

Hunterian Museum

The Royal College of Surgeons of England
38-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields
London WC2A 3PE

**Hunterian
Museum**

at the Royal College
of Surgeons of England

Risk Rating system: Where 0 = lowest risk and 5 = highest risk

Overall assessment: These museum handling objects present **low risks (Risk Scores 1–4)** when used in a supervised learning environment with existing museum object-handling procedures, routine inspections, cleaning regimes, and staff oversight. The highest-risk objects are the **Modern Tourniquet, Laparoscopic Instruments, Simpson Forceps, and Dental Forceps** due to potential pinching, puncture, or misuse hazards, though these remain low-to-moderate risks under controlled conditions.

Pinard Foetal Stethoscopes (Wood and Plastic)

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Minor injury from dropped Pinard Foetal Stethoscope	• Objects are lightweight • Handling supervised by staff	• Students briefed on safe handling • Objects inspected regularly for damage	1	1	1
Splinters or rough edges (wooden version)	• Objects checked before use	• Damaged items removed from handling collection	1	1	1

Stethoscope

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Entanglement from tubing	• Staff supervision during handling	• Students instructed on safe use	1	2	2

Minor injury from swinging or dropping object	• Lightweight object	• Controlled handling environment	1	1	1
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Schimmelbusch Mask

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Cuts or scratches from metal edges	• Object condition checked regularly	• Gloves available if required • Damaged items withdrawn from use	1	2	2
Dropped object causing minor foot injury	• Handling supervised	• Students encouraged to use both hands when handling	1	1	1

Oxygen Mask

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Minor injury from dropped object	• Lightweight object • Handled in supervised learning sessions	• Visitors encouraged to handle with care • Staff available to assist participants	1	1	1
Hygiene concerns from shared handling	• Object cleaned regularly between sessions • Object visually inspected before use	• Hand sanitiser available before and after handling • Staff monitor handling activities	1	1	1

Potential allergic reaction to cleaning residues or material components (rare)	• Approved cleaning products used • Object maintained in good condition	• Staff advise participants not to place object directly on face if concerns exist	0	1	0
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Doctor's Mask

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Hygiene concerns through shared handling	• Object cleaned regularly	• Hand sanitiser available for students • Staff monitor use	1	1	1
Minor trip hazard if dropped on floor	• Regular gallery checks	• Prompt retrieval by staff	1	1	1

Modern Tourniquet

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Excessive tightening causing discomfort or minor injury	• Demonstrations supervised by staff	• Students instructed not to apply tightly • Educational use only	2	2	4
Entanglement from straps	• Limited handling time	• Staff supervision and safe-use briefing	1	2	2

Simpson Forceps

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Trapping or pinching fingers in handles	Demonstrations supervised by staff	Students instructed on safe handling	2	2	4
Injury from weight or dropped object	Object handled individually	- Staff monitor handling activities - Students encouraged to use both hands	1	2	2

Dental Forceps

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Pinching fingers between handles	Staff supervision during handling	Students shown correct grip and use	2	2	4
Minor cuts from worn or sharp edges	Regular inspection of condition	Damaged items removed from handling collection	1	2	2
Injury from weight or dropped object	- Object handled individually - Heavy object	Staff monitor handling activities	1	2	4

Dental Model

Hazard	Existing Workplace Precautions	Existing Risk Control System	Likelihood	Severity	Risk
Minor injury from dropped object	Robust educational model	Supervised handling and regular inspection	1	1	1

Trapping or pinching fingers in handles	• Demonstrations supervised by staff	• Students instructed on safe handling • Students encouraged to use both hands	1	1	2
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