



Use this form to assist you to complete risk assessments for hazardous activities and processes. Any serious or ongoing hazards should be reported via [RiskWare](#) to ensure that appropriate corrective actions are tracked and completed.

<b>Faculty/School:</b>	Science/Partner Engagement and Outreach/SOLES	<b>Initial Issue Date: 22/02/2018</b>
		<b>Next Review Date:</b>
<b>Risk Assessment Reference Number:</b>		
<b>Risk Assessment Name:</b>	Kickstart Biology Cell Specialisation Workshop	
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Eugenia O'Brien, Chau Le	
<b>Responsible supervisor/s:</b>	Kristl Mauropoulos	

<b>Identify the activity and the location</b>	<b>Identify who may be at risk</b> This may include fellow workers, students, visitors, contractors and the public
<b>Activity or process:</b> New workshop on cell specialisation for HSC students and their teachers to be trialled and repeated.	<b>Persons at risk:</b> HSC students and teachers visiting the University, staff (Chau Le, Gabriel Nguyen, Eugenia O'Brien)
<b>Location:</b> Various wet laboratories at the University of Sydney (e.g. Solander, Banks, Badham)	<b>Risk assessment team (Who was consulted?):</b> Eugenia O'Brien, Chau Le, Gabriel Nguyen

<b>List of Legislation, Code of Practice, Australian Standards, Guidance Materials used to determine control measures</b>
Work Health and Safety Act 2011

<b>Risk Assessment Methodology</b>
<p>Assessing the risk is a brainstorming exercise, which is most effectively carried out in a team environment with the people required to complete the activity or process. Most activities or processes are broken down into a variety of separate tasks. For each task, consider the hazards, the potential harm or negative outcomes and the conditions required for those negative outcomes to occur.</p> <p>Whenever assessing the health and safety risks associated with a task, always consider the following primary risk factors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The <b>physical activities</b> required to complete the task e.g. repetitive movement, high force, physical exertion, awkward posture</li> <li>• The <b>work environment</b> e.g. lighting, work layout, traffic, thermal comfort, working in isolation</li> <li>• The <b>nature of the hazard itself</b> e.g. working with chemicals, microorganisms, radiation, machinery, potentially violent clients</li> <li>• The <b>individual workers involved</b>, e.g. level of training, skills, experience, health, age, physical capacity</li> </ul> <p>The information gathered from the <b>risk assessment</b> process must be used to develop a <b>Safe Work Procedure (SWP)</b>.</p>

Task or scenario	Hazard/s	Associated harm, e.g. what could go wrong?	Existing Risk Controls	Current risk rating Use the Risk Matrix	Any additional controls are required? <sup>1</sup>	Residual risk rating Use the Risk Matrix
Observing bacteria and fungi	Contamination	Students could contaminate themselves or surfaces	<p>All plates will be securely sealed and students will be informed not to open plates (verbally and on their worksheets).</p> <p>Safety glasses, <u>lab coats or gowns</u>, and gloves will be worn at all times in the lab.</p> <p>Students will be required to wash their hands upon leaving the lab.</p> <p>Surfaces will be cleaned at the completion of the workshop <u>using (specify disinfectant)</u>.</p>	Low		Low
Observing live nematodes	Environmental release	Nematodes could be released onto benches or on a person	<p>Nematodes will remain in plates and viewed only under the microscope.</p> <p>Gloves will be worn and disposed of appropriately. <u>(you mean to be autoclaved?) ! would specify</u></p> <p>Benches will be wiped down at the completion of the workshop. <u>As above</u></p>	Low		Low
Using electrical equipment e.g. centrifuge, spectrophotometer, lamps	Faulty equipment	Electrocution or exposure to moving parts or near ultraviolet light.	<p>All equipment is tested and tagged to check for working order. Staff will test equipment while setting up. <u>All equipment is fit for purpose</u></p> <p>Centrifuges will not spin unless the lid is closed.</p>	Medium	Emergency controls	Medium

<sup>1</sup> Always consider whether or not it is possible to eliminated the hazard or hazardous task altogether. If this is not possible, refer to the [hierarchy of risk controls](#).

## RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

			<p>Spectrophotometer does not emit light unless the lid is closed so exposure risk is very low.</p> <p>Powerpoints will not be overloaded with multiple electrical items.</p>			
Using slides, coverslips, glassware	Glass breakages	Cuts from glass	<p>Students will be instructed to handle all glassware with care.</p> <p>Any glass breakages will be cleared by staff using a dustpan and brush and using sharps containers for disposal.</p> <p>Students will be advised to clear any areas in which glass has smashed.</p> <p>First aid/band aids can be administered should anyone receive a cut from a glass/microscope slide breakage.</p>	Low	First aid	Low
Micropipetting	Misuse of micropipettes	<p>Stabbing, poking or breaking the skin with a pipette tip</p> <p>Damaging a pipette</p>	<p>Students will be given clear instructions on how to handle pipettes and will be constantly supervised while using micropipettes.</p> <p>Students will be provided with clear instructions about using a pipette, particularly in avoiding over or under winding the dial, always using a pipette tip to load samples and using the plunger slowly and with care.</p>	Low		Low
Transferring chemical solutions: iodine, amylase, hydrochloric acid, DCPIP, isolation buffer.	Skin or eye exposure to chemicals	Skin reaction or chemical burn to the eye	<p>Chemicals will be used at a low concentration.</p> <p>Safety glasses, <u>lab coats</u> and gloves will be worn for the entirety of the workshop.</p> <p>Safety Data Sheets will be made available and all staff will receive training in appropriate handling and disposal of solutions.</p> <p>Students will work in small groups and will be supervised while using dilute chemicals.</p> <p>Students will be given clear instructions about using micropipettes to transfer chemicals.</p>	Medium	Emergency controls	Medium

## RISK ASSESSMENT FORM

			<p>Chemicals will be stored in stable screw top bottles and will be pipetted into tubes held in racks.</p> <p>The closest eye wash facilities will be located where students can wash hands/eyes if they get chemicals on them.</p>			
Spillages	Slips and falls because of spills	Injury from slipping	The area around a spill will be isolated and cleaned up immediately.	Low	Emergency controls	Low
Wearing gloves	Allergy to disposable gloves	Skin reaction to latex, nitrile or vinyl PPE	<p>Students will be asked if they have an allergy to gloves prior to commencing the workshop.</p> <p>A range of PPE options will be made available if required.</p>	Low		Low
Lost participants	Student unaccounted for	Students could get lost on campus	<p>Students will be in the care of their teachers.</p> <p>Security will be notified in the event of a lost participant.</p>	Low		Low
Emergency evacuation	Depends on the nature of the evacuation	Depends on the nature of the evacuation	<p>In the case of an emergency on University grounds, the alarms will sound and the guests will be directed to the appropriate emergency evacuation point.</p> <p>Staff will familiarise themselves with the nearest evacuation meeting point using the map in the laboratories.</p>	Low	Emergency controls	Low



Implementation of Additional Risk Controls				
Additional controls needed	Resources required	Responsible person	Date of implementation	RiskWare Reference
Write the Safe Work Procedure (SWP)	Time (approx 1 hour)	Supervisor		N/A
Train workers to complete process in accordance with SWP	Time – supervisor and workers	Supervisor		N/A

List emergency controls for how to deal with fires, spills or exposure to hazardous substances and/or emergency shutdown procedures
<p>Staff will be guided by the University’s instructions for emergency evacuation.</p> <p>In the event of a medical emergency, particularly in the case of a chemical splash in the eye or contact with skin:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For eyes, check for and remove contact lenses, flush the eye with plenty of cool water for at least 15 minutes, occasionally lifting the upper and lower lid. For skin contact, flush with plenty of water for at least 15 minutes, remove any contaminated clothing or shoes and wash before reuse.</li> <li>2. Seek medical attention.</li> <li>3. Notify University staff.</li> </ol> <p>In the event of a medical emergency:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Call <b>Triple Zero (000)</b> and ask for an ambulance</li> <li>2. Contact the closest <a href="#">first aider</a></li> <li>3. If the person is unconscious, send for the <a href="#">closest Automated External Defibrillator (AED)</a></li> <li>4. Call Security (9351-3333)</li> <li>5. Send people to flag and direct the ambulance on arrival</li> </ol>

REVIEW			
Scheduled review date	1 year	2 years	3 years
Are control measures in place (YES/NO)			
Are controls eliminating or minimizing the risk (YES/NO)			
Are there any new problems with the risk (YES/NO)			
Reviewed by:			
Actual Review date:			



**Risk Matrix.**

			Potential Consequences				
			L6	L5	L4	L3	L2
			Minor injuries or discomfort. No medical treatment or measureable physical effects.	Injuries or illness requiring medical treatment. Temporary impairment.	Injuries or illness requiring hospital admission.	Injury or illness resulting in permanent impairment.	Fatality
			Not Significant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Likelihood	Expected to occur regularly under normal circumstances	Almost Certain	Medium	High	Very High	Very High	Very High
	Expected to occur at some time	Likely	Medium	High	High	Very High	Very High
	May occur at some time	Possible	Low	Medium	High	High	Very High
	Not likely to occur in normal circumstances	Unlikely	Low	Low	Medium	Medium	High
	Could happen, but probably never will	Rare	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium