

Health & Safety: Hazard Information

Biological Hazards

Biological hazards arise from exposure to hormones, viruses, fungi, bacteria or any other living organisms that can cause harm, illness, or damage to the human body.

Categorization of Biological Hazards

Categorization of risk associated with biological hazards are generally based upon the following criterion:

- Availability of preventative measures or treatment
- Mode of transmission of the organism
- Range of the host

The exact categorization differs slightly depending on country or region, but generic guidelines are as follows:

1. No or low risk to individual and community
2. Moderate risk to individual and low or limited risk to community
3. High risk to individual and low or limited risk to community
4. High risk to individual and community

Some classifications include that of the World Health Organization, EU, and the United States.