

Risk Analysis

Risk analysis is the process of eliminating the magnitude of the risk and deciding what actions to take. The following considerations are made to establish risk using the likelihood and consequence (impact) scales below.

LIKELIHOOD		
SCALE	SCORE	FREQUENCY OF ACCIDENT OR ILLNESS
Rare	1	May occur only in exceptional circumstances (e.g. less than 5% chance of occurring)
Unlikely	2	Could occur at some time (e.g. 5-29% chance of occurring)
Possible	3	Should occur at some time (e.g. 30-59% chance of occurring)
Likely	4	Will probably occur in most circumstances (e.g. 60-79% chance of occurring)
Almost Certain	5	Will occur in most circumstances (e.g. 80%+ chance of occurring)

CONSEQUENCE		
SCALE	SCORE	SEVERITY OF ACCIDENT OR ILLNESS
Insignificant	1	Negligible injury or illness
Minor	2	Minor injury or illness requiring minor first aid and/or less than 1 week's recovery
Moderate	3	Injury or illness requiring advanced first aid and medical visit (e.g.GP or hospital visit) and/or 1 – 6 weeks' recovery
Major	4	Injury or illness requiring advanced first aid and emergency medical assistance (e.g. hospitalisation) and/or more than 6 weeks' recovery
Significant	5	Injury or illness requires immediate emergency medical assistance and may result in permanent or long-term disabling effects or death. Hospitalisation likely to be for than 6 weeks'

Determine the Risk Score

LIKELIHOOD	CONSEQUENCE				
	1 Insignificant	2 Minor	3 Moderate	4 Major	5 Significant
5 - Almost certain	5 - High	10 - High	15 - Extreme	20 - Extreme	25 - Extreme
4 – Likely	4 - Medium	8 - High	12 - High	16 - Extreme	20 - Extreme
3 - Possible	3 - Low	6 - Medium	9 - High	12 - Extreme	15 - Extreme
2 - Unlikely	2 - Low	4 - Low	6 - Medium	8 - High	10 - Extreme
1 - Rare	1 - Low	2 - Low	3 - Medium	4 - High	5 - High

Determine the Risk Score

SCORE	ACTION
Extreme	Significant Hazard – Stop Work - Urgent - reduce the risks immediately.
High	Significant Hazard - Review / develop procedures or safety plan.
Medium	Follow appropriate procedures. Review hazards and controls before starting.
Low	OK for now. Follow agreed practices. Review regularly.