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1.1 APPLICATION

This Safety Statement has been developed to assist ABC Company Ltd comply with relevant H&S standards and to ensure that clients and employees are fully aware of ABC Company Ltd's commitment to high standards in H&S.

1.2 OBJECTIVES OF THE SAFETY STATEMENT

To provide a reference for the policies and procedures used in house. It is also used to assess and audit the levels of health and safety being achieved.

To provide evidence that the policies and procedures to ensure health and safety objectives are met and have been thought out and documented in order to help those who must execute them.

To provide a control document to record the pertinent changes to the Company Safety Statement, which become necessary due to the changing business environment.

To help identify training requirements that needs to be fulfilled in order to generate suitably qualified personnel to carry out the policies and procedures contained within the document.

To provide assurance that compliance with legal requirements for health and safety are being met or exceeded.

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1.3 COMPANY SAFETY STATEMENT

The general Statement on this page sets out the Safety Policy of ABC Company Ltd.

It is this Company's intention that its work will be carried out in accordance with the relevant statutory provisions of the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work Act 2005, the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work (General Application) Regulations and any other applicable regulations from those implemented in 2007. All reasonable practicable measures will be taken to minimise risk to employees or others who may be affected by company activities.

Manager 2 has appointed Manager 1 as having responsibility for managing Health, Safety & Welfare. Reference should be made to Manager 1, in the event of any difficulty arising in the implementation of this policy. Manager 2 will have ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the provisions of this Safety Statement are implemented.

The Success of the policy will depend on the co-operation of all employees. It is therefore important that you acquaint yourself with all areas of the Safety Statement. You should ensure that you understand your role and the overall arrangements for Health & Safety within the Company and within your individual area. You should also be aware that you have an obligation to take care of your own safety and that of others that might be affected by your actions.

Signed: _____
Manager 2

Date: _____

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2.1 MANAGEMENT CONTROL SYSTEM

The objective of the Safety Management System is to satisfy our legal responsibilities and to exercise greater control of health and safety within our organisation, to protect people and control the business.

Management points that may be measured:

1. Workplace safety and housekeeping inspections
2. Staff suggestions and query forms
3. Induction and ongoing training
 - 3.1. First aid – as necessary
 - 3.2. Manual Handling/ergonomics training – as necessary
 - 3.3. Safety Induction.
4. Safety critical equipment maintenance records
 - 4.1. Fire alarms
 - 4.2. Fire extinguishers
 - 4.3. First aid equipment
5. Fire drill records
6. Risk assessments
 - 6.1. Initial assessments from 2010
 - 6.2. Annual reviews after 2010
7. Monthly Safety review (part of general management meetings)
 - 7.1. Minutes
 - 7.2. Action points
 - 7.3. Outstanding issues resolved
8. Safety Statement
 - 8.1. Implementation in 2010
 - 8.2. Annual reviews after 2010
9. Annual report

Records of all of the above points will be held within a Safety Management Folder. This folder is maintained by Manager 1.

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2.2 Manager 2

- ❑ Manager 2 will be responsible for implementation of the procedures within the Safety Statement.
- ❑ Manager 2 bears the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that staff are given correct information and training for them to do their job effectively.
- ❑ Manager 2 is also responsible for ensuring that staff are supported in enabling them to reach the correct decisions in respect of health and safety matters.
- ❑ Supervise the Company Health and Safety programme.
- ❑ Review all safety rules bi-annually and, when necessary, recommend suitable changes.
- ❑ Investigate all major accidents and damage to Company property and recommend action.
- ❑ Ensure that accident records are maintained.
- ❑ Ensure that records of hazards/near miss reports are maintained.
- ❑ Ensure that the systems for ensuring that fire precautions are adequate.
- ❑ The Health, Safety, and Welfare of all employees are not compromised when all other performance standards are set.
- ❑ That adequate funding is reserved to meet regulatory needs of safety and health.
- ❑ All prescription and other drug records accurately recorded and retained.
- ❑ That management will lead by example in adhering to stated policies to achieve the Company's aim to reduce accidents and health exposures.

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2.4 Other Supervisors and Assistant Managers.

