

## Forensic DNA: Risk Assessment

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Hazard</b>	<b>Precaution</b>	<b>Risk</b>
Micropipetting practice and gel loading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste tips</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All tips disposed of in waste pots</li> <li>Demonstrator to empty pots at end of session</li> </ul>	Very low
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Virkon disinfectant for waste tips: Irritant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use diluted</li> <li>Pre-dispensed into waste pots, placed on centre of benches</li> <li>Students warned not to move waste pots or touch disinfectant</li> </ul>	Low
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TBE Running Buffer: Irritant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Used at low concentration</li> <li>Spills wiped up immediately</li> <li>Students to wash hands if spilled</li> </ul>	Very low
Agarose gels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SYBR-Safe® DNA stain in agarose gel: Potentially harmful</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Technician to prepare gels and handle concentrated stain solution</li> <li>Combs and tape to be removed before gels are distributed</li> <li>Students told not to touch gels</li> <li>Gels to be disposed of in a chemical waste bag</li> </ul>	Very low
Gel running	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Electric shock from power packs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrator to check lids on gel tanks and leads plugged in correctly before turning on power and starting power packs</li> <li>Demonstrator to switch off and unplug power packs at end of gel run</li> </ul>	Very low
Visualisation of DNA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Blue light transilluminator: Risk of eye damage in individuals with macular degeneration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All participants to wear orange safety glasses provided when viewing gels</li> </ul>	Very low