

NDMRB-RA-001

Risk Assessment: Safe use of Water baths

Scope

Water baths of various volumes are used throughout the NDMRB. All heating devices (apart from steam baths) must be kept well away from flammable materials.

It is the users responsibility to ensure what controls are needed to ensure that the health of themselves and others around them. It is imperative that you **DO NOT** start any work until you are absolutely sure of the appropriate precautions that need to be employed. If you are unsure seek advice from your line/laboratory manager or your departmental safety officer (DSO).

Name of assessor:	Andrea Keepence-Keyte	Date of Assessment:	April 2015	Review Date:	Every three years
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Risk Matrix:

Risk Matrix		Likelihood			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Consequence	Severe	High	High	Medium	Effectively Zero
	Moderate	High	Medium	Medium/low	Effectively Zero
	Insignificant	Medium/Low	Low	Low	Effectively Zero
	Negligible	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero	Effectively Zero

Risk Assessment:

Hazard (Cause and consequence)	Affected Groups	Existing controls	Risk	Further Action
Heating Element (burns, fire)	Staff/students/visitors	<p>The water should be at the appropriate level, a dry heating element is likely to be the cause of a fire and could burn an inattentive user.</p> <p>The lid should be kept on the water bath or turned off after use.</p> <p>The equipment is tagged to reflect the yearly PAT testing.</p>	Medium	Equipment is PAT tested on a yearly basis
Electrical Hazard (electrocution)		<p>The user must be very careful when lifting the lid to prevent water from dripping on the power cable.</p> <p>Users should visually inspect the equipment before use.</p> <p>Equipment must be unplugged prior to any cleaning.</p> <p>Equipment are on a RCD sockets which will cut out any circuit detecting a short circuit.</p>	Medium	None
Hot water/steam (cause burns when placing or removing samples)	Staff, students and visitors	Above the temperature of 50°C, heat resistant gloves should be used.	Medium	None

<p>Muscular injuries from manual handling when moving a full waterbath</p>		<p>Moving a full waterbath must only be carried if strictly necessary. Pregnant users must not lift a waterbath. Users should undergo the manual handling course for the use of large waterbath which weight over 10Kg when full. If possible, users should empty the waterbath before cleaning it. Lifting should only be carried out if the path is clear of slips and trips, users should be aware of their limitations.</p>	<p>Medium</p>	<p>Manual Handling Training course for identified users.</p>
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Signed By Author:

Approved by (sign and print):

Reviewed by:

Review date: