. Monitoring and Review | Non-compliance with procedures, Inadequate hazard recognition | 3H | | 1L |
| 11. Training and Development | Skill gaps, Outdated knowledge | 3H | | 1L |
| 12. Emergency Evacuation Procedures | Panic during evacuation, Blocked egress routes | 4A | | 2M |

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| | | | | |
| 13. Visitor Management | Visitor exposure to hazards, Uninformed visitors | 3H | | 1L |
| 14. Communication Systems | Communication breakdowns, Inadequate emergency communication | 3H | | 1L |
| 15. Psychological Health and Support | Stress from handling biohazards, Mental health impact from incidents | 3H | | 1L |

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| | | | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | |
| 16. Personal Hygiene Practices | Pathogen transmission via contact, Inadequate hand hygiene | 4A | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | 2M |
| 17. Record Keeping | Loss of critical records, Inaccurate documentation | 3H | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | 1L |
| 18. Check Out and End of Day | Unaccounted equipment, Inconsistent end-of-day checks | 3H | <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> | 1L |

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| | | | | |
| 19. Post-Operation Review | Unrecognised post-op issues, Lack of updates to procedures | 3H | | 1L |
| 20. Continuous Improvement | Complacency, Resistance to change | 3H | | 1L |
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EMERGENCY RESPONSE – CALL 000 FOR EMERGENCIES

Ensure to have an Emergency Management Plan in place as well as adequate numbers of trained first aid staff with easy access to fully stocked first aid kits, rescue equipment, material safety data sheets, adequate access to emergency communication equipment and fire-fighting equipment suitable for all classes of fire and ignition sources.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

RELEVANT LEGISLATION AND CODES OF PRACTICE. DELETE THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES IF ANY STATE THAT ARE NOT APPLICABLE

Queensland & Australian Capital Territory

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Legislation QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/work-health-and-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice QLD: <https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Legislation ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice ACT: <https://www.worksafe.act.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Victoria

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/occupational-health-and-safety-act-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice VIC: <https://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/compliance-codes-and-codes-practice>

New South Wales

Work Health and Safety Act 2011

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2017

Legislation NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/legal-obligations/legislation>

Codes of Practice NSW: <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/resource-library/list-codes-of-practice>

Western Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022

Legislation Western Australia: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/legislation>

Codes of Practice WA: <https://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/worksafe/codes-practice>

Northern Territory

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011

Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Regulations 2011

Legislation NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/workplace-safety-laws>

Codes of Practice NT: <https://worksafe.nt.gov.au/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Safe Work Australia Links

Law and Regulation (All States): <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/law-and-regulation>

Model Codes of Practice: <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/resources-publications/model-codes-of-practice>

Model Codes of Practice

- Managing noise and preventing hearing loss at work
- Confined spaces
- Labelling of workplace hazardous chemicals
- Managing risks of hazardous chemicals in the workplace
- Welding processes
- First aid in the workplace
- Managing the risk of falls at workplaces
- Hazardous manual tasks
- Managing the risk of falls in housing construction
- Managing electrical risks in the workplace
- Demolition work
- Excavation work
- Work health and safety consultation, cooperation and coordination
- Managing the work environment and facilities
- How to manage work health and safety risks
- Managing risks of plant in the workplace
- Construction work

South Australia

Work Health and Safety Act 2012 (SA)

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012 (SA)

Legislation for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/resources/legislation>

Codes of Practice for SA: <https://www.safework.sa.gov.au/workplaces/codes-of-practice#COPs>

Tasmania

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional and Consequential Provisions) Act 2012

Work Health and Safety Regulations 2012

Work Health and Safety (Transitional) Regulations 2012

Legislation for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/acts-and-regulations>

Codes of Practice for TAS: <https://worksafe.tas.gov.au/topics/laws-and-compliance/codes-of-practice>

Details of permits, licenses or access required by regulatory bodies (add or delete as required):

- Permits from local council
- Authorisation to commence work
- Any required documents.