

# HAZARD MANAGEMENT Postgraduate Research Students

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# **Definitions**

- HAZARD: Is something visible or invisible, that has the potential to cause death, injury, illness or property damage.
- **RISK:** The possibility that harm (death, injury or illness) might occur when exposed to a hazard.
- RISK ASSESSMENT (RA): The process of evaluating the probability (likelihood) and
  consequence of injury or illness from exposure to an identified hazard or hazards.
- RISK CONTROL: Take action to eliminate risks as reasonably practical, and if not
  possible to minimise the risk.
- SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP): Instructions on setting out the requirements to carry out work in a safe and healthy manner.
- **SAFETY DATA SHEETS (SDS):** Important document that provides information on the properties of hazardous chemicals and how they can affect your health and safety.

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# Hazard Management: WHY

- 1. To ensure you and your colleagues remain safe
- 2. To prevent major interruptions to your work
- 3. It is part of the planning process pro-active
- 4. It is a SafeWork SA (Workcover) requirement under the performance standards
- 5. It is a legal obligation

### People/companies are held accountable and convicted

eg 29/1/15 HUNGRY JACKS convicted and fined \$90,000 for a 17 year old employee sustaining burns to arms and torso when slipped into deep fryers.

2014/2016 - 2 identical deaths at the nRAH, ongoing investigations

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# Hazard Management: When and Who

### When should we do it

- initial setup stages of a process or activity etc,
- as new things are introduced to an existing process

### Who should do it

 the people who best understand the process
 i.e. personnel undertaking the task in consultation with the supervisor, HSO or Faculty HSW administrators

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# What is the Hazard Management Process?

- Hazard Identification
- Risk Assessment
- Risk Control
- Monitor, Review & Reassess

Put it all together, it's just a planning tool



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### **Hazard Identification**

The process is to use a checklist to help identify the hazards eg RA Long Form <a href="http://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/handbook/hazard/">http://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/handbook/hazard/</a>

### Other sources of information

- Supervisor/colleagues
- SDS for chemicals
- Visual inspection of plant/equipment



# Risk Assessment (RA)

All processes, whether it be the use of chemicals, plant (equipment)
or task (human trials), <u>must</u> be **Risk Assessed** and potential
hazards identified.

#### Consider the item or task:

- What could go wrong?
- How could it hurt you? (or somebody else)
- Is there anything you can't control?

Document the hazards using the RA Long Form.

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### **Risk Assessment**

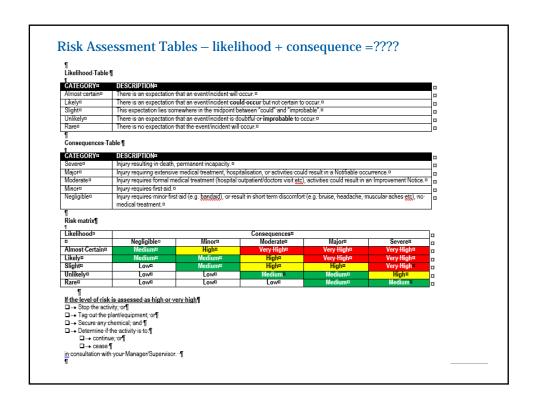
### <u>INHERENT RISK:</u>

The risk before controls e.g. home visits without consultation with Supervisor/HSO

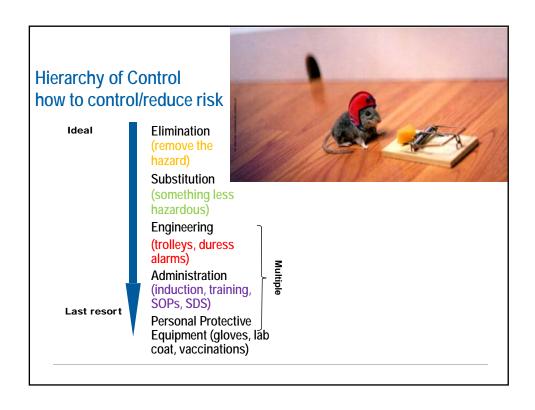
### **RESIDUAL RISK:**

After the controls are in place e.g. follow Homevist Protocol, GPS Duress Device.





# Assessment outcome Descriptor Very High Almost certain to kill, maim or hospitalise OR If activity remains Very High notify Manager/Supervisor Head of School permission required to proceed with activity. If residual risk the VC will have to sign off before the start of this process. Likely to cause hospitalisation High Stop the process until controlled or implement short term safety controls if process cannot be temporarily ceased. THEN Conduct risk assessment and apply controls as required. Notify Manager/Supervisor. If residual risk then the Head of School will need to sign off before the start of this process Medium Conduct risk assessment and apply controls as required No action required but if controls are available make it safer record assessment and monitor



### Monitor, Review & Reassess

- Are your controls appropriate?
- Has your research changed?
- Has there been an incident?



# Low Risk Research

- health and safety measures of low risk research is not the same as 'low risk research' for ethics
- Low risk research as defined with ethics can have medium to high hazards for the researcher

Eg interviewing elderly in their homes is low risk research with ethics approval, but a medium risk for researcher



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### **Useful Links**

Health, Safety & Wellbeing website http://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/

Hazard Management

https://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/handbook/hazard/

Information Session

Hazard Management (face-to-face or online sessions) <a href="https://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/training/general/#hazman">https://www.adelaide.edu.au/hr/hsw/training/general/#hazman</a>

### **Contacts – Faculty HSW Administrators**

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**PROTECT YOUR ASS** 

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