

RISK ASSESSMENT – USE OF MEDICAL GAS (AIR AND CO₂)

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| Department: Exp Psychol | Location: 5 Priory Road | Activity: Research | Date: 23 rd May 2015 |
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| Hazard | Who Might be Harmed? | Is the Risk Controlled? | Action |
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| 1. Syncopal episode / pre-syncope / faintness. | 1. Research participants. | 1. Yes. Procedures are in place to manage side-effects, which are usually transient, and medical support is on call if the symptoms persist. | 1. Laboratory staff to receive appropriate training and be familiar with medical gas SOPs. 2. Laboratory staff to be familiar with immediate actions on presentation of symptoms. 3. Medical support to be available on call at all times when testing is taking place. 4. Research participants to be given full information regarding possible side-effects 5. Laboratory staff trained in emergency procedures. If medical assistance is required on site, researchers will call an ambulance immediately. |
| 2. Panic attack. | 1. Research participants. | 1. Yes. Procedures are in place to manage side-effects, which are usually transient, and medical support is on call if the symptoms persist. 2. An SOP has been developed to inform researchers how to deal with a participant panic attack | 1. Laboratory staff to receive appropriate training and be familiar with medical gas SOPs. 2. Laboratory staff to be familiar with immediate actions on presentation of symptoms. 3. Medical support to be available on call at all times when testing is |

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| <p>3. “Other” adverse reactions to the gas.</p> | <p>1. Research participants.</p> | <p>1. Yes. Our screening procedure reduces the risk that individuals who should not undergo a stress challenge are not enrolled on to the study. There are few expected side effects of the gas beyond a strong anxiety reaction. Procedures are in place to manage side-effects, which are usually transient, and medical support is on call if the symptoms persist.</p> | <p>taking place. 4. Research participants to be given full information regarding possible side-effects</p> <p>1. Laboratory staff to receive appropriate training and be familiar with medical gas SOPs. 2. Laboratory staff to be familiar with immediate actions on presentation of symptoms. 3. Medical support to be available on call at all times when testing is taking place. 4. Research participants to be given full information regarding possible side-effects 5. First aid (including resuscitation) trained staff remain in the building during test sessions and remain in phone contact.</p> |
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Assessment undertaken by: Angela Attwood

Review Date: 4th January 2017



Signature

Notes: This Risk Assessment has been prepared with reference to, and is in compliance with, the School of Experimental Psychology Risk Assessment (First Aid).