
NEEDLE STICK / SHARPS RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Matrix Summary Explained

The numbers in the table below are calculated thus: Severity x Likelihood = Risk

(Likelihood)	(Severity)				
	Minor (1)	Major (2)	Critical (3)	Fatal (4)	Multiple Fatalities (5)
Improbable (1)	1	2	3	4	5
Remote (2)	2	4	6	8	10
Possible (3)	3	6	9	12	15
Probable (4)	4	8	12	16	20
Frequent (5)	5	10	15	20	25

<p>Low Risk</p> <p>Level or risk is at level where low level control measures suffice</p>	<p>Medium Risk</p> <p>The level of risk is significant and medium level control measures should be applied to reduce the risk as soon as possible</p>	<p>High Risk</p> <p>The level of risk is high and is difficult to justify on any grounds; high level control measure should be applied</p>
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Likelihood

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. Improbable | not likely to be true or to happen |
| 2. Remote | having very little connection with or relationship to |
| 3. Possible | occurring, appearing, or done infrequently and irregularly |
| 4. Probable | likely to happen or be the case |
| 5. Frequent | occurring or done many times at short intervals |

Severity

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| 1. Minor | Nips, cuts, skin rash, no lost time |
| 2. Major | Requires Professional First Aid Advise (on site) |
| 3. Critical | Requires Professional Medical Attention, Take to Hospital |
| 4. Fatal | Fatal |
| 5. Multiple Fatalities | Multiple Fatalities |

NOTE: Control measures shown below are for example only, please amend as appropriate for your own premises

COMPANY:	LOCATION:	DATE:
OPERATION: Needle Stick / Sharps	COMPLETED BY:	REFERENCE No:

HAZARD	RISK LEVEL	CONTROL MEASURES	NEW RISK LEVEL	NEW CONTROLS REQUIRED	TARGET DATE
Drug Use, Sharps / needle stick injuries Needles in toilets etc Staff, customers	High	Operators are trained in the safe methods to adopt when encountering a needle / sharps. Sharps / needles are collected by staff and placed in the specialist sharps containers provided, which are then removed from site by suitably trained waste disposal contractor. In addition, operators are advised at the training stage of the methods to adopt in the event of a needle stick injury. Access to the premises is via reception staff approval	Medium	Look at feasibility of providing staff with a "litter picker" for lifting sharps needles. Ensure sharps containers are removed from site and disposed off by suitably trained contractor.	
Cuts Emptying bins, Sharps, Lifting glasses, crockery etc Staff	Medium	Operators are informed at the Job specific training stage that care must be taken when emptying waste bins to ensure that contact is not made with any sharps etc which may be located in the bin. Gloves are provided and should be worn when emptying bins. Job- specific training highlights the risk of receiving a cut from cracks, breakages etc, when handling glass items. Job specific training also highlights how to perform the task safely, paying particular attention to the condition of the glass, prior to lifting. At the Job specific training stage operator's area also made aware of the safe methods to adopt when disposing of sharps, glass etc.	Low		