# Risk Assessment Form HS 9 (1)

**Location/Activity:** Use of topical products containing paraffin.  
**Assessment date:** ____________

**Assessor:** ____________  
**Signature:** ____________  
**Review date:** ____________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Hazards</th>
<th>Risks</th>
<th>People at risk</th>
<th>Current Control Measures</th>
<th>L x C = R</th>
<th>Is further action required (Y/N)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1.  | Potential for dressings to become flammable | Burns | Patient/clients in community/home | 1.1 Reassess clinical need for topical emollients. Assess needs for topical emollient, discontinue if not required  
1.2 If emollients required consider alternative water based emollients e.g. aqueous cream  
1.3 Verbal and written information. Give National Patient Safety Agency Leaflet “Fire Hazard” with paraffin based skin products on dressing and clothing | | |
| 2.  | Allergies to alternative products | Irritants / allergic contact dermatitis | Patients/clients in community/home | 2.1 Assess need for topical emollient, discontinue if not required  
2.2 Consider alternative emollient with minimal additives  
2.3 Refer to pharmacist for advice/specialist tissue viability nurses | | |
| 3.  | Home environment | Fire / Burns | Patients/clients/carers | 3.1 Assess environment for potential hazards e.g. exposure to naked flames e.g. smoking, open fires, gas fires  
3.2 Discontinue the use of paraffin based products, consider alternative water based product | | |
| 4.  | Work environment | Fire / Burns | Patients/clients | 4.1 Advise patient / client re hazards associated with work environment & potential exposure to naked flames & associated combustible materials | | |
| 5   | Patients / Clients involved in self application of topical emollients | Fire / Burns | Patients/clients | 5.1 Advice re use of topical emollients & necessity for continued use  
5.2 Following application advice re removal of residual emollient from hands | | |
| 6.  | Smoking | Burns / Death | Patients/Carers | 6.1 Give advice on smoking cessation and signpost to appropriate services  
6.2 Give advice on risks of smoking when using emollient paraffin based products, give patients/carers NPSA advice leaflet  
6.3 If emollients required consider alternative water based emollients e.g. Aqueous cream | | |
| 7.  | Inappropriate storage of products | Fire | Patients/Carers | 7.1 Advise on appropriate storage of products away from heat | | |
| 8.  | Other | | | | | |

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**Community Nursing April 2008**

**FIRE HAZARD PARAFFIN BASED PRODUCTS**
### Risk Assessment Action Plan HS 9 (2)

**Location/Activity:** ________________

**Assessment date:** __________

**Assessor:** ________________

**Signature:** ________________

**Review date:** __________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ref</th>
<th>Further Action Implemented</th>
<th>Responsible Person</th>
<th>Revised Risk rating</th>
<th>Are further assessments required if so list.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>L × C = R</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Review risk assessment on a three monthly basis – or earlier if patients needs change</td>
<td>Caseload manager</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Community Nursing April 2008

FIRE HAZARD PARAFFIN BASED PRODUCTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Patient’s Full Name:</th>
<th>Date of birth:</th>
<th>NHS No.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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