

RISK ASSESSMENT DETAILS

RISK ASSESSMENT TITLE

Animal Handling

RISK ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY:

Kate Millan – Health & Safety Officer

SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT:

RA NUMBER:

PROC104

VERSION:

1

VERSION DATE:

11/02/2011

REVIEW DATE:

11/02/2016

IMPORTANT NOTES

This risk assessment covers animal handling including ducks, mice, rats, sheep and pigs.

PERSONS AT RISK

All users who will handle any of the animals listed.

REFERENCED DOCUMENTATION: (list any other sources of information that relates to this risk assessment, e.g. SOPs, other Risk Assessments etc)

SOP Animal Handling
 RA (PROC105) & SOP Sharps & Glass Handling
 Protocols for Needle-stick Injuries
 RA Duck Handling & Procedures (PROC103)
 RA Anaesthetic Machine (MBS101) & SOP Anaesthetic Machine
 MBS Manual Handling Procedures

OVERALL RISK RATING

Medium

HAZARD IDENTIFICATION & RISK ASSESSMENT (use the Risk Matrix below to assess the risk)

HAZARD 1:

Working with animals

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Physical injury from handling animals – cuts, scratches, bites etc

MEASURES REQUIRED TO REDUCE RISK:

1. All staff and students working with animals must have read the School's Animal Handling Procedures and been given appropriate training by a competent person.
2. All staff and students working with animals must attend the University Small Animal Handling (Animal Ethics) Course.
3. Minimise self inoculation, scratches or bites by anaesthetising the animal or have an assistant hold it.
4. School Manual Handling Practices must be observed at all times.
5. Vaccinations are recommended against some organisms and are recommended for Tetanus, Q Fever, Hepatitis A & B.
6. Task protocols and safe working procedures for experiments must be followed at all times.

RESIDUAL RISK (When all control measures have been implemented)

CONSEQUENCE

Moderate

LIKELIHOOD

Unlikely

RISK RATING

Medium

HAZARD 2:

Working with animals

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Infection from zoonotic diseases e.g. Q Fever and microorganisms introduced from the experiment.

MEASURES REQUIRED TO REDUCE RISK:

1. All staff and students working with animals must have read the School's Animal Handling Procedures and been given appropriate training by a competent person.
2. All staff and students working with animals must attend the University Small Animal Handling (Animal Ethics) Course.
3. Lab Coat/gown, gloves and where appropriate, a face mask must be worn. (Remember not to rub exposed skin with contaminated gloves).

4. Work in a well ventilated area.
5. Vaccinations are recommended against some organisms and are recommended for Tetanus, Q Fever, Hepatitis A & B.

RESIDUAL RISK (When all control measures have been implemented)	CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
		Major	Rare

HAZARD 3:

Sharps/Needles

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Needle-stick/sharps injures

MEASURES REQUIRED TO REDUCE RISK:

1. All staff and students working with animals must have read the School's Animal Handling Procedures and been given appropriate training by a competent person.
2. All staff and students working with animals must attend the University Small Animal Handling (Animal Ethics) Course.
3. Minimise self inoculation, scratches or bites by anaesthetising the animal or have an assistant hold it.
4. Follow standard laboratory rules at all times.
5. In the event of an injury, the MBS Protocols for Needle-stick Injuries must be followed.
6. Vaccinations are recommended against some organisms and are recommended for Tetanus, Q Fever, Hepatitis A & B.
7. Task protocols and safe working procedures for experiments must be followed at all times.

RESIDUAL RISK (When all control measures have been implemented)	CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
		Moderate	Unlikely

HAZARD 4:

Working with animals

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Allergies and asthma

MEASURES REQUIRED TO REDUCE RISK:

1. All staff and students working with animals must have read the School's Animal Handling Procedures and been given appropriate training by a competent person.
2. All staff and students working with animals must attend the University Small Animal Handling (Animal Ethics) Course.
3. Lab Coat/gown, gloves and where appropriate, a face mask must be worn. (Remember not to rub exposed skin with contaminated gloves).
4. Work in a well ventilated area.
5. If a staff or student is aware they have an allergy, they must notify their supervisor prior to working with animals.

RESIDUAL RISK (When all control measures have been implemented)	CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
		Major	Rare

HAZARD 5:

Chemical

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Affects from anaesthetic and euthanasia agents

MEASURES REQUIRED TO REDUCE RISK:

1. All staff and students working with animals must have read the School's Animal Handling Procedures and been given appropriate training by a competent person.
2. All staff and students working with animals must attend the University Small Animal Handling (Animal Ethics) Course.
3. Only trained staff and students may operate an anaesthetic machine.
4. Task protocols and safe working procedures for experiments must be followed at all times.

RESIDUAL RISK (When all control measures have been implemented)	CONSEQUENCE	LIKELIHOOD	RISK RATING
	Major	Rare	Medium

ADDITIONAL CONTROLS AFTER REVIEW

RISK CONTROL:

DATE OF REVIEW: REVIEWED BY:

RISK CONTROL:

DATE OF REVIEW: REVIEWED BY:

RISK CONTROL:

DATE OF REVIEW: REVIEWED BY:

RISK CONTROL:

DATE OF REVIEW: REVIEWED BY:

RISK CONTROL:

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RISK CONTROL:

HAZARD REGISTER

If the residual risk is high or very-high after controls have been implemented, the risk assessment must be signed off by the Head of School and transferred to the Hazard Register.

DATE ENTERED ON HAZARD REGISTER: HEAD OF SCHOOL SIGNATURE:

RISK MATRIX

		Consequence				
		Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Severe
Likelihood	Almost Certain	M	H	V	V	V
	Likely	M	M	H	V	V
	Slight	L	M	H	H	V
	Unlikely	L	L	M	M	H
	Rare	L	L	L	M	M

Almost Certain	There is an expectation that such an event will occur.	Severe	Injury resulting in death or permanent disability.
Likely	There is an expectation that such an event could occur but not certain to occur.	Major	Injury requires extensive medical treatment, hospitalisation.
Slight	The expectation of this event occurring is between "could" and "improbable".	Moderate	Injury requires formal medical treatment e.g. treatment as an outpatient in a medical facility.
Unlikely	The expectation of this event occurring is doubtful or improbable.	Minor	Injury requires first aid.
Rare	There is no expectation that this event will occur.	Negligible	Injury requires minor first aid or results in short term discomfort e.g. headache, bruise etc.

