

### Risk Assessment Form

<b>Name of Assessor:</b>	Sandra Devine	<b>Post Held:</b>	Associate Nurse Director Infection Prevention and Control
<b>Department:</b>	Infection Prevention and Control / Emergency Department	<b>Date:</b>	27/03/2018
<b>Subject of Assessment</b>			
<p>The use of a chlorine based solution for the decontamination of blood and body fluid spills is recommended in the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual (NIPCM) and is the current accepted practice in most clinical areas across NHSGGC. A fresh solution of chlorine based detergent is prepared daily and used with disposable paper cloth. The practical application of this method of cleaning becomes challenging in a busy ED due to the high turnover of equipment, the frequency of cleaning required and the storage of the solution to allow it to be easily accessible in multiple areas. Chlorine based wipes are commercially available and would be a ready solution to these challenges, and allow staff to maximise the equipment cleaning efficacy throughout the ED, greatly reducing the potential infection risks to staff and patients associated with blood and body fluid contamination.</p>			
<b>Hazards</b> (Describe the harmful agent(s) and the adverse consequences they could cause)			
<p>Currently staff prepare the solution in a well ventilated room, wearing appropriate PPE, label the bottle and store in a COSHH approved cupboard until required. To be effective and efficient this should be in several areas within the ED. Where required, for decontamination, staff would have to collect a key, collect the bottle of solution and disposable paper cloth, apply PPE ahead of cleaning the spill. The process for cleaning up the spill would then include application of the solution for the appropriate contact time then wash off solution before the equipment is fit for re-use.</p>			
<b>Description of Risk</b> (Describe the work that causes exposure to the hazard, and the relevant circumstances. Who is at risk? Highlight significant factors: what makes the risk more or less serious – e.g.: the time taken, how often the work is done, who does it, the work environment, anything else relevant.)			
<p>The risk is that due to a protracted and lengthy process for gathering and using the correct materials to decontaminate a spill, it is difficult for staff to achieve the level of decontamination of equipment during busy periods.</p>			

**Existing Precautions**

Summarise current controls in place	Describe how they might fail to prevent adverse outcomes
NHS Board and National policy Posters Audit of process	Difficult to follow in ED As above

**Level of Risk** - Is the control of this risk adequate?

Give more than one risk level if the assessment covers a range of circumstances. You can use the 'matrix' to show how 'likelihood' and 'consequences' combine to give a conclusion. Also, be critical of existing measures: if you can think how they might fail, or how they could be improved, these are indications of a red or orange risk.

**Risk Matrix**

Likelihood	Impact/Consequences				
	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
Almost Certain	Medium	High	High	Very High	Very High
Likely	Medium	Medium	High	High ✓	Very High
Possible	Low	Medium	Medium	High	High
Unlikely	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Rare	Low	Low	Low	Medium	Medium

Very High     
 ✓ High     
  Medium     
  Low

## Current risk level

Given the current precautions, and how effective and reliable they are, what is the current level of risk? **Green** is the target – you have thought it through critically and you have no serious worries. Devise ways of making the risk green wherever you can. **Yellow** is acceptable but with some reservations. You can achieve these levels by reducing the inherent risk and or by effective and reliable precautions. **High (Orange) or Very High (Red) risks are unacceptable and must be acted on: use the Action Plan section to summarise and communicate the problems and actions required.**

Also, do your conclusions have implications for any of the following?

## Action Plan (if risk level is High (Orange) or Very High (Red))

Use this part of the form for risks that require action. Use it to communicate, with your Line Manager or Risk Coordinator or others if required. If using a copy of this form to notify others, they should reply on the form and return to you. Check that you do receive replies.

Describe the measures required to make the work safe. Include hardware – engineering controls, and procedures. Say what you intend to change. If proposed actions are out with your remit, identify them on the plan below but do not say who or by when; leave this to the manager with the authority to decide this and allocate the resources required.

Proposed actions to control the problem (list the actions required. If action by others is required, you must send them a copy)	By Whom	Start date	Action due date
Introduction of chlorine based wipes as an adjunct to chlorine based solution in ED	Staff in ED	ASAP	27/03/2018

Action by Others Required - Complete as appropriate: (please tick or enter YES, name and date where appropriate)

Report up management chain for action	This will be submitted to the IPC SMT and the Acute Infection Control Committee for approval.
Report to Estates for action	No
Contact advisers/specialists	Complete
Alert your staff to problem, new working practice, interim solutions, etc	Posters and rep present to provide education and guidance

## Reply

If you receive this form as a manager from someone in your department, you must decide how the risk is to be managed. Update the action plan and reply with a copy to others who need to know. If appropriate, you should note additions to the Directorate / Service Risk Register.

If you receive this as an adviser or other specialist, reply to the sender and investigate further as required.

Assessment completed date: 27/03/2018

Review date: 27/03/2020