All supervisors will be responsible for planned implementation of effective health and safety standards within their area of operation.

Supervisors bear the responsibility for ensuring that staff are given correct information and training for them to do their job effectively, and that their work targets are realistic and do not compromise health and safety requirements.

They are also responsible for ensuring that staff are supported in enabling them to reach the correct decisions in respect of health and safety matters.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- ❑ Ensure that all procedures are complied with for all new employees.
- ❑ Implement an efficient communication procedure so that all Personnel are aware of workplace standards as measured against the Company's Safety Policy and are provided with information on accidents and other safety, health and welfare information.
- ❑ Plan and co-ordinate safety training as necessary.
- ❑ Plan and supervise all work processes in a safe manner and in accordance with the standards set out in the Safety Statement.
- ❑ Ensure that all employees directly under your control are aware of their specific responsibilities.
- ❑ Provide assistance to staff in carrying out their responsibilities, particularly in determining the most appropriate order and methods of working.
- ❑ Allocate work in such a way that health and safety standards are not compromised.
- ❑ Know the location of the First Aid Box.
- ❑ Ensure that you know the procedure in the event of a fire.
- ❑ Report any accident or damage, however minor, to senior management.
- ❑ Commend Employees who by action or initiative eliminate hazards.

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2.6 OFFICE BASED STAFF

- ❑ Read and understand the Company's Safety Statement and carry out your work in accordance with its requirements.
- ❑ Do not try to use, repair, or maintain any office equipment or machinery for which you have not received full instructions or training.
- ❑ Report any defects in office equipment or machinery immediately.
- ❑ Know the location of the First Aid Box.
- ❑ Ensure that you know the procedure in the event of a fire.
- ❑ Report any accident or damage, however minor, to management.
- ❑ Ensure that corridors, office floors, doorways etc. are kept clear and free from obstruction.
- ❑ Do not attempt to lift or move, on your own, articles or materials so heavy as likely to cause injury.
- ❑ Do not attempt to reach articles on high shelves unless using steps or a properly designated hop-up: do not improvise or climb.
- ❑ Suggest ways of eliminating hazards and improving working methods.
- ❑ Do not smoke in designated "No Smoking" areas and dispose of spent matches, cigarette ends etc. properly.

Guidance on workstations for office workers

The Company believes that our present level of activity and use of Visual Display Units (VDUs) represents no health and safety hazards to its employees greater than any other electrical appliances including the danger of tripping over loose cables or possible electric shocks. Nevertheless, there are guidelines for users of VDUs and indeed all desk-related activities, which we commend to office staff e.g.

- ❑ Avoid slouching and keep the curve in the lower back.

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2.7 CONTRACTORS

The following responsibilities are allocated to contractors to whom ABC Company assigns work (electricians, plumbers, etc.):

- All contractors must submit their Safety Policies and Insurances to ABC Company for approval prior to being awarded any works.
- All Contractors will be expected to prepare a Method Statement appropriate to the works they will be engaged in.
- All contractors will be expected to comply with the ABC Company Policy for Health, Safety and Welfare and must ensure that their own Company's policy is made available to the ABC Company whilst work is being carried out.
- All work must be carried out in accordance with relevant statutory provisions.
- All plant and equipment brought onto site by contractors must be safe and in good working order, fitted with any necessary guards and safety devices and with any necessary certificates available for checking.
- Any injury sustained by a contractor's employee must be reported immediately to management at ABC Company.
- Contractors must comply with any safety instructions given by ABC Company management.
- ABC Company must be notified of any material or substance brought onto the premises which has health, fire, or explosive risks. Such materials must be stored and used in accordance with current recommendations.

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3.1 RESOURCES

ABC Company Ltd recognises that for the effective implementation of the safety procedures and policies laid down in this Safety Statement, adequate resources and funding must be made available.

ABC Company Ltd undertakes:

- To ensure that adequate numbers of suitably trained staff are available to undertake all work activities carried out by the company.
- To include health and safety considerations into all annual estimates for the running of the company.
- Undertake that in so far as is reasonably practicable resources shall be made available for any upgrading, maintenance, replacement and repair of facilities
- Undertake to provide resources for the ongoing monitoring of health and safety and for the provision of information and training of all staff in health and safety.

