

SAMPLE

Likelihood



Severity



Dynamic Risk Assessment

Likelihood & Severity Factors Activity

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About This Activity

Introduction

Dynamic Risk Assessment (DRA) is the process of quickly evaluating hazards in real time as conditions change.

In this activity, you will practice applying DRA principles to a set of workplace scenarios. Each scenario represents a situation where you must think about:

Likelihood: What factors could make it more or less likely that harm will occur?

Severity: What factors could make the harm more or less serious if it does occur?

Your task is to:

1. Identify the factors that affect likelihood.
2. Identify the factors that affect severity.
3. Describe when you should take action (or not) based on those factors—for example, whether you can safely resume work as normal, or whether conditions require you to pause or stop.

This will help you strengthen your ability to:

1. Recognize hazards as conditions change.
2. Quickly weigh likelihood and severity for decision-making.
3. Decide if it is safe to proceed, adjust, or pause the task.

Why This Matters

Dynamic Risk Assessment is about staying alert and making quick, practical decisions in real time. By identifying likelihood and severity factors and linking them directly to decision points, you will build confidence in knowing when it is safe to continue work and when to take action to protect yourself and others.

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Completing the activity

How to Complete This Activity

1. *Read each scenario carefully.*
2. *In the table provided, fill in three columns:*
 - *Factors affecting likelihood.*
 - *Factors affecting severity.*
 - *When to proceed, adjust, or pause.*
3. *Use your own knowledge, training, and experience to think through realistic factors.*
4. *When finished, compare your answers with the Answer Key at the end of the document.*

Scenario	Risk	Factors affecting likelihood	Factors affecting severity	When to proceed, adjust, or pause
 <p>Wind speed increased during roof inspection</p>	<p>The worker may lose balance, fall from the roof, and sustain injuries if he resumes work</p>			

Answers

Scenario	Risk	Factors affecting likelihood	Factors affecting severity	When to proceed, adjust, or pause
Wind speed increased during roof inspection	The worker may lose balance, fall from the roof, and sustain injuries if he resumes work	<p>Wind speed – Higher winds increase the probability of losing balance</p> <p>Surface condition – Wet/loose tiles increase slip probability</p>	<p>Fall height – Greater height increases injury seriousness</p> <p>Surface below – Hard ground increases injury severity</p>	Resume work only if: wind speed is within safe limits; the roof surface is dry and secure; the fall height is low; and the ground below is not hard

About the Author



Khalid Ahmed is a Chartered Member of IOSH (CMIOSH) and a Member of the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (MCIWEM), with over 10 years of professional experience in Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) practice and 7+ years in HSE training. Holding multiple industry-recognized qualifications—including M.Sc. in Safety, B.Sc. (Hons.) in Chemical Engineering, NEBOSH Environmental Diploma, NEBOSH International General Certificate, Level 3 Award in Education and Training, and ICDL—

Khalid has delivered safety training to diverse industries in the Middle East. His mission is to make safety knowledge clear, practical, and accessible for all workers and supervisors.