

Handling Bio-Hazards Or Infectious Materials Risk Assessment

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

THIS RISK ASSESSMENT IS APPROVED BY THE PCBU ON THE 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	4A ACUTE	DO NOT PROCEED	Elimination Remove the hazard.	
LIKELY	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Substitution Replace the hazard.	
POSSIBLE	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE	4 ACUTE			Isolation Isolate People from the hazard	
UNLIKELY	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	4 ACUTE			Engineering Isolate the hazard	
RARE	1 LOW	1 LOW	2 MODERATE	3 HIGH	3 HIGH			Administrative Change	
						1L LOW	Monitor and keep records.	PPE	
Risk Rating & Required Action:								Notes on Hierarchy of Controls:	
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.						Remember to apply controls in the preferred order shown by the coloured pyramid:	
3H		Review and approve additional controls before task starts. Senior supervisor sign-off needed.						1. Eliminate	
2M		Ensure all nominated controls are in place and effective. Proceed with caution; monitor conditions.						2. Substitute	
1L		Proceed, following standard operating procedures. Monitor and keep records.						3. Isolate	
Consequence Scale:								4. Engineering	
Consequence		People (injury/illness)		Project / Assets		Compliance / Reputation		5. Administrative	
Catastrophic		Fatality or permanent total disability		project shutdown		Significant regulator intervention; criminal prosecution		6. PPE	
Major		Serious injury/illness (hospital > 5 days)		critical delay		Improvement notice; major media coverage		Always document why a lower-order control is accepted if elimination or substitution is not reasonably practicable.	
Moderate		Medical-treatment injury; lost-time > 1 day		moderate delay		Minor breach; adverse client comment		<i>aligned with Safe Work Australia's Managing the risk of fatigue at work (2023) and ISO 45001:2018 clauses 6–8.</i>	
Minor		First-aid only, no lost time		negligible delay		Isolated non-conformance			
Insignificant		No injury		no schedule impact		Deviation caught and corrected on site			

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, Unsecured protective equipment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct a thorough risk assessment for the area involved. - Ensure availability and access to necessary personal protective equipment (PPE). - Train staff on the proper use of PPE. - Ensure hygiene facilities are available and in working order. - Implement standard operating procedures (SOPs) for handling materials. - Monitor and reinforce compliance with relevant biosafety protocols. - Restrict access to trained personnel only. - Secure all protective equipment prior to use. - Label and store all materials appropriately. - Review and update safety data sheets (SDS) regularly. 	2M
2. Donning PPE	Contamination while dressing, Improper fit or function of equipment	3H	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide comprehensive training in the correct donning procedures. - Use PPE that meets Australian standards. - Conduct fit testing for all users before initial use. - Regularly inspect PPE for damage or wear. - Assign trained personnel to supervise the donning process. - Provide mirrors to allow self-checking by staff. - Ensure PPE fits snugly and is comfortable to wear over extended periods. - Maintain a clean and dedicated PPE storage area. - Ensure availability of replacement PPE components. - Conduct regular PPE practice drills. 	2M
3. Sample Collection	Biological spill, Needlestick injury	4A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Utilize needleless systems where possible. - Provide training on safe handling and collection techniques. - Use appropriate containers for sample transport. - Implement spill containment and clean-up procedures. - Dispose of sharps immediately in designated biohazard containers. - Ensure immediate reporting and investigation of incidents. - Install spill kits in accessible locations. - Minimize traffic in the sample collection area. 	2M

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assign a designated spill response team. - Conduct regular refresher training sessions. 	
4. Sample Labelling	Misidentification of samples, Contamination during labelling	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	1L
5. Sample Transport	Spill due to improper container, Exposure through compromised packaging	4A	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	2M
6. Sample Storage	Biological degradation, Accidental exposure by improper storage	3H	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	1L

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7. Sample Analysis	Exposure to aerosols, Chemical exposure from reagents	4A		2M
8. Cleaning and Disposal	Chemical exposure from cleaning agents, Spread of contamination	3H		1L
9. Removal of PPE	Contamination of clothing, Indirect spread of pathogens	3H		2M

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10. Decontamination of Equipment	Improper cleaning, Inadvertent exposure during decontamination	4A		2M
11. Incident Reporting and Response	Delayed incident response, Incomplete documentation	3H		1L
12. Maintenance of Safety Equipment	Defective equipment, Delayed maintenance checks	3H		1L

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13. Monitoring and Review	Inadequate monitoring, Failure to address identified risks	3H		1L
14. Emergency Preparedness	Lack of clear communication, Inadequate emergency response	4A		2M
15. Training and Continuous Improvement	Inadequate understanding of risks, Outdated procedures	3H		1L

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SAMPLE

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.