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3.3 TRAINING

HAZARDS

Inadequately trained staff are a hazard to themselves and their co-employees. ABC Company Ltd shall identify the training needs of their staff and ensure they are fulfilled.

It is the Policy of ABC Company Ltd that every employee will receive safety training on an ongoing basis. All new personnel will receive safety training as part of their induction. Staff training is not only concerned with imparting facts but also with notifying staff to face up to their responsibilities and to be equipped to deal with emergencies.

Training will include safety induction and safety awareness, manual handling training and First Aid training.

ABC Company Ltd will keep training records to include:

1. Name of the employee being trained.
2. Date of training.
3. Training details.
4. Signature of the trainer and employee to ensure that the training has been carried out, documented and understood.

Staff will be trained to spot and act on hazards and encouraged to consult with management on health and safety issues.

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3.5 SAFETY REPRESENTATION

In agreement with the 2005 Act the employees may select and appoint a person, to be called a Safety Representative, from their numbers at their place of work to represent them in consultations with ABC Company Ltd.

Manager 1 is the current Safety Representative.

The rights of the Safety Representative include:

1. Information from the employer as necessary and particularly from the Safety Statement, to ensure the Safety Health and Welfare of employees.
2. To be informed by the employer of a visit by the H.S.A. Inspector.
3. Investigate accidents and dangerous occurrences provided it does not interfere with the performance of any statutory obligation required to be performed by any person.
4. Make representations to and receive advice from the H.S.A.
5. Carry out inspections and investigate hazards and complaints subject to agreement.
6. Accompany a H.S.A. Inspector on any visit except when this is for accident investigation.
7. Time off as may be reasonable to act as Safety Representative or to acquire the knowledge to carry out that function.

ABC Company Ltd will facilitate the Safety Representative in carrying out their functions as defined in the Act and as outlined above.

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The following contents are required in a first aid box:

- ❑ Card giving general first aid guidance.
- ❑ Individually wrapped sterile adhesive dressings.
- ❑ Sterile eye pads, with attachment, e.g. Standard Dressing No. 16 BPC.
- ❑ Triangular bandages (sterile).
- ❑ Safety pins.
- ❑ Blue Plasters
- ❑ A selection of Unmedicated wound dressings which should include:
 - ❑ Medium size sterile unmedicated dressings (approx. 10cm x 8cm, e.g. Standard Dressings Nos. 8 and 13 BPC).
 - ❑ Large size sterile unmedicated dressings (approx. 13cm x 9cm, e.g. Standard Dressings Nos. 9 and 14 BPC and the Ambulance Dressing No. 1).
 - ❑ Extra large sterile unmedicated dressing (approx. 28cm x 17.5cm, e.g. Ambulance Dressing No. 3).
- ❑ It is also recommended that a pair of latex gloves be included in each first aid kit for use by the first aider.

PROCEDURE & RECORD KEEPING

- ❑ In the event of an accident, a qualified first-aid person will be responsible for dispensing any first aid material.
- ❑ All issues of first aid consumables and the relevant treatment must be entered on the accident report form.
- ❑ The relevant trained first-aid person with Manager/Supervisor on duty will be responsible for completing the form.

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3.8 WELFARE FACILITIES

Adequate toilet facilities shall be provided and maintained in a good clean hygienic condition.

Adequate washing facilities and washing and drying materials/equipment shall be provided and maintained.

Arrangements for eating foodstuffs shall be provided in the form of a canteen/tea room facility on the premises.

An adequate supply of drinking water shall be provided on the premises.

Adequate cloakroom facilities shall be provided for the storage of wet coats, etc.

Safe access and egress shall be maintained at all times.

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3.10 SMOKING POLICY

The Public Health (Tobacco) (Amendment) Act 2004 became law on Monday 29th March 2004. This means that smoking will not be permitted in any enclosed workplace.

