

# An Independent Review and Assessment of Risks Associated With the Physical Interventions Contained within all CPI Training Programmes

**Author**

Richard Barnett

**Post**

Lecturer in Physiotherapy  
School of Health and Rehabilitation  
Keele University  
United Kingdom

**Date of Assessment**

01.02.2024

**Author/Lead Assessor:** Richard Barnett

**Post:** Lecturer in Physiotherapy, School of Allied Health Professionals, Keele University

**Date of Assessment:** 01.02.2024

### **Personal Statement/Assessor Qualifications, Expertise and Experience**

I am a qualified physiotherapist and currently work as a Lecturer in Physiotherapy at Keele University. In a previous role I trained as a CPI Certified Instructor delivering training in Mental Health Services in the UK and as such have a special research interest in the safety aspects of physical interventions. This interest and area of practice led to my membership in the Restraint Advisory Board (RAB) for the UK Ministry of Justice (MoJ) and Youth Justice Board (YJB) from 2010 to 2012 with specific responsibility to providing advice on the physiological and anatomical safety of the physical techniques used in the secure estate training syllabus. As a result of this, I became a member of the Independent Restraint Advisory Panel (IRAP) within the MoJ as well as a member of YJB Serious Injuries and Warning Signs sub-committee (SIWS) with the responsibility of reviewing restraint incidents which cause adverse outcomes to individuals within the YJB secure estate. I have published peer-reviewed articles on the safety of physical interventions related to factors which are likely to increase or decrease adverse restraint-related outcomes (see bibliography).

I was a guideline writing member for the most recent NICE guidance (NG10) published in 2015, a visiting lecturer on the CPI BSc in Restraint Reduction at Wolverhampton University, and in 2021, an advisor to the YJB on the review of pain-based restraint techniques in the secure estate.

### **Conflicts of Interest**

I have undertaken the role of independent risk assessor to CPI since 2012 and jointly published research with Chris Stirling (CPI Senior Vice President). I am not a paid employee of CPI, I am not paid to promote CPI, and I have not received any financial incentives or funding for my research from either CPI or Keele University.

**Signed:** *RJBarnett*

**Richard Barnett, MSc, BSc (Hons), HCPC, MHEA**  
**Independent Risk Assessor**

---

### **Assessment Moderation Panel**

The assessment decision and conclusions in this report were independently moderated by the following people:

**Dr Kevin Huckshorn**  
Assistant Hospital  
Administrator/ Executive  
Director for Clinical  
Services at Bridgewater  
State Hospital,  
Bridgewater MA, America

**Prof Joy Duxbury**  
Professor of Mental  
Health Nursing, University  
of Manchester, England

**Prof Bridget Hamilton**  
Associate Professor  
& Director, Centre for  
Psychiatric Nursing,  
University of Melbourne,  
Australia

**Dr Roger Almvik**  
Research Director; Centre  
for Research & Education  
in Forensic Psychiatry, St.  
Olav's University Hospital,  
Trondheim, Norway

**Dr Anna Bjorkdahl**  
Head of Clinical  
Development. Department  
of Psychiatry Stockholm  
South, Stockholm, Sweden

**Dr Colin Dale**  
Chief Executive, Caring  
Solutions, Consultancy  
for Mental Health and  
Learning Disability  
Services, Lancashire,  
England

**Brenda Crossley**  
Nurse Consultant,  
Crossley Hall Associates,  
Lancashire, England

**Ian Hall**  
Nurse Consultant,  
Crossley Hall Associates,  
Lancashire England

The panel represents an international team of subject matter experts who reviewed the physicals and risk ratings provided in the risk assessment as secondary independent oversight. They received no monetary compensation for this role.

