

# Medical Devices Training and Monitoring

Sueann Meyer, Clinical Scientist. Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB).

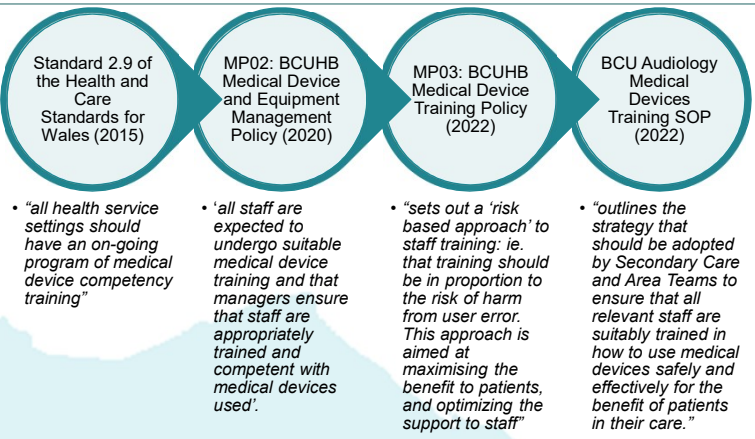
## Introduction

BCUHB Medical Device Training Policy (MP03) outlines the strategy for ensuring all relevant staff are suitably trained in the safe use of medical devices.

Medical Devices encompass equipment used for diagnosis, treatment, prevention and monitoring in healthcare.

The departmental Audiology Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was rolled out in July 2022.

This presentation outlines the elements that make up that SOP.



- "all health service settings should have an on-going program of medical device competency training"
- "all staff are expected to undergo suitable medical device training and that managers ensure that staff are appropriately trained and competent with medical devices used".
- "sets out a 'risk based approach' to staff training: ie. that training should be in proportion to the risk of harm from user error. This approach is aimed at maximising the benefit to patients, and optimizing the support to staff"
- "outlines the strategy that should be adopted by Secondary Care and Area Teams to ensure that all relevant staff are suitably trained in how to use medical devices safely and effectively for the benefit of patients in their care."

**Green/Low Risk:** These devices are those devices that are unlikely to cause any serious consequences, meaning the user can continue in a safe and sensible manner, referring to the manufacturer's instructions as needed.

**Amber/Medium Risk:** These devices would have significant impact in patient care or cause temporary adverse health consequences should they be misused or fail. The device must only be operated by a user who is deemed competent in the use of the device following a formal written self-assessment, to be completed every 3 years. The user must take advice and instruction from a senior, knowledgeable colleague, and read the manufacturer's Instructions For Use if they have any queries about the device.

**Red/High Risk:** These devices are those that have the potential to cause serious adverse consequences or death should they be misused or fail. Any high-risk device carries a 'STOP' element, meaning that the device MUST NOT be used unless the user has received formal training to do so.

## Equipment Risk Assessment

Equipment was risk assessed by departmental Health & Safety and Equipment Teams.

Classification was based on the Risk Classification System defined in policy MP03. This is different to the routine 5 x 5 matrix Risk Assessment.

Under these definitions the majority of Audiological equipment was classified as **LOW** risk.

A few devices were assigned **MEDIUM** risk.

## Self-Assessment Checklist and Staff Compliance Record

Staff complete a Self-Assessment Checklist for each Amber/Medium Risk device every 3 years.

An Individual Competency Record form summarises each staff members competency and this is reviewed annually at PADR.

Links to electronic equipment manuals available on Microsoft SharePoint are on the Individual Competency Records for ease of reference.

**Medical Device Self-Assessment Form**

Please use the statements in the table below to self-assess competence and confirm that you have the knowledge and skills needed for practice before considering yourself competent with a piece of equipment. If you are not competent, please access training or retraining and re-assess. These statements are designed to indicate competence to use a medical device. Responsibility for use of any medical device resides with the user and you are responsible regarding your own competence to use a device. You should access appropriate training and not use the device until this has been done and you feel competent to use the device as described in the BCU Medical Device Policy (MP03). Training can range from formal classroom workshops to accessing the manufacturer's manual and guides.

Conditions to ask yourself for self-assessment:

1. Do you know the clinical application and indications for use of the product?
2. Do you understand the contra-indications / risks?
3. Do you know how to set up the medical device for use on a patient?
4. Are you capable in the use of the device on a patient?
5. Can you recognise potential signs of operational malfunctions of the device and understand steps to be taken to identify the cause?
6. Are you able to recognise battery level, status and life span for this device?
7. Do you know where the alarms / controls are positioned, what they're used for and what actions should be taken to resolve any alerts?
8. Do you know how and when the device should be stored?
9. Are you using the device as per manufacturer guidelines/intended purpose?
10. Do you know what consumables are needed to operate the device and where they are kept and how long they can be used for?
11. Is this a suitable medical device?
12. Do you know the method of cleaning recommended by the manufacturer?
13. If more than a simple clean is needed, have you been trained in right processes?
14. Are you aware of the Risk Category associated with the device?
15. Are you aware of other manufacturer user instructions and, how to access?
16. Will you be using any additional specialist functions on this device?
17. If 'YES' do you fully understand the functions / indicators for this?

MP03: Medical Device Inventory and Competence - Audiology Staff Record

Use this form in conjunction with your own White Paper List of Medical Devices as your decision making or Annual Review meeting with your manager to identify your Medical Devices Training needs

Name: Berni Teat Staff No.: 12544020  
Job Title and Board: Audiologist - Head 6 Ward Dept: 1457

DEVICE	Model	Staff Group	Required Training	Update Schedule	Date Completed	Signature	Trainer Name	Review Date
EAR MOLD	Ear Molds	SA	2 Years	23/04/22	8 Feb	SA	23/04/25	
MIDDLE EAR PROSE	Ear Prostheses	SA	2 Years	23/04/22	8 Feb	SA	23/04/25	
WAX REMOVAL	Wax Removal	SA	2 Years	23/04/22	8 Feb	SA	23/04/25	

Signature: B. Teat Date: 23/04/2022

## Compliance Monitoring

The Monitoring Tool Spreadsheet is used to track service level compliance. The Monitoring Tool returns individual staff % compliance, as well as automatically highlighting competencies that have either expired or are due to expire in the next 6 months.

It also monitors overall service % compliance which is reported via Governance functions up to Trust Level Leadership.

**Implementing a process for training and monitoring the use of medical devices is essential to ensure good governance and to comply with national guidance.**

### References:

NHS Wales (2015) Health and Care Standards. Available at: [Health standards framework english \(gov.wales\)](https://www.gov.wales/health-standards-framework-english)



Gwasanaeth Awdioleg Gogledd Cymru  
North Wales Audiology Service



Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Betsi Cadwaladr  
University Health Board