In order to comply with the above legislation and for other Safety and Health reasons, it is the policy of ABC Company Ltd that all of our work areas are smoke free. The Organisation recognises that all employees have a right to work in a smoke free environment. All staff have a legal obligation to comply with the legislation. Smoking is prohibited throughout the workplace with no exceptions. This policy applies to all employees, trainees, consultants, contractors, patients and visitors who enter the premises of ABC Company Ltd.

Implementation

The overall responsibility for the implementation of this policy rests with the occupier, manager or other person designated, for the time being, in charge of the workplace. All staff have an obligation to adhere to, and facilitate the implementation of this policy.

All new and prospective employees, consultants and contractors shall be given a copy of the policy on hiring, recruitment/induction by the person in charge.

Infringements

Infringements of the No Smoking policy will be dealt with, in the first instance, under employee disciplinary procedures. Employees, trainees, consultants, contractors, patients and visitors who contravene the law prohibiting smoking in the workplace are also liable to prosecution.

Smoking cessation

Information on how to obtain help quitting smoking is available from the National Smokers Quitline on callsave 1850 201203 or the Health Promotion Department of local Health Boards.

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3.12 Bullying at Work Policy

ABC Company Ltd recognises and accepts its responsibilities as an employer to provide a safe and healthy working environment for employees. As part of the policy of maintaining good employer practice, ABC Company Ltd wishes to clearly state that bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.

Bullying at work is defined as: 'Persistent criticism and personal abuse, both in public and in private which humiliates and demeans the individual, gradually eroding their sense of self. Bullying can be best described as repeated inappropriate behaviour, whether verbal, physical, or otherwise, conducted by one or more persons against another or others, at the place of work and/or in the course of employment, which could reasonably be regarded as undermining the individual's right to dignity at work. An isolated incident of the behaviour described in this definition may be an affront to dignity at work, but as a once off incident is not considered to be bullying.

ABC Company Ltd will strive to ensure that all employees are free to perform, their work in an environment, which is free from threat, harassment and intimidation. All complaints of objectionable or offensive behaviour should be made to either Manager 1, Manager 2 or the Safety Representative.

Manager 2 gives the undertaking to investigate all complaints sensitively and will resolve locally, if possible, the source and cause of the bullying behaviour. If the circumstances warrant it, the Company will not be deterred in invoking the formal disciplinary / grievance procedures.

All employees are invited to strive in ensuring that our working environment remains a pleasant and friendly atmosphere.

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HAZARD IDENTIFICATION AND CONTROL MEASURES

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The formula to be used for conducting risk assessments, assessing the risk from observed infringements/hazards or after an Audit, is shown here. Very minor injuries should score 1 while very serious ones will score higher, personal judgement is needed here. Likewise with the likelihood, 1 is very unlikely that anybody would be exposed to the hazard, while 7 means definite exposure to the hazard. Again personal judgement is needed.

Once the two scores are agreed they should be multiplied, thus giving a risk rating between 1 and 42.

Scores:

1-6 = Very Low risk

7-12 = Low Risk

13-18 = Low to Medium Risk

19-24 = Medium risk

25-30 = Medium to High Risk

31-36 = High Risk, stop the activity and implement immediate controls.

Over 36 = **Very high Risk, stop the activity and implement immediate controls.**

Risk Calculation Matrix

	How likely is an injury						
How serious will the injury be	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
	2						
	3						
	4						
	5						
	6						

Notes:

Hazards = Things that can cause and injury.

Risk = The likelihood of an injury happening.

- Risk Control measures are intended to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.
- Where practicable the Company commits itself to the elimination of hazards, whether that is by the provision of access arrangements, machine guarding or the provision of special tools etc. This approach will take into account normal good practice within this sector of industry and the standards and guidelines where these are available.

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- (f) The inspection and maintenance of the fire protection equipment systems.
- (g) The provision of assistance to the fire authorities.
- (h) The maintenance of good housekeeping practice to ensure the removal of all combustible rubbish.
- (i) The testing and maintenance of portable heating appliances, and ensuring that all electrical equipment is switched off and unplugged when not in use.

