



## Risk Assessment – VI-RA-001- Use of Coulter Counter

### Scope

The coulter counter is a device used for counting cell and sizing particles suspended in electrolytes, in the Viral Immunology Unit, this is used for cell counting, in CL2 and CL3 Tissue Culture Laboratories. The risk identified with this equipment is to do with the location of the equipment (see CL3 risk assessment and Code of Practice) and the waste stream from the biological waste produced which requires treatment with Virkon.

Carried out by:	Tiphaine Bouriez-Jones	Date carried out:	May 2015	Review Due:	May 2018	
Hazard (Cause and consequence)	Affected Groups	Existing controls			Risk	Further actions
Exposure to Virkon powder or Virkon solution	Staff, students and visitors	Via inhalation: stock of powdered Virkon kept away from draft, with its lid in place. Via skin adsorption: User must wear gloves and labcoat at all time. Via instillation (eye): User must wear safety spectacles at all time. <b>See specific COSHH risk assessment.</b>			Medium	None
Work in CL3 – potential exposure to pathogen leading to the user illness.	Staff, students and visitors	Users wil undergo a safety induction with the CL3 Safety Officer. They will be given on the job training and will have to demonstrate their experience before being given access to the CL3 suites. <b>All work in the CL3 is subject to the CL3 Code of Practice.</b>			Medium	None

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).