

Glossary of terms and acronyms

1. **Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations 2002 (COSHH)**

These regulations require a risk assessment approach to the control of substances hazardous to health. The definition of 'hazardous' for the purposes of these regulations includes toxic, corrosive, harmful and irritating, but does not include flammable substances, lead, asbestos and radioactive materials where more specific regulations are already in place. COSHH also includes biological agents such as micro-organisms and it does have a 'catch-all' clause that includes other substances that could cause harm to health due to their chemical or toxicological properties and the way that they are used or present in the workplace if they create a risk to health.

2. **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Is defined as "all equipment (including clothing affording protection against the weather) which is intended to be worn or held by a person at work to protect them against one or more risks to their health and safety". PPE is used as a barrier to protect personnel from contact with hazardous materials and infectious agents. Appropriate clothing may also be beneficial in protecting the experiment from contamination.

