

## The Human Dissection Room: Health and Safety

Please read the following recommendations and rules regarding your health and safety and conduct whilst in the Human Dissecting Room (DR).

The dissected specimens (prosections) are preserved in formalin, which can irritate eyes, respiratory tract and skin. However, we ensure that the levels in the DR are well below the legal exposure limit. You should also adhere to the following rules in order to minimize your own exposure. **Please seek advice if you are pregnant or breast-feeding.**



- *Protect your clothes:* Wear a white coat at all times (please hang up coats on racks when leaving and never take white coats upstairs)



- *Protect your skin and hair:* Use clear plastic gloves when handling any wet specimens; tie back long hair; open-toed shoes are not permitted



- *Protect your eyes:* You are advised not to wear soft contact lenses; goggles are available on request
- *Protect your mouth and nose:* Do not eat, drink or chew gum; try not to bring your face close to the specimens; tell us if you have a respiratory problem (e.g. asthma) before coming into the DR
- *Accidents:* Any minor cut must be immediately scrubbed with germicidal soap and covered, and an accident form must be completed; in the case of a more serious accident, seek advice from your demonstrator immediately
- *Allergies:* latex allergy is extremely unusual, and we only use latex free gloves in the DR, but if you think you may be developing an allergy to any substance in the DR, please notify your demonstrator immediately

### Respect for the specimens

You are very privileged in being able to examine and learn from human bodies. We have both a legal and ethical responsibility to treat the material with respect and dignity at all times. You must also remember that each prosection takes hours of painstaking work to prepare and you should handle them with great care.



- Specimens must not be removed from the Dissection Room.
- Students must not remove any specimens from tanks, buckets or cupboards.
- Students must not use dissecting instruments (e.g. forceps) to examine a specimen.
- A technician must be informed immediately if a specimen becomes damaged or if a label becomes detached from a specimen.



- No photographs are permitted in the dissection room
- No cameras or mobile phones are permitted in the dissection room

If in doubt about any aspects of health and safety, please seek advice from the demonstrators or DR technicians