4.2.1 FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT

The purpose of portable fire fighting equipment is as follows:

1. Extinguish incipient fires
2. Protect means of escape in case of fire
3. Protect employees and visitors
4. Protect property.

Portable Fire Extinguishers

Portable fire extinguishers will be provided in sufficient numbers to give adequate cover as per the advice of our Fire Protection Company.

Action in the event of fire

1. Clear everyone from the immediate vicinity of the fire except those actually authorised to engage in fire fighting.
2. Alert other staff in the immediate area of the fire. Contact the Fire Brigade, giving them the address clearly and any other directions necessary.
3. If there is no danger by doing so, try to put out the fire with the apparatus provided, but remember our equipment will only be effective on a small fire - you must catch it before it gets hold.
4. Use the break glass fire alarm if one is located nearby.
5. The Practice Manager or Receptionist will order evacuation of the building as soon as it becomes apparent that the fire or smoke is spreading.

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4.3 ACCESS AND EGRESS

HAZARDS

Inadequate access and egress facilities can result in:

- Restriction of an orderly evacuation of the premises
- Trips and falls
- Obstruction of emergency exits

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

All doors and access points shall be kept clear and maintained.

All passageways shall be kept clear of obstruction.

All floor covering and surfaces shall be kept clean and in good condition.

Adequate lighting shall be provided at all entry, exit points and along corridor and passageways.

Waste shall be removed regularly and systematically stored in a secure place until collected for disposal.

It is vital that all fire escape routes are not obstructed at any time.

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4.5 Manual Handling and Ergonomics

Ergonomics for Practice Staff

Hazards

Use of small tools, instruments, etc.
Poor postural position

RISK ASSESSMENT:

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

Control Measures

- Suitable manual handling training in general and as provided in professional training.
- Chair and other furniture is provided to allow best possible working position and is fully adjustable by the user.
- All equipment regularly used in a treatment are permanently placed within easy reach.
- Mobile carts are used wherever possible.
- Appointment schedule managed where possible to alternate between heavy and light examinations.

Hazards for General Manual Handling

- Incorrect method of lifting
- Attempting to lift something which is too heavy
- Lifting sharp/awkward shapes

The main injuries associated with manual handling and lifting are:

- Back strain, slipped disc.
- Hernias.
- Lacerations, crushing of hands or fingers.
- R.S.I.
- Bruised or broken toes or feet.
- Various sprains, strains, etc.

RISK ASSESSMENT: Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

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b) Position of the Back

Straight - not necessarily vertical

The spine must be kept rigid and straight, but not necessarily vertical. The spine can be kept straight if it is within 15 to 20 degrees from the vertical. This, coupled with a bent knee position, allows the centre line of gravity of the body to be over the weight, so reducing strain.

c) Position of the Arms and Body

The further the arms are away from the side, the greater the strain on the shoulders, chest and back. The elbow must at all times be close to the body, arms should be straight when carrying a load. One hand should be in advance of the other, whichever foot is placed forward, the same hand is extended, the other hand is kept close to the body. This position ensures that the elbows are into the sides. This coupled with the correct foot position ensures a safe and easy fit.

d) Arms close to the Body

The further the weight is away from the centre line of gravity of the lifter, the greater the strain. At all times get close to the weight and try to make it part of you.

e) The Hold

When grasping a weight, one often hears the phrase "get a good hold". A good hold means a grasp with the roots of the fingers, not just the tips, plus contact of the weight with the palm of the hand.

Never forget that size and build has no bearing upon the amount any one individual can lift. Everyone should know their own capabilities and should never attempt to exceed them. If in doubt get help, it is far better to be safe than sorry.

Besides these key factors, there are other important points to remember.

2. Centre Line of Gravity

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- if the load to be lifted exceeds half the weight of the person lifting it, it is more than likely that the individual will lose his/her balance.

Note: if in doubt when lifting **GET HELP.**

TRAINING

Any employee whose job involves any manual handling shall be trained to allow him/her to carry this out safely. The extent of the training will depend on the type of lifting in which they are involved.

