

NDMRB-RA-104

Risk Assessment: Overnight experiments

Scope:

Sometimes it is necessary to leave experiments running overnight, wherever possible this should be avoided and not experiments should be left running outside of normal working hours and unattended. Some equipment falls outside of the scope of this RA and that includes (but is not restricted to) mass spec, NMR, microstar HUB, peptide synthesis. This equipment is covered by individual risk assessments.

The process outlined in this RA is in line with university policy unattended operation of apparatus and equipment UPS S4/01

This replaces TDI-RA-044

Name of assessor:	Andrea Keepence-Keyte	Date of Assessment:	July 2015	Review Date:	Every 3 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
Equipment failure during experiment – this could cause fire or electrical failure to RCD.	Staff	Ensure that equipment is up to date with service (if applicable). Ensure that it is in good repair and PAT tested.	Medium/low	None
Reaction failure or accidental interruption of experiment	Staff	<p>Ensure that there is signage indicating the start time, estimated finish time, emergency shutdown procedures and contact details of person responsible for the experiment.</p> <p>If there is high risk then an unattended experiment form (CL2 or chemistry specific) should be placed on the entrance to the lab giving the location and the nature of the hazard. It must indicate if it is advised that people do not enter the lab while the experiment is running. COSHH and risk assessment should be left with the signage.</p>	Medium/Low	Wherever possible running experiments and equipment overnight should be avoided.

Signed By Author:

Approved by (sign and print):

Reviewed by:

Review date: