

		Impact How severe would the outcomes be if the risk occurred?				
		Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Significant 3	Major 4	Severe 5
Probability What is the probability the risk will happen?	5 Almost Certain	Medium 5	High 10	Very high 15	Extreme 20	Extreme 25
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## Risk assessment ref: RA014

### Task description: Use of Karcher SG 4/4 steam cleaner for cleaning of floor tiles, wall tiles, showers etc

General activities included: Applying steam to tiled surfaces, carpets, washroom fittings, fixtures & showers for sanitisation and removal of body fats.

<b>Site name:</b>	GENERIC	<b>Assessment carried out by:</b>	J GOODE
<b>Date assessment was carried out:</b>	01.04.2025 (JG)	<b>Date of next review:</b>	01.04.2026
<b>Corresponding method statements</b>	MS019 Steam cleaning using Karcher SG 4/4 steam cleaner		

What are the hazards?	Who might be harmed? (Staff, visitors, general public)	What are the risks?	Are the following control measures in place to eliminate or reduce the risks?	Yes/ No/ N/A	PPE required?	Corrective actions / required observations. What further action do you need to take to control the risks?	Risk evaluation (1 – 5, 5 = high)			Risk rating (Low, Med, High)
							Impact (1-5)	Probability (1-5)	Overall risk (C X L)	
Slips, trips and falls	Staff & visitors	Could suffer injury such as Sprains & fractures from tripping or falling, or slipping over on; Wet floors, uneven flooring, trailing cables, raised floor coverings or obstructions.	1 Work areas to be kept clear from obstructions 2 Any spillages to be cleaned up immediately 3 Warning signs to be erected where cleaning activity is taking place (trailing cables) or floors are wet. 4 Equipment to be plugged into nearest socket (although outside of the work area) to avoid trailing cables. 5 Non slip footwear to be worn as steam cleaners will leave areas wet.	Yes	Safety shoe wear	N/A	2	1	2	Low
Muscular skeletal disorders (MSD)	Staff	Could suffer with back pain or work-related upper body disorder due to; 1 Using incorrect handling	1 A risk assessment must be completed when lifting heavy or bulky loads that present a risk of injury.	Yes	N/A	See manual handling risk assessment guidance	2	1	2	Low

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		techniques when lifting the equipment or transporting equipment <b>New and expectant mothers may be more susceptible to injury.</b>	2 All equipment/ loads movement which exceed 15kg must be carried out as "two man". (A Karcher steam cleaner weighs 8kg without water) Training in lifting techniques must be provided to all staff.							
Electrical safety	Staff	Could suffer electrical shock or burns if using; 1) Damaged portable electrical appliances, their cables, plugs (such as vacuum cleaners, extension leads, client computer cables 2) When carrying out wet work cleaning round non-insulated electrical appliances i.e., electrical heaters	1) All electrical equipment used must be PAT tested annually and marked/ dated accordingly. 2) Electrical cables and plugs on cleaning equipment must be checked by users before use 3) Defective equipment must be reported immediately to the responsible person and suitably labelled or taken out of use until repairs have been carried out. 4) Electrical equipment must only be used in accordance with manufacturer's instructions 5) Steam cleaners generate water and therefore must be plugged in away from the work area.	Yes	N/A	N/A	4	1	4	Med
Burns, scalds	Staff	Could suffer burns from high water temperature ; 1) If the steam was directed at the body, the temperature of the steam would cause burns 2) The heat of the nozzle, tool ends which have been exposed to the hot water could cause burns if in contact with skin	1) Equipment must be checked for damage before use ( i.e check hose, electrical cables, plugs tools, machine shell) 2) Defective equipment must be reported immediately to the responsible person and suitably labelled or taken out of use until repairs have been carried out. 4) Steam cleaners must only be used as per training and manufacturers instructions.	Yes	Uniform (cover of arms and legs), gloves, safety glasses) Protective work boots	N/A	3	1	3	Low
Use of chemicals	Staff	Could cause ill health such as skin irritation due to the	All cleaning chemicals used on site must have an accompanying	Yes	Nitrile gloves	See COSHH assessments	2	1	2	Low



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		hazardous substance or through over regular wet work), urticaria (a skin condition caused by irritation or an allergic reaction) or respiratory irritation ( due to vapourisation of the chemical from steam application) or illnesses (such as occupational asthma).	<p>COSHH assessment, and a Material Safety Data Sheet.</p> <p>COSHH assessments accurately reflect the use and handling of the relevant substance on site.</p> <p>Suitable PPE will be provided where it is identified as being required.</p> <p>Chemicals should not be added to water tanks or applied to areas before steaming (steamer will vapourise the chemical)</p>		Safety specs	for advice for each product				
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**Please note: Due to the confidential nature of our client's operations, we are unable to upload site specific RAMS or COSHH to the webpage. A copy of any site specific RAMs or COSHH will be available by hard copy in the site folder located on the relevant site.**

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## METHOD STATEMENT

### MS019: Use of the Karcher SG 4/4 Steam cleaning machine

The SG 4/4 is a compact and robust steam cleaner which offers outstanding power and certified disinfection\*. Optimal cleaning effect is achieved thanks to 4-bar steam pressure.

See link for video training <https://www.kaercher.com/uk/professional/steam-cleaners-steam-vacuum-cleaners/steam-cleaners/sg-4-4-10922820.html>

#### PPE:

Safety specs  
 Gloves  
 Uniform to cover arms and legs  
 Safety work boots/ shoes (with non-slip grip)

#### Safety warnings:

Always display safety signs  
 Always follow manufacturers instructions on use  
 Never carry out works whilst members of the public are using facilities.  
 Never point the nozzle or tool end towards you or directly towards anyone else  
 DO NOT use in conjunction with other chemicals such as bleach or acids as this will vapourised the chemical causing inhalation issues. (Carry out the steaming first, and then apply chemical for further cleaning)  
 Always check equipment is not damaged before use  
 Equipment must not be used by though without training  
 Ensure equipment has cooled appropriately before packing away or transporting.  
 Avoid trailing cables where possible  
 Please note: Using steam will make surfaces wet and therefore slip risk.

#### Method Statement

See link for manufacturers instructions <https://www.kaercher.com/uk/professional/steam-cleaners-steam-vacuum-cleaners/steam-cleaners/sg-4-4-10922820.html>

- 1) Ensure no public access to area being cleaned
- 2) Only staff involved in the cleaning process should be allowed in the immediate area
- 3) Place warning signs at the entrance and exit to work area

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- 4) Only trained and certified staff to use the machine
- 5) Check mains cable for damage before plugging the machine in
- 6) Plug in the machine to a suitable socket outlet
- 7) Wait for red "steam ready" light to come on before commencing work
- 8) Use only tools and accessories supplied with the machine
- 9) Use machines as shown in the user manual and/or during your training session
- 10) Carry-out cleaning as necessary
- 11) Re-position machine if necessary to complete cleaning task
- 12) Remove equipment and leave area clean and safe
- 13) Clean all accessories before putting machine away clean