

RISK ASSESSMENT RECORD FORM

Please refer to your local guidance and risk scoring template when completing this form

Section 1: Administrative Details

Name of Assessor:

Job Title:

Date of Assessment:

Section 2: Activity/Task

Activity /Task

Provision of an MRI service

Risk:

Pregnant staff in MRI

Area affected:

MRI

Source of Risk (Background):

Working in MRI can involve exposure to strong static magnetic fields, and in some cases to low frequency time varying magnetic fields and to RF radiation. There is no evidence that this exposure causes harm to an unborn foetus, but regulators advise caution in the face of scientific uncertainty. There is also a concern that acoustic noise due to the switched magnetic field gradients used in MRI could damage foetal hearing.

Based on these considerations, the MHRA [1] recommends that sites should carry out risk assessments in terms of staff exposure to the static magnetic field, and also advises that pregnant staff should not remain in the examination room during scanning.

Supporting Evidence:

Published data on hazards in MRI, MHRA guidelines on safe use of MRI [1].

Factors the risk contains: (if for COSHH include route of exposure, length of exposure time and exposure limits)

Static and time-varying magnetic fields, RF radiation, acoustic noise.

Potential Consequence if risk is realised:

- Possibility of local RF heating in the fetus, possibility of damage to foetal hearing.

Section 3: Current Control Measures

Under the local rules, pregnant members of staff are excluded from the examination room during scanning, (RF and gradients operational). Although there is no evidence of adverse effects from any occupational exposure to static magnetic fields associated with clinical MRI systems, some sites may wish to give pregnant staff the option not to work around the magnet during their pregnancy.

Section 4: Risk Rating

Use the consequence, likelihood and risk score tables in your local guidance to identify the scores below.

Consequence Score:

Likelihood Score:

Risk Score:

Initial Risk Grading:

Section 5: Risk Reduction Options

Options	Revised Risk Score	Cost		
Section 6: Directorate/Divisional Agreed Actions				
Actions	Lead	Target Date		
Section 7: Risk Grading				
	Consequence	Likelihood	Score	Grade
Initial:				
Current (will be the same as initial to begin with):				
Residual:				
Section 8: Review				
Risk Owner:				
Planned Review Date:				
Reference				
[1]	D. Grainger, "Safety Guidelines for Magnetic Resonance Imaging Equipment in Clinical Use," Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, Mar. 2015.			