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- A record should be kept of each item of equipment so that maintenance can be scheduled and recorded.
- Where appropriate all equipment not in use to be switched off, especially at the end of a working, unless of a specialist type, e.g. servers, etc.
- Sufficient sockets shall be provided to prevent overloading by use of adapters. Proper plugs shall always be fitted to electrical appliances and flex firmly clamped.
- Frayed and damaged cables shall be replaced immediately.
- Flexible cables should not be run across floors. Where damage at floor level to other cables is possible, protection by ramps, conduit or armouring will be considered and applied.

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4.8 VISUAL DISPLAY UNITS (VDU'S)

HAZARDS

The main problems that may be associated with VDU's are as follows:

(a) Visual Discomfort

This recognises a contribution from a number of ocular problems:

- (1) long/short sight problems
- (2) glare
- (3) lighting
- (4) screen brightness
- (5) clarity of characters.

(b) Posture

Good adjustable seating is required and it is essential to consider ergonomic factors.

(c) Radiation

Radiation levels across virtually the whole of the electromagnetic spectrum are below internationally accepted exposure limits when tested under extreme conditions, i.e. close to the screen.

(d) Stress

The work at a VDU can be repetitive and monotonous. This is not exclusive to VDU users as mental stress is associated with all types of work.

On the basis of available evidence, the 'health hazards' associated with VDU's are largely exaggerated in the sense that they are unlikely to cause irreversible long term damage as opposed to varying degrees of discomfort.

Risk Assessment: Low/Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

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4.9 HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES (Not Medicines)

HAZARDS

Health hazards from substances can be divided into the following categories:

- External contact - corrosive, skin absorption, dermatitis.
- Inhalation - gases, fumes, vapours.
- Ingestion - swallowing.

RISK ASSESSMENT: Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

The control measures in this section are general in nature. In the Surgery there are many items that are hazardous by nature. Any items that come under the term "Medicines" are under the strict control at all times.

Other items cleaning substances, alcohol based mouth wash, etc. can be flammable or have other hazardous properties. Every item shall be stored in accordance with the supplier's guidelines and the label on the container.

SUPERVISION WHEN NECESSARY

- The Workplace Supervisor will ensure that:
- All cleaning materials, substances (anaesthetic, etc) and other substances are listed in a safety file.
- All cleaning materials, substances and other substances have an up to date Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) on file.
- The control measures listed in the MSDS are followed.
- A written assessment, control measures and other information are on site.
- All cleaning materials, substances are stored in an appropriate unit that is fire retardant and can contain spillages where needed.
- Procedures planned to handle or use any hazardous substance or process are carried out fully.
- Any, equipment, hygiene measures or protective clothing are provided and maintained as required.
- All measures necessary to protect other workers and the general public from any substance hazardous to health will be provided and maintained.

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- Have level and firm footing and must not stand on loose items such as bricks, boxes or other loose packing,
- Be secured where necessary to prevent undue swaying or sagging

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- Relevant health and safety requirements (in the case of suppliers, they are checked to ensure that they meet the appropriate requirements, and this is generally demonstrated by the availability of a safety statement).
- Outside suppliers are informed of any relevant health and safety information such as emergency evacuation procedures; any specific hazards on the premises, etc.
- All machinery must be completely returned to correct operational condition by maintenance personnel before it is put back into operation. Examples are: replacement of machine guarding, re-activation of interlocks, electrical protection devices, etc.

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4.13 Bloodborne and Needlestick hazards

HAZARDS

- Bloodborne pathogens

Risks Identified - Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

- Staff are offered immunisation against relevant diseases.
- Good hygiene and disinfectant practices are followed by all especially with regard to hand hygiene.
- Barrier creams are used where appropriate.
- Safety aprons and glasses are worn during all examinations.
- Latex free gloves are use during all examinations.
- All used sharps are disposed of in a sharps bin that is removed by a registered waste contractor.
- All used disposable protective wear is placed in a specialist receptacle and removed by an authorised waste carrier.
- All staff are offered training and information on good control measures.
- All patient care items will be sterilised between uses except where it is of a disposable nature.
- All clinical contact surfaces (benches, door handles, switches, table tops, etc.) will be cleaned and disinfected at relevant intervals.
- All housekeeping surfaces (floors, walls) will be cleaned using recommended cleaning products.
- Biological/body fluid clean up kit will be kept on hand for blood spills, Vomit, etc.

