

Working with Sensitisers

Individual Risk Assessment for working with allergens and sensitizing substances

This template outlines the considerations that should be discussed with individuals who have declared atopic allergy or a specific known allergy to the sensitising substances or allergens they may be handling as part of their work. It will help identify existing control measures and whether further adjustments may be required to prevent or reduce exposure.

The risk assessment should be reviewed regularly in combination with the individuals other work activity risk assessments and when new activities are planned to ensure any new sensitiser risks are managed.

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| Name of individual | Date of assessment |
| School/Service | Assessor name |
|  | Date for risk assessment review |
| Individuals signature | Assessors signature |

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| 1. Allergy Information | |
| What is the individual allergic to? |  |
| What types of exposure are they affected by? | Ingestion  Direct/skin contact  Inhalation |
| Does the individual have an underlying health condition that makes them susceptible to sensitising substances or allergen material? e.g., asthma? |  |
| What are the signs the individual is having an allergic reaction? |  |
| Is the individual prescribed adrenaline auto injectors (AAIs)?  If yes:  Does the individual have access to their own prescribed AAIs whilst on campus?  Where will the AAIs be kept whilst the individual is on campus? (They must be accessible and not locked away)  Does the individual have an Allergy Action Plan kept with their AAI which outlines what steps to take in the event of anaphylaxis and their emergency contact details? |  |
| Who has been informed of the individuals allergy and their individual action plan? e.g. Line Manager, supervisor, first aiders. |  |

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| 1. Work details | | | | |
| Please list any sensitising chemicals or allergens the individual may handle or be exposed to during the course of their work activity. | | | | |
| Substance/material | What material properties might contribute to exposure? (Liquid, powder, vapour, aerosols etc) | Quantities used | How often will this be used? | What are the likely exposure routes e.g., inhalation, direct contact, ingestion? |
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| Are there any tasks that pose a higher risk of exposure e.g., weighing, dispensing, diluting stock solutions? | | | | |
| Are there other activities within the workspace that could pose a cross contamination exposure e.g., co-workers experimental work, storage, disposal facilities? | | | | |

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| 1. Control measures   Outline the control measures already used to prevent or reduce exposure to users? This should include how you manage handling, waste disposal and emergency release/spills. | |
| Substance | Controls |
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| What additional measures are needed to prevent the individual from exposure to sensitising substances? These recommendations should be reviewed in a hierarchical manner to ensure the risk of exposure is eliminated or reduced effectively. | |
| 1.Can you remove the use of the sensitiser? |  |
| 2.Can you substitute the substance for a safer alternative? |  |
| 3.Are there tasks that can be carried out by another person? |  |
| 4.Can you use alternative or additional containment e.g., partial, or total enclosure LEV? |  |
| 5.Is there a need to segregate work activities to prevent cross – contamination exposure? |  |
| 6.Are there additional training or supervision measures needed? |  |
| 7.What additional information, signage or labelling is required? |  |
| 8.Are there additional PPE requirements? If RPE is needed, you must ensure the individual is fit tested by a trained tester and they are clean shaven whilst wearing tight fitting RPE. |  |
| 9.If there is a residual risk of exposure:  UG and PGR Students: should review the assessment with their own medical practitioner.  Staff: should be referred to Occupational Health by their line manager for health surveillance or OH referral as appropriate. |  |

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| 1. Risk Assessments.   List the risk assessments that have been reviewed to inform this individual assessment. This will help ensure they are referred to in any future reviews of work activity. |
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