

Risk Assessment – Sound of Science

Creator/Reviewer of Risk Assessment	Name Ian Snell
	Signature 
Next Review Date	September 2025

Severity	Likelihood	Risk Rating* (S x L)
1 No or Little Harm	1 Unlikely	1-5 Low
2 Minor/First Aid	2 Possible	6-10 Medium
3 Medical Attention	3 Probable	10+ High
4 Hospitalisation	4 Likely	
5 Death/Irreparable Injury	5 Certain	

Science Oxford Risk Assessment			Severity	Likelihood	Risk Rating*
Hazard	Risk	Control Measures			
Movement on stage	Presenter Slips, trips and falls	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equipment will be set up with hazards in mind and using cable covers where appropriate. Only the Presenter will be on stage behind displayed equipment, volunteers will contribute in front of any equipment. 	2	1	2
Use of AV equipment	Presenter Electrocution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All equipment is routinely PAT tested and has been set up previously to ensure ease of operation. 	5	1	5
Use of fire	All Burns through the use of butane gas directly and from the heating of the Ruben's tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The tube will not be operated for more than 10 minutes and left to cool after the demonstration. The equipment will only be operated by experienced Science Oxford personnel. 	4	1	4
	All, Venue Explosion due to build-up of gas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gas will be switched off and monitored via the regulator. Remaining gas will be burnt off from the tube by holding the tube up at an angle. Transport of the gas will be in a ventilated vehicle with the gas cylinder being secured against a bulkhead whilst in transit. Science Oxford staff will inform fire wardens if there may have been a gas leak. 	5	1	5
	Presenter Burns through the use of blowtorch to heat up steel Rijke tube	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Heat proof mat beneath equipment, and to place equipment on after use. Rijke tube held with heat proof gloves by the top of the tube, both to protect hands and to improve grip and stability. 	2	1	2

Please use this risk assessment in conjunction with your own prior assessments, the COVID guidelines and dynamic management of risk.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blowtorch turned off immediately after use and stored safely Tube held over heat proof mat. Grille checked before every performance. Equipment placed down safely on mat after demonstration. 			
	All, Venue Hot metal grille falling from Rijke tube and causing fire.		2	1	2

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