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4.15 Pregnancy and New Mothers

HAZARDS

- Vibration
- Manual Handling
- Extended periods of sitting

Risks Identified – will be assessed when appropriate

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

Control Measures

Employees who are pregnant or breastfeeding will not be required to perform any duties which are likely to expose them or their unborn or breastfeeding child to any risk related to their pregnancy or breastfeeding.

A risk assessment will be carried out to assess if there is any additional risk.

If any additional risk is identified, suitable preventive measures will be taken to deal with the risk.

Examples of circumstances where a pregnant worker or their child could be exposed to additional risk include work involving:

- Shocks, vibration or movement
- Manual handling involving risks to the lower back
- Noise
- Ionising and non-ionising radiation
- Extremes of heat and cold
- Movements and postures, travelling, mental or physical fatigue, other physical burdens

Other potential risks as identified in the Safety, Health & Welfare at Work (Pregnant Workers) Regulations.

Examples of suitable action when additional risks are identified are:

- Restrict the pregnant worker from carrying out the work;
- Adjust the working conditions on a temporary basis so that the risk is avoided;
- Re-allocate the worker to other work which does not entail risk to the worker or child;
- If the risk cannot be avoided by any other means, give the worker leave or additional maternity leave.
- Where additional risk to the pregnant worker or their child is identified, the worker will be informed of the risk and the steps to be taken to deal with the risk.

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4.17 Contact Dermatitis

HAZARDS

- Dermatitis

Risks Identified - Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

- Non-Latex gloves used by clinical staff.
- Reduction in as much as possible of "wet work" i.e. having to wash hands more than 20 times per day.
- All substances in use have an MSDS and this is reviewed for safe working procedures.
- Barrier creams used wherever practical.

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4.19 Hazardous Drugs handling and storage

HAZARDS

- Drug interactions
- Side effects
- Bio Hazards

Risks Identified - Low

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

General

- Drugs are only used/administered by practice nurses or GPs.
- Suitable Practice Staff may assist with some minor preparations under the direct supervision of a GP.
- All drugs are stored in locked cabinets and a full inventory is on file.
- Material Safety Data sheets are available for all hazardous drugs and all medicines have full patient information leaflets attached.
- GPs have received training in the following:
 - Methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous drug in the work area (such as monitoring conducted by the employer, continuous monitoring devices, visual appearance or odor of covered HD's being released, etc.).
 - The physical and health hazards of the covered HD's in the work area.
 - The measures employees can take to protect themselves from these hazards. This includes specific information such as identification of covered drugs and those to be handled as hazardous, appropriate work practices, emergency procedures (for spills or employee exposure). Personal protective equipment and the details of the hazard.

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4.22 Prescriptions policies procedures (general safety points, full procedure set out in Surgery control documents)

HAZARDS

- Drug interactions
- Side effects

Risks Identified - Medium

Likelihood	Severity	Risk Value
Score =	Score =	Result =

CONTROL MEASURES

Prescription check before final issuing

- Check patients name and GP details on RX.
- Check the date.
- Check the medicine details.

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- Height
- Build
- Hair colour
- Colour of eyes
- Mode of dress
- Right or left handed
- Distinguishing features
- Words used and accent
- Number of attackers
- Note where criminals may have placed their hands and feet
- Identify vehicular transport used (registration, colour, make of car)
- Preserve the scene intact. Do not interfere with places where fingerprints or footprints may be found.
- Hold witnesses at the scene until the Gardai arrive; otherwise take details (name, address, phone number) for contact later.

Notes:

Stay out of danger. Never jeopardise your own personal security or the security of others.

Post Crime Action – Armed Raids and Personal Attacks

- Contact the Gardai.
- Preserve the scene intact. Do not allow interference with places where fingerprints or footprints may be found.
- Hold witnesses at the scene until the Gardai arrive, otherwise take details (name, address, telephone number) for contact later.
- Identify if anyone has been injured. If so, note the type of injury. Call an ambulance if required.
- Put in place any measures to prevent further injury.
- Complete an incident/accident report form including:
 - i. Precise details of what happened.
 - ii. Who was there (witnesses), include names, addresses and phone numbers of non staff members.
 - iii. Detailed descriptions of the criminal(s).

