MANCHESTER 1824

The University of Manchester

Manchester Institute of Biotechnology - Risk Assessment

Date: 01/05/09	**Assessed by**: Dr. A.Golovanov	**Validated by**: Tanya Aspinall	**Location**: MIB, LG.029	**Review date:** 01/05/13

Task

Use of desktop centrifuges;
Loading samples into rotors; installation of rotors into centrifuges for centrifugation; unloading and cleaning of rotors as applicable to both high-speed centrifuges.

Activity	Hazard	Person(s) in danger	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
Use of centrifuges and ultra-centrifuges	Manual handling – heavy rotors can cause injury when lifting or dropped	Staff and service engineers; damage to back if heavy/bulky items are incorrectly handled/dropped	All staff trained in manual handling techniques as part of the centrifuge training course. Database of trained centrifuge-users to record all staff who have received training. Trolley used to transport heavy rotors	low	A
	Mechanical hazard- Serious hand/arm injuries can be caused if centrifuges are opened and rotors touched before they have stopped running.	Staff	Guards in place to ensure centrifuges can not be opened before they have completely stopped. All staff trained in centrifuge use as part of the centrifuge training course.	low	A

Activity	Hazard	Person(s) in danger	Existing measures to control risk	Risk rating	Result
	Mechanical failure at speed - due to possible violent movement of the machine itself or escape of a rotor at speed from the machine.	Staff-could suffer damage to back if heavy/bulky items are incorrectly handled	Monthly inspection and cleaning of rotors by technical support staff. Database of all communal centrifuges in the MIB to ensure annual service of all centrifuges and rotors by independent engineer	low	A
	Biological hazard – due to breakage of centrifuge tubes inside the rotor	staff	Correct PPE (lab coat, gloves and safety glasses) is available and should be worn. All rotors should be checked after use to ensure that tubes are intact. Any Biological spillages should be cleaned up before returning the rotors to storage.	low	A

Authorisation by PI

I confirm that I have considered and understand the experiment and the associated hazards. I am satisfied that all of the hazards have been identified and that the control measures to be followed will reduce the risks to acceptable levels.

Print name: **Signed:**

Date:

Declaration by researcher

I confirm that I have read this Risk Assessment and that I understand the hazards and risks involved and will follow all of the safety procedures stated.

Declaration by PI

I confirm that the researcher who has signed below is competent to undertake the work. My counter-signature indicates that I am happy for the work to proceed.

Name (please print)	signed	PI countersignature	date