



PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REMINDER

1. Background

Personal protective equipment (PPE) can act as a barrier to minimise risk, especially in medium and high-risk lab/workshop areas. We would like to remind all staff and students who work in medium and high-risk lab/workshop areas that they must wear the required PPE correctly when working in such areas. Thanks to everyone who is doing the right thing.

However, it has been noticed recently that some people have been wearing safety glasses incorrectly (or not at all) and not wearing gloves or laboratory/dust coats where they should be. This concern has been raised at several WHS working groups and has been brought to the attention of UniSA senior management.

2. Identified Hazard/s

The use of PPE should not be regarded as an alternative to engineering or other options for controlling exposure, but PPE should be utilised to supplement other controls especially where it is difficult to ensure protection with the other measures.

The consequences of NOT wearing PPE could be very serious if an incident was to occur, and it may not be something that you do, it could be the actions of someone near you that you have no control over.

All PPE required for work areas and/or activities undertaken by staff and HDR students must be provided by the university.

3. Actions Required

PPE requirements for the lab/workshop area are shown on the door signage and must be followed. Work Area Coordinators, Technical Staff and Senior staff shall be vigilant and remind workers of the PPE requirements within the work areas, however, repeat offenders may have access removed if caught continually doing the wrong thing, potentially resulting in re-induction, and/or re-sitting of WHS modules.

PPE, and training on its use, shall be available for any worker who is working in medium and high-risk lab/workshop areas.

The PPE shall be maintained in an effective working condition. Damaged or contaminated PPE must be replaced or decontaminated immediately.

Please also note that using headphones in lab/ workshop spaces is not safe practice. Please ensure that you do not use headphones in these spaces, and if you see someone else with headphones on, please remind them of this rule.

Contact: [University Chemical Safety Officer](#), [University Radiation Safety Officer](#) and/or [UniSA Safety & Wellbeing Team](#)

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