



Risk Assessment

IMS Form048
Issue 01 Dated Oct 2020

Operation / Task:	Exposure to Discarded Needles and Syringes	Name of Assessor:	Rhys Milton
Assessment Ref:	RA031	Date of Assessment:	02.01.2024
Persons at Risk:	ASW Employees	Reviewed by	R. Milton
Location / Area:	ASW Health and Safety Assessment 2024	Review date	31.12.2024

Ref	Activity	Hazard	Risk	Pre-Control Risk Rating			Control Measures	Post-Control Risk Rating			Comment
				L	S	LxS		L	S	LxS	
1	Physical injury from needle, e.g. puncture wound (needle stick injury) or graze	Puncture Wound	Exposure to biological agents e.g. Hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS	4	5	20	Personnel must wear suitable protective equipment, which will include anti-syringe gloves, overalls, and footwear. Ensure only employees who have received Hepatitis B immunisation handle needles or syringes (only ever if necessary). Personnel shall be provided with information covering: Procedures for safe handling and disposing of discarded needles and syringes; and actions that must be taken in the event of a needle-stick injury. Personnel shall be informed not to pick up discarded needles, but to report the find to a responsible person. Appropriate equipment shall be available to pick up needles/syringes - e.g. litter pickers, tongs, shovel, anti-syringe gloves. Sharps boxes shall be readily available for the collection and storage of discarded needles/syringes. Arrangements shall be in place for the correct disposal of sharps boxes. Water and soap (or other recognised hand cleaner) shall be readily available, so that any needle-stick wound can be washed. A first aid kit shall be readily available, so that a plaster or other dressing can be applied to a needle-stick wound. Arrangements shall be in place to log incidents of discarded needles/syringes, which are found on the premises. Personnel shall be aware that an accident report form must be completed in the event of a needle stick injury. If you suffer an injury from a sharp which may be contaminated: Encourage the wound to gently bleed, ideally holding it under running water Wash the wound using running water and plenty of soap Don't scrub the wound whilst you are washing it Don't suck the wound Dry the wound and cover it with a waterproof plaster or dressing Seek urgent medical advice as effective prophylaxis (medicines to help fight infection) are available	1	5	5	



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Likelihood	Severity	Risk factor (Likelihood x Severity)	
1 = Highly unlikely	1 = Insignificant	High Risk = 15-25	Unacceptable Risk. If Post Control risk, work must not commence.
2 = Unlikely	2 = Injury (first aid, no lost time)	Medium Risk = 8-12	If Post Control risk, high level of discipline required & monitoring to consider further controls where possible
3 = Possible	3 = Lost time injury	Low Risk = 1-6	Acceptable Risk assuming all controls in place effectively and workforce aware
4 = Probable	4 = Major injury / disabling condition		
5 = Inevitable	5 = Fatality		

I have read and understand the requirements of this risk assessment.

Name	Signature	Date