



Assessment – RMU-RA-009

RMU Laboratories Risk Assessment: Separation of blood cells using the CyAn or Fortessa

All personnel have a duty of care to themselves and to those around them. The risks identified and set out in this document will enable persons to employ the relevant health and safety measures required to be able to handle and work within the RMU laboratories.

Personnel must make sure that their work is carried out in the approved way and in accordance with University policy, ensure that all training given is followed and that all relevant COSHH, MSDS and SOP's have been read and understood.

Carried out by: Samantha Thulborn	Date carried out: April 2014	Review Date: April 2015 Reviewed – No changes made
		Review Date: April 2016

Hazard – Blood samples could contain pathogens which could lead to infection.	Affected Groups – Staff, Students and Visitors carrying out work in RMU laboratories	Risk - Low
Existing Controls - Collected by foot, in a sealed polystyrene box. All samples are screened (Hepatitis B/C and HIV are exclusion criteria). All samples are from a low risk population but should be treated in safe practice. Ensure staff have filled in a health questionnaire and had an appointment with occupational health where needed. PPE (Gloves, lab coat and safety glasses) worn at all times while handling samples. All work carried out in a class II microbiological cabinet, which protects the laboratory worker and surrounding environment from pathogens by HEPA-filtering the air (removing harmful pathogens). Full training is given and recorded.		Further Action Required – Continual re-assessment of the situation as the research progresses.

Hazard – Use of Flow Cytometry machines.	Affected Groups: Staff, Students and Visitors carrying out work in RMU laboratories	Risk - Low
Existing Controls – The room manager will ensure the machines are kept clean and serviced. Full training is given and recorded.		Further Action Required – No



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Hazard – Use of centrifuges, which could cause physical harm to individuals.	Affected Groups: Staff, Students and Visitors carrying out work in RMU laboratories	Risk - Low
Existing Controls - Ensure that centrifuges are cleaned properly and with non-corrosive detergents. Ensure that usage of rotors and centrifuge is recorded where relevant. Ensure that centrifuges are serviced on a regular basis. Ensure that all users are trained in the proper and safe use of centrifuges. Full training is given and recorded.		Further Action Required – No
Hazard – RSI caused by prolonged use of pipettes.	Affected Groups – Staff, Students and Visitors carrying out work in RMU laboratories	Risk - Low
Existing Controls - Maintain a correct posture while pipetting. Take regular breaks. Ensure all personnel are trained in good pipetting techniques. Ensure full training is given and recorded.		Further Action Required – No
Hazard – Inadequate clear up of Spillages, could cause harm to individual.	Affected Groups – Staff, Students and Visitors carrying out work in RMU laboratories	Risk - Low
Existing Controls - Ensure all spillages are cleaned up according to protocol and signs displayed as a warning where needed		Further Action Required – No.