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|  | **Exposure to Discarded Needles Risk Assessment (H&S Update – Aug 2017)** |  |

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| Operations/Work Activities covered by this assessment: | **Exposure to discarded needles** | | |
| Site Address/Location: |  | Department/Service/Team: |  |
| **Note:** A person specific assessment must be carried out for young persons, pregnant women and nursing mothers | | | |

| Hazards  Considered  *Step 1 (Clause 3.1)* | Who might be  harmed and how  *Step 2*  *(Clause 3.2)* | Existing Control Measures:  *Step 3*  *(Clause 3.3)* | | Risk Rating | | | | Further action *Step 3*  *Consider hierarchy of controls i.e. elimination, substitution, engineering controls, signage/warning and/or administrative controls, (PPE as a last resort)* | Actions Step 4 (Clause 3.4) | | | | Risk Rating | | | | |
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| Likelihood | Severity | Risk Rating | | who | when | | complete | Likelihood | | Severity | Risk Rating | |
| *(Name)* | *(Date)* | | *(Date)* |
| **Accidental needle stick injury** | Staff, pupils, contractors and visitors may be exposed to infection from blood borne micro-biological organisms e.g. hepatitis B, HIV/AIDS | Staff are aware of the procedures for dealing with discarded needles and syringes e.g. not to pick up with bare hands.  Staff have been informed not to pick up discarded needles but to report to the responsible person.  Equipment is available to collect needles/syringes e.g. litter pickers, tongs, shovels, dust pan etc.  Equipment is available for the storage of discarded needles/syringes e.g. sharps box.  Arrangements are in place for the disposal of sharps.  Staff are aware of what action should be taken in the event of a needle stick injury. | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | |  |
|  |  | Arrangements are in place to log incidents of discarded needles/syringes which are found on the premises.  And if necessary report to the relevant authority. | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | |  |  |  | | |  |
| Consider if any additional hazards are created and control measures are required if this activity is undertaken in non-routine or emergency conditions | | | | | | | | | Review Date (*Step 5*) : | | | | | | | | |
| Assessors Signature: | | | Date: | | | | Authorised By: | | | | Date: | | | | | | |

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| **Potential Severity of Harm** | High **(e.g. death or paralysis, long term serious ill health)** | Medium | High | High |
| Medium **(an injury requiring further medical assistance or is a RIDDOR incident)** | Low | Medium | High |
| Low **(minor injuries requiring first aid)** | Low | Low | Medium |
|  |  | Low  **(The event is unlikely to happen)** | Medium  **(It is fairly likely it will happen)** | High  **(It is likely to happen)** |
|  |  | Likelihood of Harm Occurring | | |

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| **Risk Definitions** | |
| **Low** | Controls are adequate, no further action required, but ensure controls are monitored and any changes reassessed. |
| **Medium** | Consideration should be given as to whether the risks can be reduced using the hierarchy of control measures. Risk reduction measures should be implemented within a defined time periods. Arrangements should be made to ensure that the controls are maintained and monitored for adequacy. |
| **High** | Substantial improvements should be made to reduce the level to an acceptable level. Risk reduction measures should be implemented urgently with a defined period. Consider suspending or restricting the activity, or applying interim risks controls. Activities in this category **must** have a written method statement/safe system of work and arrangements must be made to ensure that the controls are maintained and monitored for adequacy. |