

LSOP Title	Scalpel Blade Use
LSOP No.	LSOP59
Version	1.1
Location	UQ Node/Centre-wide
Policy/Procedure Link	UQ- Equipment
Risk Assessments	
Approved by	<i>Franziska Fichtner</i>
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1.0 Scope

To outline how to use a scalpel blade including identifying correct blade and handle, safe handling, safe removal using a Qlicksmart BladeFLASK and how to manage a blade injury.

2.0 Prescribed Actions

- There are many different shapes and sizes of scalpel blades and there are different handles that fit them.
- Ensure you have the correct handle for the blade you are using
 - This information is on the outside of the box and also on the foil packaging of the individual blades.
 - The handle will have an identifying number stamped into it.
- Never use a scalpel blade without a handle.
- To attach blade to handle
 - Open the foil packet but leave the blade within the foil
 - Position the blade over the handle

LABORATORY STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (LSOP)

ARC COE for Plant Success in Nature and Agriculture: *Scalpel Blade Use*

- Slowly push the blade onto the handle while gripping the blunt edge of the blade through the foil.
- The blade will 'click' into place.
- The blade should be quite easy to slide on to the handle, too much force should not be needed. If excessive force is needed, stop, re-position the blade and try again or double check that you are using the correct handle.
- When using the scalpel be careful and behave sensibly.
- When you have finished using the scalpel remove the blade by using a Qlicksmart BladeFLASK.
 - The Qlicksmart system completely removes the need to touch the blade to remove it from the handle, eliminating any risk.
 - Follow the instructions on the Qlicksmart BladeFLASK.
- DO NOT attempt to remove the blade manually.
- If a cut occurs, apply pressure, clean with sterile saline solution or antiseptic and apply an appropriate dressing and inform relevant people/figtree.
- Report the incident to UQ in case of follow-up problems (<https://prod.riskcloud.net/default.aspx>)
- If bleeding is severe or prolonged, seek medical advice.