# 1. Introduction

---

- 1.1 In 2012, the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI) commissioned an independent risk assessment of the physical skills curriculum contained within their global training programmes. This assessment was initially undertaken by Professor James Ryan (Professor of Trauma Medicine at St George's Hospital, London) and has subsequently been repeated every three years as part of CPI's commitment to continuous improvement.
- 1.2 This assessment provides a baseline risk rating for the application of each CPI holding principle. CPI principles are based on a robust understanding of human anatomy and physiology.
- 1.3 The risk ratings that have been assessed are based on the foreseeable likely adverse outcome associated with the application of each principle. The ratings take account of:
  - 1.3.1 Psychosocial impact (the combined influence of psychological, social, and environmental factors and that impact on a person's physical and mental well-being).
  - 1.3.2 Soft-tissue injury (injury to skin, underlying soft tissue, muscle, ligaments, and tendons).
  - 1.3.3 Articular or bony injury (injury to joints and bones).
  - 1.3.4 Respiratory impact (impact to any aspects of the respiratory triangle: airway, bellows mechanism, and gas exchange, incorporating the **A** and the **B** of the **ABC** system used in Trauma Life Support).
  - 1.3.5 Cardiovascular impact (impact to the heart and circulatory system, incorporating the **C** of the **ABC** system).
- 1.4 Risk ratings were determined by comparing the variables of likelihood (defined as the probability that something may occur) and the severity of the consequence (defined as the reasonable level of injury, illness, or disability that might arise from the occurrence). Using the NPSA 5 x 5 Risk Matrix, the risk rating follows a continuum of risk at four levels:
  - 1.4.1 Low risk (those interventions which could lead to a non-permanent minor injury or illness).
  - 1.4.2 Medium risk (those interventions which could lead to a non-permanent moderate injury or illness).
  - 1.4.3 High risk (those interventions which could lead to major injury or long-term incapacity or disability).
  - 1.4.4 Extreme risk (those interventions which could lead to death or irreversible health effects).

# 2. Considerations

---

- 2.1 Although risk ratings do not exceed medium, the following considerations should inform the application of holding principles, ensuring any adverse outcomes associated with the use of physical interventions are minimised:
  - 2.1.1 The risk assessment has been undertaken in a classroom environment. Therefore, in an operational environment, the risk ratings may vary from the risk stated due to situational circumstances.
  - 2.1.2 The assessment only considers the likely psychosocial, anatomical, physiological risks that might be reasonably considered when physical interventions are used on an individual who is healthy and does not have any known conditions, disabilities, or illnesses which may increase the risk. Workplace application must include further assessments that take account of those factors which will invariably increase the risk rating to individuals.
  - 2.1.3 Given the above assessment limitations, a risk assessment for individuals likely to be subject to physical interventions should be completed prior to any intervention. Where prior risk assessment is not possible, a risk assessment should be completed immediately after an intervention to plan for future occurrences.
  - 2.1.4 The risk assessment does not remove any duty of care owed by staff during an intervention. Staff should continually assess the person being restrained and respond to identified risks as they arise and take appropriate remedial action(s).
  - 2.1.5 The risk assessment does not take account of any impaired decision making that may be made by those performing physical restraint during a real incident. The risk rating will likely be elevated in situations where staff deviate from the taught CPI classroom models and the application of the CPI principles.

### 3. Risk Matrix Assessment Variables

3.1 The methodology used in determining the risk ratings for the application of the anatomical and physiological principles was determined using a 5 x 5 risk matrix adapted from the NPSA (2008) risk assessment tool. The figures below provide descriptors for the risk variables (likelihood and consequence) as well as the overall risk rating matrix, with a color-coding system for easy reference (see figures 1, 2, and 3 below).

**Figure 1 — Overall Risk Rating Matrix**

LIKELIHOOD RATING	CONSEQUENCE				
	(a) Negligible	(b) Minor	(c) Moderate	(d) Major	(e) Catastrophic
1. Rare	(G)	(G)	(G)	(Y)	(Y)
2. Unlikely	(G)	(Y)	(Y)	(O)	(O)
3. Possible	(G)	(Y)	(O)	(O)	(R)
4. Likely	(Y)	(O)	(O)	(R)	(R)
5. Certain	(Y)	(O)	(R)	(R)	(R)

OVERALL RISK RATING GUIDE (Color code)			
Green (G)	Yellow (Y)	Orange (O)	Red (R)
Low Risk	Medium Risk	High Risk	Extreme Risk

