



**Risk Assessment - Risk of Hand Arm Vibration Syndrome to GWSR Staff & Volunteers**

Reference No: GLO-44069-86

Version No: 3

Assessment Approver: Martin Sedgwick

Department: Global

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**Use of Power Tools by staff and volunteers**

Type	Hazard Cause	Persons Affected	Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Additional Control Measures	L Overall	S T	Owner/Action
Health and Safety	HAVS injury Caused by repeated use of vibrating hand held equipment	Volunteers & Staff	1) CRITICAL - Elimination: The risk is eliminated by the EAV value limiting exposure below a level that could cause harm. - Effective 2) CRITICAL - Engineering: The GWSR have introduced a system to track all hand held equipment in the PATS database and record the EAV (Exposure Action Value) and ELV (Exposure Limit Value) values - Effective 3) CRITICAL - Engineering: Tools not marked with a HAVS label are not to be used. - Effective 4) CRITICAL - Engineering: When HoD's are planning work they should consider other methods of work that would reduce or eliminate exposure to vibration. - Effective 5) CRITICAL - Administrative: The GWSR has appointed a member of the H&S team to manage HAVS - Effective 6) CRITICAL - Administrative: All hand held tools will be fitted with colour coded HAVS management labels identifying maximum daily tool time based on EAV - Effective 7) CRITICAL - Administrative: All HoD's will be briefed via a Toolbox Talk via the IT Portal. - Effective 8) CRITICAL - Administrative: New inductees will be issued with an Occupational Health questionnaire to include HAVs awareness and to ensure that there are no pre-existing conditions. - Effective 9) CRITICAL - Administrative: HoD's will be briefed that all new equipment must be purchased under the Supply of Machinery Safety Regulations which requires EAV and ELV values to be declared. - Effective 10) CRITICAL - Administrative: Directors tours and H&S housekeeping audits will check the status of a random sample of HAVS equipment. - Effective	2 x	3 = 6	1) Administrative: If anyone shows signs or symptoms of HAVS they should report it via their HoD for further investigation. - Effective 2) Administrative: Training in the use of hand held equipment to be made available - Effective	2 x	3 = 6	n/a

**Score and Control Measure Notes.**

Risk is medium due to large use of power tools across the GWSR, the age profile of the staff/volunteers and the potential long term health effects.  
 Risk remains medium.

**COSHH Assessments**

There are no COSHH assessments associated with this risk assessment.

**Reference Documents**

- New GWSR HAVS Procedure - New procedure introduced in 2020 by the H&S team to manage the risk of power tools used by staff and volunteers.

Ends