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| **NUMBER** | | **RISK DESCRIPTION** | | | | **TREND** | | **CURRENT** | **RESIDUAL** | |
| **20684** | | Generic risk framework for conducting work at Monash facilities during the COVID-19 pandemic | | | |  | | Low | Low | |
| **RISK OWNER** | | | **RISK IDENTIFIED ON** | | **LAST REVIEWED ON** | | **NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW** | | | |
| Lowan Sist | | | 24/04/2020 | | 24/04/2020 | | 24/04/2023 | | | |
| **RISK CONSEQUENCE** | **RISK FACTOR(S)** | | | **EXISTING CONTROL(S)** | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **PROPOSED CONTROL(S)** | **OWNER** | **DUE DATE** | | | | | |
|  | Workers and public who are infectious attend the workplace. It is important to note that there is evidence that people can be infectious before displaying any symptoms. | | | |  | | --- | | **Control:** The government has set restrictions on the maximum size of any gatherings. As this restriction is being constantly evaluated, all areas must ensure that they are working to the latest advice: https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert/how-to-protect-yourself-and-others-from-coronavirus-covid-19/limits-on-public-gatherings-for-coronavirus-covid-19  **Control Effectiveness:** | | **Control:** Isolate the workplace (by removing the workers). This does not need to be unilateral (e.g. supervisors may wish to prevent access to a shared meeting room and instead prioritise alternate means of communication such as digital communication tools like Zoom). In some cases it might be more practical to reduce workers face-to-face contact hours. This is limited by the practicality of conducting the work remotely. This control is particularly important for workers with preexisting medical conditions which may result in a higher likelihood of developing severe symptoms. | | **Control:** Prevent potentially affected persons from entering the workplace. The value of this control is limited in that infected people can shed the virus before displaying any symptoms. This can be achieved by monitoring for: 1) Cold and Flu like symptoms - this must be self reported as other types of known concerns such as hay fever can be easily confused. Relying on self reporting may be an issue, especially for individuals who highly value their work. (e.g. a conscious or subconscious attitude of “ My work is so important I can ignore these minor symptoms”). 2) Body temperatures that indicate a fever - this can be monitored using appropriate thermometers (e.g. infrared) and identify temperatures above 37.5 degrees. | | **Control:** Signage can be placed alerting workers and visitors of the risks of COVID-19 and associated symptoms. | | **Control:** Encourage people within the workplace to exercise good hygiene practices regarding covering the mouth (and nose) with something other than their hands (tissue or elbow are some alternatives). | | **Control:** ncreasing the distance beyond 1.5 metres can further reduce the risk where practical. It may be helpful to carefully mark out areas where workers should operate to avoid confusion. In some cases it might also be helpful to set a maximum number of people in a workplace at any given time. | | **Control:** Safety first model fo all MSA staff and strict adherence to measures enforced amongst students | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | | | | |
| Infection as a result of a worker breathing in contaminated human bodily material. This occurs through normal respiration but is greatly exacerbated as a result of coughing or sneezing | | | |  | | --- | | **Control:** It is mandatory to ensure that a distancing of 1.5 metres between people (commonly referred to as social distancing) is maintained. This achieved by rostering staff to split the teams into alternating days.  **Control Effectiveness:** | | **Control:** Increasing the distance beyond 1.5 metres can further reduce the risk where practical. It may be helpful to carefully mark out areas where workers should operate to avoid confusion. In some cases it might also be helpful to set a maximum number of people in a workplace at any given time. | | **Control:** Encourage people within the workplace to exercise good hygiene practices regarding covering the mouth (and nose) with something other than their hands (tissue or elbow are some alternatives). | | **Control:** Wear a P2 face mask or respirator (also known as N95). P2 masks can help filter out material in the breathable zone that may contain the COVID-19 causing virus but must be properly fitted and tested to be most effective. They also have the capacity to reduce the amount of material expelled while breathing and may also be helpful in reminding workers not to touch their face. Masks limit the ease of breathing and may not be appropriate for energetic work. Masks can also be irritating and may not be appropriate for long periods of time. Care must be undertaken to handle any masks as potentially contaminated and masks must not be shared. There have been some issues of supply restrictions to ensure that critical areas such as hospitals have access to sufficient quantities. | | **Control:** Wear a surgical mask. They are designed to reduce the amount of potentially contaminated material expelled from an infected person while breathing. That is to say they are designed to protect others rather than the wearer. To be effective, they must be fitted according to the manufacturer’s instructions and cover the mouth and nose. Masks to limit the ease of breathing and may not be appropriate for energetic work. Masks can also be irritating and may not be appropriate for long periods of time. Care must be undertaken to hand any masks as potentially contaminated and masks must not be shared. Masks such as these can also be helpful in reminding workers not to touch their face. There have been some issues of supply restrictions to ensure that critical areas such as hospitals have access to sufficient quantities. | | **Control:** Posters outlining social distancing requirements can be found as attachments to this control. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | | | | |
| Infection as a result of a worker contacting a contaminated surface and then touching their face, eyes or nose. | | | |  | | --- | | **Control:** There are currently no controls implemented to address this risk. If control measures have been adopted, delete this item.  **Control Effectiveness:** | | **Control:** Limit contact with potentially contaminated materials brought into the workplace. This might include mail or loaned items. Cleaning to decontaminate items can be effective for but in some cases isolation may be required. Secondary containment (e.g. use of tubs) can assist in minimise potentially contaminated surfaces. | | **Control:** Minimise the need to contact common equipment and surfaces such as by chocking open doors and utilising non-contact taps. This might also involve encouraging staff to take a slightly longer route to avoid contact. | | **Control:** Disinfect surfaces with suitable virus deactivating agents such as appropriately prepared Bleach, Virkon or Ethanol (at least 60% weight/volume). Decontamination helps reduce the presence of infectious materials but can easily become recontaminated. Increased frequency of cleaning may be warranted but priority should be placed on commonly contacted shared surfaces. | | **Control:** Thoroughly wash hands with soap and water when contact with common equipment and surfaces is required such as with door handles, computers and touch screens, office meeting furniture. Hand rubbing with hand-sanitiser is an alternative but these products may be in short supply. In order to be effective, hand-sanitisers must contain at least 60% weight/volume ethanol. Antibacterial hand-santisers are not effective against viruses. A poster demonstrating effective hand washing and the use of hand-sanitiser is attached. | | **Control:** Wear suitable gloves such as latex or nitrile gloves. Workers must remain diligent in not making contact with their face whilst wearing gloves. Mask wearing can be beneficial in reminding workers not to touch their face. Gloves can also be cleaned but care must be taken to ensure the cleaning product is compatible with the type of glove. | | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  | | | | | |