


**Work Health Safety: Safe Work Practice: Cleaning & Security**

**Clothes Dryer operation**

 Risks	Risk rating	Risk Controls
Burns and other injuries from explosion from gas clothes dryer	Likelihood E Consequence 1 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> If you smell gas clear the room and area of people, call plumber and ensure no one goes near the area until it is made safe by plumber</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ensure flammable vapours and liquids are not stored near the gas clothes dryer</li> </ul>
Physical and property damage from fire caused by clothes igniting in dryer	Likelihood E Consequence 2 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not use to dry clothes that may contain a flammable solvent/liquid</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not dry articles containing plastic, foam, rubberlike materials</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clean lint filter after every load</li> </ul>
Physical injury from electrocution	Likelihood E Consequence 2 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not use if electrical cord or controls are damaged</li> </ul>
Manual handling injury from handling clothes and dryer	Likelihood D Consequence 2 Rating = HIGH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Do not reach into dryer if drum is revolving</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arrange items in laundry to eliminate people having their head under overhanging dryer and prevent accidentally banging head on wall attached dryer</li> <li><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use tables or stands to rest clothes basket on - to eliminate unnecessary bending, reaching or twisting and prevent accidentally banging head on wall attached dryer</li> </ul>

**Equipment required:**

<i>Mercy Services equipment</i>	<i>Others equipment</i>
Worker to wear <u>footwear</u> that is fully enclosed, slip resistant sole, water repellent/resistant and provides adequate support.	
<b>Personal Protective Equipment required:</b>	

Activity	Worker behaviour	Client/other's behaviour
1. Prepare	a. Clean lint filter - if necessary	
2. Load clothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Put basket of wet clothes on a stand close to dryer door - to eliminate unnecessary bending, reaching or twisting</li> <li>b. Do not load dryer more than half full</li> <li>c. If using a shared clothes dryer ensure that the name of the clothes owner is placed in the clothes basket next to the dryer</li> </ul>	<i>Clients and others to: stay away from area while worker is handling laundry</i>
3. Start dryer	a. Close door	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Select heat cycle and time to be set no longer than 1 hour, checking after that.</li> <li>c. Start machine</li> </ul>	
4. Unload clothes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Put basket for dry clothes on a stand close to dryer door</li> <li>b. If using a shared clothes dryer ensure that the name of the clothes owner is placed on top of the dry clothes in a clothes basket</li> </ul>	
5. Follow-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Document any incident and report it to your Coordinator immediately</li> </ul>	

**As at 11/05/17 this Safe Work Practice is authorised for use in:**

<i>Service</i>	<i>Position</i>
Home Care Packages	Community Care Assistant
Home Support Program/NDIS	Community Care Assistant
Residential Aged Care	Assistant in Nursing

**Date for review of safe work practice:** May 2020 (or if injury or changes require)

## COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

### Clothes Dryer operation

Employee \_\_\_\_\_

Assessor \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Desired Outcome:**

Staff to be able to use a clothes dryer without harming self or others

**Knowledge required:**

Performance Criteria	Competence demonstrated	Comment
<b>Prepare</b>		
a. Clean lint filter - if necessary		
<b>Load clothes</b>		
a. Put basket of wet clothes on a stand close to dryer door - to eliminate unnecessary bending, reaching or twisting		
b. Do not load dryer more than half full		
c. If using a shared clothes dryer ensure that the name of the clothes owner is placed in the clothes basket next to the dryer		
<b>Start dryer</b>		
a. Close door		
b. Select heat cycle and time to be set no longer than 1 hour, checking after that.		
c. Start machine		
<b>Unload clothes</b>		
a. Put basket for dry clothes on a stand close to dryer door		
b. If using a shared clothes dryer ensure that the name of the clothes owner is placed on top of the dry clothes in a clothes basket		
<b>Follow-up</b>		
a. Document the incident and report it to your Coordinator immediately		

Is the worker assessed as being competent?     YES     NO

Any required follow up action/training: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of employee..... Date.....

Signature of assessor ..... Date.....