
Overview

This standard identifies the skills you need to carry out health and safety risk assessments, in accordance with approved procedures. You will identify and use relevant business and scientific or similar understanding, methods and skills to address workplace problems that are well defined but complex and non-routine. You will be expected to take responsibility for overall courses of action. You will exercise autonomy and judgement within fairly broad parameters and understand different perspectives or approaches used within the workplace.

You will show you have initiated and used appropriate investigation to inform your actions. You will also show how you review the effectiveness and appropriateness of the methods, actions and results of your scientific or similar work.

Your underpinning knowledge will enable you to use practical, theoretical or technical understanding to address workplace problems that are well defined but complex and non-routine.

You will be fully aware of any health, safety and environmental requirements, and the appropriate legislative and regulatory frameworks, applicable to your area of responsibility. You will be required to ensure that safe working practices are maintained throughout, and will understand the responsibility you owe to yourself and others in the workplace.

Who this standard is for

The standard is recommended for health and safety personnel and senior laboratory staff.

**Performance
criteria**

- You must be able to:
- P1 ensure that your work is carried out in accordance with workplace procedures to protect yourself and others
 - P2 identify and agree why, when and where the risk assessment will be carried out
 - P3 ensure you have accurate and up-to-date information on the scientific or similar activity for which the risk assessment is to be carried out
 - P4 select a method of identifying hazards which is appropriate to the area being assessed
 - P5 identify work areas, processes, tools, equipment or materials that have the potential to cause harm or damage to people, property or the environment
 - P6 assess the level of risk, consider, propose and record recommendations of how the risks can be eliminated, mitigated or controlled to minimise harm
 - P7 present the results of the work done to the appropriate people
 - P8 communicate the required information about the work done, to authorised people, in accordance with departmental and organisational procedures

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 the health and safety requirements of the area in which you are carrying out the activities
- K2 the implications of not taking account of legislation, regulations, standards and guidelines when conducting the activities
- K3 the scientific or similar techniques and processes you must use correctly in the workplace
- K4 the importance of wearing protective clothing, gloves and eye protection for scientific or similar activities
- K5 the workplace organisational structure, its business aims, goals, values and culture
- K6 the limits of your own authority and to whom you should report if you have problems that you cannot resolve
- K7 how to obtain information, expertise and advice on the scientific or similar activities, and the health and safety regulations and requirements to be observed and risk assessments to be carried out
- K8 the particular health and safety risks which can arise from different activities undertaken, the potential implication of the risk and the precautions that can be taken
- K9 how to ensure that the hazard identification causes minimal disruption and concern to other people
- K10 methods of identifying hazards and safety assessment methods and techniques and assessing the probability of a risk situation occurring
- K11 how to prioritise and manage hazards
- K12 the types of risk assessment, problems occurring and evaluation methods that are appropriate to different types of risk
- K13 techniques for defining and controlling identified risks

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