**Figure 2 — LIKELIHOOD Descriptors**

Label	Descriptor
1. Rare	Will probably never happen
2. Unlikely	It is not expected to happen/recur, but it could
3. Possible	Might happen or recur occasionally
4. Likely	Will probably happen/recur, but it is not a persisting issue
5. Certain	Will undoubtedly happen/recur, possibly frequently

**Figure 3 — CONSEQUENCE Descriptors**

Label	Descriptor
(a) Negligible	Minimal injury requiring no/minor intervention or treatment
(b) Minor	Non-permanent minor injury or illness
(c) Moderate	Non-permanent moderate injury or illness
(d) Major	Major injury or long-term incapacity/disability
(e) Catastrophic	Incident leading to death or irreversible health effects

## 4. Risk Assessment For Disengagement

4.1 The following table summarises the baseline risk ratings for the CPI physical skills curriculum (disengagement) for individuals subject to physical interventions and the risk rating for staff carrying out the interventions. Control measures are listed to guide further decision making to mitigate risks when using physical interventions in real-world situations.

**Table 1: Risk Rating for Disengagements**

	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Anatomical Principles for Disengagement for Low-, Medium- and High-Risk Behaviour</b>										
<b>Principle 1: Block and Move</b>										
Strike	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	3b	3b	1a	1a
Kick	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	3b	3b	1a	1a
<b>Principle 2: Hold and Stabilise</b>										
Wrist	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Clothes	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Hair	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Body	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Neck	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Bite	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Turning Away	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Principle 3: Pull/Push</b>										
Wrist	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Clothes	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Hair	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Body	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Neck	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Bite	3b	3a	3a	2a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Turning Away	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Principle 4: Lever</b>										
Wrist	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
Clothes	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
Hair	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
Body	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
Neck	3b	3a	3a	1a	1a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
Bite	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Turning Away	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	2b	3b	3b	3b	3b

### Control Measures

- Disengagements should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by clear guidance in relation to the recording and reporting of such interventions.
- Disengagements must be a last resort, reasonable, and proportionate action in response to risk behaviour balanced with the potential degree of harm that might occur to the individual in distress should a disengagement be used.
- Where reasonably practicable, an individual risk assessment should be completed for each person who is likely to be subject to disengagement so that specific interventions can be agreed based on any additional factors that may increase the risk.
- During an intervention, staff must continue to make an ongoing dynamic risk assessment based on the person's behaviour (their level of intent and their potential to cause harm) and any known anatomical, physiological, or psychological factors which may increase the risk. As a result of this assessment, staff must make reasonable adjustments to their actions to maximise safety and minimise harm to everyone involved.

**Table 2 – Risks associated with CPI Advanced Emergency and Rescue Responses (Adults)**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft tissue	Articular or bone	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft tissue	Articular or bone	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Biomechanical Principles for Extreme Risk Behaviour (CPI Emergency Responses for Escape and Rescue).</b>										
Thumb	2b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Dorsal Hand	2b	3b	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Torso	2b	3b	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Sternum	2b	3b	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Mandible	2b	3b	1a	2b	1a	2a	3a	1a	1a	1a
Nasal Columellar	2b	3b	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a

## Control Measures

- These interventions should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by a clear policy, recording, and reporting procedures which prevent misuse and/or abuse.
- These interventions are designed for “escape’ or ‘rescue’ purposes, suitable only for adults identified as presenting extreme risk behaviour to self or others. These interventions must never be used with children and young people, older adults, or populations who may be described as frail or vulnerable.
- When applying the above interventions in the workplace, consideration should be given to known individual factors which may increase the residual risk rating thereby requiring staff to moderate their response to minimise harm. These factors include, but are not exclusively limited to: age; gender; ethnicity; physical wellbeing; cognitive disabilities; psychological wellbeing including mental ill health, history of trauma, and/or phobias; communication impairments; social and cultural factors; alcohol and substance misuse (see CPI Document ‘*Risks of Restraint*’ for a detailed outline of the research on individual factors known to increase the risk of harm occurring).
- An individual risk assessment should be completed for each person subject to physical interventions prior to use which identifies known triggers and preventative approaches, known risk behaviour, and any specific control measures which will maximise safety and minimise harm. This information should be used to identify individually authorised and approved interventions.
- When applying the above interventions, staff have an obligation to make an ongoing assessment of risk with subsequent suitable and reasonable adjustments in relation to the person, their behaviour, and the circumstances of the event (e.g., use the less restrictive response) in order to maximise safety and minimise psychosocial, anatomical, and physiological harm.
- Staff trained in physical interventions should also be trained (*as a minimum*) in Emergency First Aid (Immediate Life Support) in order to be able to respond appropriately to adverse incidents which may occur during and/or in close proximity to the application of physical interventions.