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they would notify the GPs of other risk factors such as chest pain or difficulty breathing.

- Have systems so that your practice can organise to see patients who are becoming anxious or threatening quickly – prioritise them so the patient's issue can be addressed and patient can leave the Practice.
- Consider ways in which patients can be distracted while waiting i.e. TV.
- Ensure staff are confident to raise waiting times, or other issues that may increase concern or agitation amongst patients, so that these issues can be managed proactively.
- Consider the role of clinical meetings and case conferences to discuss a practice-wide approach to patients who are complex to manage (e.g. where there is a history of inappropriate behaviour).
- Have a system that allows GPs and staff the option of not going to a consulting room with someone they have concerns about, and that allows them to unobtrusively indicate this to other personnel in the practice.
- Consider telling reception staff to call the Gardai if ever they feel they need to. By the time they are considering this action, it may be important for them to act.
- If GPs and staff ever feel threatened by a patient, especially someone who is affected by drugs and seeking a prescription or needles, consider giving the patient what they want and getting them out of the consulting room or practice as quickly as possible. Then consider calling the Gardai. Don't confront them.

GP and staff training in the recognition and management of 'difficult' patients

- GPs and members of their practice teams need to be well-trained in 'people management' or 'customer service', allowing them to
 - Spell out their expectations of behaviour within the practice (establish ground rules) early and clearly.
 - Recognise and attempt to assist 'difficult' patients; and
 - Prevent, control and 'de-escalate' violent situations within their role in the practice.
 - Alert other staff members if you feel uncomfortable about a patient – arrange another staff member to interrupt the consultation after a prearranged time.

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PART 5

ANNUAL REPORT

ABC COMPANY

SAFETY STATEMENT

The following is a report of progress with our Health and Safety Policy as required by Section 12(6) of the Safety Health and Welfare at Work Act 2005.

SAFETY TRAINING;

During the year, the following safety training courses were run:

- 1
- 2
- 3

External safety and health courses attended by our staff included:

- 1
- 2
- 3

NEW SAFETY ARRANGEMENTS

The following new safety arrangements were put in place during the year:

- 1
- 2
- 3

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Accident Report Form

Location:	Department/Division:
Date of Accident/Incident:	Date of Review:
Management present:	
Injured Party:	

Nature of loss	Nature and extent of actual or potential loss to people, property, process or the environment
Description	Description of the Accident/Incident (who, what, how, when)
Causes	Why did the Accident/Incident occur, (root, basic and immediate causes)?
Recommendations	Action to prevent recurrence, responsibility & action by dates:
Reporting	Distribution of investigation information organisation wide and statutory reporting / reply:

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Staff Suggestion forms (Welfare and Concerns Register)

SECTION A: To be completed by staff member with suggestion

Staff Member Name: _____ Position: _____ Date: _____
--

Details of Suggestion: _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

SECTION B: to be completed by Manager 1

Action Taken: _____ _____ _____ _____
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Signature: _____

Date _____

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8.2 ABC Company Equality Policy

ABC Company are an equal opportunities Employer & thus, as laid out in this policy, seek to comply with all legal regulations & directives with regard to dealing with individuals or groups in a fair & legal way.

It is the policy of ABC Company to deal (employ, pay, consult, interview, speak to, and write to etc.) with any person/s equally & with dignity Regardless of disposition:

- Gender
- Race
- Colour
- Creed (Religious Persuasion)
- Nationality
- Disability or Physical Impairment
- Financial Status

ABC Company, its Management and Staff must uphold & comply with this policy. Failure to comply with this policy could result in immediate disciplinary action & possible dismissal.

Should any person cause harm, harass, sexually harass or disadvantage any of the above because of their disposition, that person/s will be reported to the Authorities & will be dealt with on a legal basis.

It is the overall policy of this company to practice equality & to be fair to all.