



College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine (Edinburgh bioQuarter Campus)

Incident Analyses

Reported incidents from 01st January 2025 to 31st December 2025

1. Introduction:

This is the nineteenth annual report of analyses of injuries, occurrences and near-miss incidents reported to the University's centrally-based Health & Safety Department, drawing upon data pertaining specifically to the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine's activities on the Edinburgh bioQuarter campus.

The Health & Safety Manager is grateful to all who throughout the year have conscientiously reported occurrences, whether resulting in actual injury or not, since near-miss reports too may well have resulted in steps being taken to further enhance safety standards and the development of safer systems of work.

Those matters that have been classified as "Exempt" below include accidents experienced by colleagues engaged in activities at locations other than on the Edinburgh bioQuarter campus and manifestations of illness unconnected with work, but which resulted in symptoms developing within the workplace.

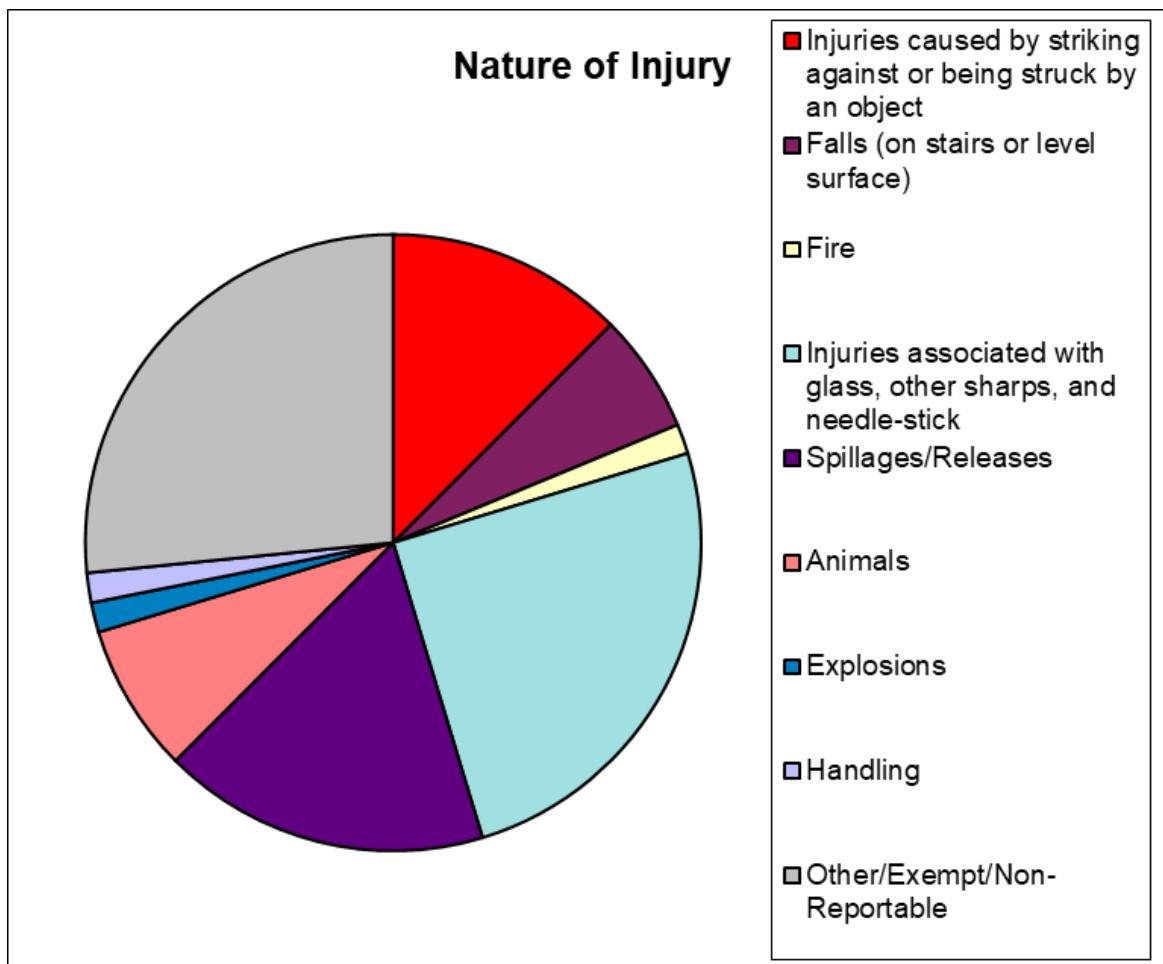
At first glance, there having been three fire-related reports during the year might be considered alarming, but these related to: (1) combustion in and around some bushes close to a building; (2) an overheating electrical pump; and (3) incorrect use of a microwave oven. Each incident was managed correctly.

There were, during the year, also a number of reports related to unpleasant effects caused for some people by wall-coverings within areas

of the Usher Building, which have provoked visual disturbances and headaches in a few people. Usher management, working with UoE Estates, have been taking step to mitigate the problem.

2. Nature of Injury:

Injuries caused by striking against or being struck by an object	7
Falls (On stairs or level surface)	6
Fire	3
Injuries associated with glass, other sharps, and needle-stick	13
Spillages/Releases	16
Animals	1
Traffic	1
Handling & Hot/Cold Contact	4
Other/Exempt/Non-Reportable	17



3. Summary:

Of the 68 occurrences of accidents and incidents reported during 2025 (of which ten were classified as 'exempt' or 'non-reportable'), three resulted in absences from work of no more than one day each, and none dictated

formal notification to the HSE in the context of the Reporting of Injuries, Disease and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations (RIDDOR).

Without in any way intending to appear complacent, the slightly increased rate of occurrences during 2025 (compared with 63 in 2024) should be taken in the context of there being something closing on 3,000 whole-time staff and post-graduate students and several hundred undergraduates based on the Edinburgh bioQuarter campus, some engaged in the handling of substances of high consequence and involved in hazardous procedures. Increased reporting may also be attributable in part to greater encouragement during training for colleagues to report accidents, incidents, and also all near-miss occurrences.

Injuries caused by medical sharps, glassware and tools (13 during 2025) are the second most frequently occurring source of injury, albeit in relatively low total numbers overall. Continued attention is directed to the sharps injury avoidance training package contained within the CM&VM web site for the bioQuarter campus:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/staff-and-current-students/cmvm-health-and-safety/edinburgh-bioquarter/training-presentations>

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