## 5. Risk Assessment For Holding

5.1 The following tables summarise the baseline risk ratings for the CPI physical skills curriculum (holding) for individuals subject to physical interventions and the risk rating for staff carrying out the interventions. Control measures are listed to guide further decision making to mitigate risks when using physical interventions in real-world situations.

**Table 3: Risk Rating for Foundation Holding Skills**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Anatomical Principles Outside/Inside, Limit the Range of Motion</b>										
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction in a Seated Position</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	3b	2a	2a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction in a Standing Position</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	2b	2b	1a	1a
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction for Transitions</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	3b	3b	1a	1a	2a	2b	2b	1a	1a
High	3b	2c	2c	1a	1a	2a	2c	2c	1a	1a

**Table 4: Risk Rating for Foundation Holding Skills (Children Only)**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Anatomical Principles Outside/Inside, Limit the Range of Motion</b>										
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction in a Seated Position</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	2b	2b	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	3b	3b	3b	2b	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction in a Standing Position</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	2b	2b	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	3b	3b	3b	2b	2a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a

### Control Measures

- Holding skills should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by clear guidance in relation to the recording and reporting of such interventions.
- Holding must be a last-resort, reasonable, proportionate, and least restrictive response to risk behavior balanced with the potential degree of harm that might occur to the individual should holding be used.
- Where reasonably practicable, an individual risk assessment should be completed for each person who is likely to be subject to holding so that specific interventions can be agreed based on any additional factors that may increase the risk.
- Consider known individual factors which may increase the risks to the person, requiring staff to moderate their response to minimise harm. These factors include but are not limited to the person's age; gender identity; ethnicity; physical well-being; physical disabilities/limitations; cognitive disabilities; psychological well-being, including mental health, history of trauma, and/or phobias; communication impairments; social and cultural factors; alcohol and substance misuse (see Risks of Restraints section in CPI training materials for more information).

- During an intervention, staff must continue to make an ongoing dynamic risk assessment based on the person’s behavior (their level of intent and their potential to cause harm) and any observable anatomical, physiological, or psychological factors which may increase the risk. As a result of this assessment, staff must make reasonable adjustments, which may include ending the intervention, to maximise safety and minimise harm to everyone involved.
- Holding must not be prolonged. (Note: See Risks of Restraints section in CPI training materials.)
- If holding becomes prolonged, the intervention should cease. However, if the circumstances mean it is not possible to end the restraint due to the imminent or immediate risk of harm to self or others, consideration must be given to the use of alternative interventions as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- During an intervention, one person must act in the role of the team leader to monitor the safety and welfare of all those involved.
- While holding, do not excessively flex the upper body (i.e., bend the person forward) as the greater the forward flexion in the upper body, the greater the likelihood of respiratory compromise.
- Avoid holding people on the floor unless there is no alternative and only when it is necessary to maximise safety and minimise harm to everyone. If you have no alternative, you should be trained and assessed as competent to use the CPI principles for floor holding.
- While holding, do not apply weight/pressure to person’s neck, chest, back, or abdomen, and never obstruct the airway.
- While holding, do not compromise the person’s ability to communicate (e.g., do not cover eyes, nose, mouth, or ears).
- Staff trained in CPI holding skills should also be trained in an appropriate level of emergency first aid. Should any member of staff become concerned about the safety and welfare of the individual or staff during an intervention, the term “medical emergency” should be used as a cue for everyone to immediately cease the intervention to provide the necessary emergency first aid if required.

