## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS IN IRELAND

## WORKING / TRAVELLING OVERSEAS



HAZARDS	RISK	PERSONS AFFECTED	INITIAL RISK RATING (before controls in place)	Control Measures	RESIDUAL RISK RATING (after controls in place)	PERSONS RESPONSIBLE (for implementing control measures)
Medical capabilities: hospital proximity and standards, methods of payment for treatment, access to local doctor	Delayed treatment leading to further sickness	Staff	3 5 15	Before travel, check your travel insurance details for medical advice, support and capabilities overseas.  Check if cash payment up front is required for medical attention (even in an emergency).  Ensure you pack a sufficient amount of any prescribed medication for your trip plus 7 days extra.	1 5 5	Management Staff
Transportation: airport collection, local driving standards, hazardous terrain, roadworthiness, safety belts	Car accidents, personal injury	Staff	3   5   15	Arrange a hotel transfer or reliable local contact to collect you from the airport on arrival.  Use hotel cars or recommended taxi companies.  If driving yourself, ensure that you have the correct insurance, licence and permits and are fully aware of local driving regulations.  If using local buses, be wary of the roadworthiness of the vehicle and safeguard your belongings.  Wear your seat belt, even if the locals do not.	1 5 5	Management Staff
Contaminated water & drinking water.	Sickness	Staff	4 5 20	Drink bottled water only.  Use bottled water to brush your teeth.	1 5 5	Management Staff

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				Avoid ice in drinks.  Check for local warning signs in hotels etc.		
Contaminated food.	Sickness	Staff	4 5 20	Eat only recently prepared food that has been thoroughly cooked.  Busier restaurants may be safer as they are more likely to serve freshly cooked food.  Be cautious with pork products, fish/seafood and dairy products.  Be cautious of buffets (is the food properly covered & how long has it been standing?).	2 5 10	Management Staff
Utilities.  Compatibility of equipment, voltage, safety standards, power cuts	Burns, electrocution, electric shock, death	Staff	4 5 20	Be wary of drink-spiking and do not leave consumables unattended.  Check compatibility of all electrical equipment being taken.  Pack a torch, sufficient number of batteries and travel plugs.  Charge your mobile phone frequently.  If a wall socket looks damaged or there is	1 5 5	Management Staff
Local Culture.  customs, dress, religion, behaviour	Abused	Staff	4 4 16	water damage nearby, DO NOT USE IT  Ensure that you are aware of and respect local religious restrictions and festivals.  Dress appropriately at all times.	1 4 4	Management Staff

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	Deported			Be aware of causing offence when taking photographs of local people and DO NOT take photographs near police or military establishments.		
				Carry out some research before you travel on local custom and culture.		
Legal differences.	Deported	Staff	2 4 8	Be aware of any local laws that are different to Ireland and the UK.	1 4 4	Management
local codes/guidance, local statute	Arrested Held			Take a copy of your prescription in your hand luggage (some medications which are legal in Ireland are not legal overseas – check the embassy website of the country being visited).		Staff
Crime.  Street crime, local scams, theft, hotel room security.	Street crime, local scams, theft, lack of hotel room security.	Staff	3   5   15	Be aware of credit card fraud – do not allow waiters/shop assistants to take it out of your sight.  Never resist a mugger.	2 5 10	Management Staff
·				Ensure that your office & emergency contact person have copies of your itinerary & passport/visa.		
				Make yourself aware of any common scams and think about how to react if you are approached.		
				Use the safe in your hotel room and use the security chain while you are in your room.		

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				Ensure you have the numbers required to cancel credit cards.		
Terrorism	Bombings, security alerts, terror attacks.	Staff	3 5 15	Be fully aware of the current security situation in the cities you are visiting.	2 5 10	Management Staff
				Ensure you follow the recommendations for local transport.		
				Check dates of trip against public holidays or days of special recognition.		
				Avoid foreign Embassies and hotels next door/nearby.		
Conflict / Political	Localised tensions that could result in outbreak of hostilities, civil unrest, strikes, riots, political demonstrations, upcoming elections or significant events,	Staff	3   5   15	Be fully aware of the current security situation in the cities you are visiting.  Avoid all demonstrations/large gatherings.  Prepare an alternate travel plan if strikes are anticipated.  Check dates of trip against local elections, major sporting events and public holidays.	2 5 10	Management Staff
Kidnap	Abuse, injuries, death	Staff	3   5   15	Maintain a low public profile.  Do not publicise your itinerary.  Be alert to suspicious persons, vehicles and activity, particularly in the vicinity of your	1 5 5	Management Staff

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				accommodation.  Pre-programme your mobile phone to the emergency services.		
Climate conditions	extreme heat or cold, high humidity, altitude	Staff	3   5   15	Be aware of the weather forecasts for the dates of your trip and pack appropriate clothing.  Use high-factor sunscreen and carry a bottle of water in hot conditions.  Avoid strenuous activity during the hottest part of the day.  Drink sufficient liquids to prevent dehydration.	1 5 5	Management Staff
Natural disasters	typhoon, tornado, tsunami, avalanche, earthquake, flood, monsoon/storms	Staff	3 5 15	Read the emergency procedures on the back of your hotel room door.  Make a note of the contact details for your local Embassy.  Ensure that your office & emergency contact person have copies of your itinerary & passport/visa.	3 5 15	Management Staff
Contact with insects	bites/stings, Lyme's disease, malaria, yellow fever	Staff	3   5   15	Ensure that you have the required inoculations before travelling and your tetanus & polio are up-to-date where required.  Check whether the country you are visiting	1 5 5	Management Staff

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Rev 1 – Apr 2017

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				requires a yellow fever inoculation certificate for entry.		
				Consult your GP for malaria advice. Use insect repellents safely Be aware of local medical provision		
Contact with animals	bird flu, bites, rabies, dermatitis,	Staff	3 5 15	Do not approach animals, even if they appear domesticated.	1 5 5	Management Staff
	stings			Avoid markets where live animals and poultry are sold.		

Please return the completed form to: Health and Safety Office: safety@rcsi.ie

## **Risk Ratings**

# **LIKELIHOOD CATEGORIES**

Category	Definition
1	Practically Impossible
2	Not Likely
3	Possible
4	Likely
5	Very Likely

# CONSEQUENCE CATEGORIES

Category	<b>Definitions</b>
1	First Aid, Near Miss
2	Lost Time Accident (LTA) (1 Day), Medical Treatment
3	LTA (3 Day-Reportable), Dangerous Occurrence
4	Single Fatality
5	Multiple Fatality

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Rev 1 – Apr 2017

**Risk Rating Matrix** 

		Consequence						
		1	2	3	4	5		
	1	1	2	3	4	5		
Lik	2	2	4	6	8	10		
Likelihood	3	3	6	9	12	15		
poc	4	4	8	12	16	20		
	5	5	10	15	20	25		