



# The University of Sheffield

## Risk Assessment Form

<b>PERSONS AT RISK :</b> (X) Employees ( ) Contractors ( ) Public ( ) Visitors (X) Others			<b>Reference No:</b>
<b>Risk:</b> (H) High (M) Medium (L) Low (O) No Risk.		<b>Environment: Scientific Laboratories</b>	
<b>TASK or ACTIVITY:</b>		<b>INITIAL RISK RATING</b>	<b>EXISTING CONTROL/PROPOSED CONTROL MEASURES</b>
<b>Use of Centrifuges</b>			
<b>SIGNIFICANT HAZARD</b>	<b>RISK</b>		
Electricity	Shock burns, fire	M	Annual electrical testing - disabled or removed if unsafe Annual servicing by Service Engineers Visual check of cable & plug (if visible) for damage & liquid contamination No unauthorised tampering with equipment or electrical leads
			} L
Vibration due to imbalanced load	Rotor breakage, possible ejection of debris Broken sample tubes	M	All users to be instructed in safe use of Centrifuges Read and implement the relevant Operating instructions Seek assistance from supervisor if any doubt on safe use. Do not attempt to open when the centrifuge is operating Switch off Centrifuge if any indication of vibration Equal samples (or dummy) to be inserted in pairs @180 degrees
			} L
Skin contamination due to broken sample tubes	Cuts & infection.	M	Switch off centrifuge and disconnect power supply. Allow to stop Open only when movement stopped. Wear suitable protective gloves Pick glass with forceps only, dispose of in Sharps Bin Disinfect equipment using standard Disinfection Procedure
			} L
<b>Comments: A. All Centrifuge users to wear laboratory coats and suitable protective gloves for the substances being handled</b>			<b>Overall Risk: L</b>
<b>B. Test interlock monthly - switch on when lid open, if it operates switch off, report immediately to Dept Manager &amp; attach "Out of Order" sign.</b>			
<b>C. If lid can be opened while centrifuge is operating, switch off, report immediately to Dept Manager &amp; attach "Out of Order" sign.</b>			
<b>Additional References, Tasks etc</b>			
See departmental "Disinfection Procedure"			
See departmental procedure on "Safe use of Centrifuges"			
<b>Undertaken By:</b>			
<b>Other Persons Consulted:</b>			
<b>Date:</b>			<b>Revision Date:</b>