**Table 5: Risk Rating for Advanced Holding Skills**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Anatomical Principles Outside/Inside, Limit the Range of Motion</b>										
<b>Range: Additional Staff Protecting the Head and Shoulders in a Seated and Standing Position</b>										
Seated	3b	2c	2c	2c	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Standing	3b	2c	2c	2c	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction for Floor Transitions (Standing to Supine)</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
High	3b	3b	3b	2a	2a	3b	2b	2b	1a	1a
<b>Range: Low, Medium, and High Levels of Restriction for Floor Transitions (Standing to Supported Prone)</b>										
Low	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	3b	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	1a	1a
High	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	2b	2b	1a	1a

## Control Measures

- Holding should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by clear policy, recording, and reporting procedures.
- Where reasonably practicable, complete an individual risk assessment for each person likely to be subject to physical interventions so that interventions can be tailored to the person and their known risk behavior.
- Restraint must be a last resort. Any intervention must be proportionate to the risks and potential degree of harm that may occur. Use the least restrictive approach for no longer than is necessary.
- Holding must not be prolonged (exceeding 10 minutes) as this increases the risk of harm to the individual.
- If holding becomes prolonged, the intervention should cease and/or consideration should be given to alternative interventions as soon as is reasonably practicable.



**Table 6: Risk Rating for Emergency Floor Holding**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft-tissue	Articular or bony	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Anatomical Principles Outside/Inside, Limit the Range of Motion</b>										
<b>Range: Emergency Floor Holding: Supine</b>										
High	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Range: Emergency Floor Holding: Supported Prone (<i>Supported Prone Position™</i>)</b>										
High	3b	1a	1a	1a	1a	2a	1a	1a	1a	1a

**Control Measures**

- These interventions should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by a clear policy, recording and reporting procedures which prevent misuse and/or abuse.
- When applying the above interventions in the workplace, consideration should be given to known individual factors which may increase the residual risk rating thereby requiring staff to moderate their response to minimise harm. These factors include, but are not exclusively limited to: age; gender; ethnicity; physical wellbeing; cognitive disabilities; psychological wellbeing including mental ill health, history of trauma, and/or phobias; communication impairments; social and cultural factors; alcohol and substance misuse (see CPI Document ‘Risks of Restraint’ for a detailed outline of the research on individual factors known to increase the risk of harm occurring).
- An individual risk assessment should be completed for each person subject to physical interventions prior to use which identifies known triggers and preventative approaches, known risk behaviour and any specific control measures which will maximise safety and minimise harm. This information should be used to identify individually authorised and approved interventions.
- Physical (manual) restraint should not be routine. When used, physical restraint should not typically exceed 10 minutes duration, during which time, staff should actively consider non-physical alternatives to avoid prolonged use. Once 10 minutes is reached, staff should cease the intervention or actively seek a non-physical alternative as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- When applying the above interventions, staff have an obligation to make an ongoing assessment of risk with subsequent suitable and reasonable adjustments in relation to the person, their behaviour, and the circumstances of the event (e.g., use the less restrictive response) in order to maximise safety and minimise psychosocial, anatomical and physiological harm.
- When applying the above interventions, do not excessively flex the upper body (i.e., bend the person forward) as the greater the forward flexion in the upper body the greater the likelihood of respiratory compromise.
- When applying the above interventions, do not apply any physical intervention in a way that interferes with the person’s airway, breathing or circulation (i.e., do not apply direct weight or pressure to the chest, back, or abdomen).
- Do not compromise the person’s ability to communicate (i.e., do not cover eyes, nose, mouth, or ears).
- Staff trained in physical interventions should also be trained (*as a minimum*) in Emergency First Aid (Immediate Life Support) in order to be able to respond appropriately to adverse incidents which may occur during and/or in close proximity to the application of physical interventions.

**Table 7: Risks associated with CPI Clinical Holding Skills (Early years, Children and Young People, Adults, Older Adults)**

Risk Parameter	Section 1: Application Risks to Service User					Section 2: Application Risks to Staff				
	Psychosocial	Soft tissue	Articular or bone	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)	Psychosocial	Soft tissue	Articular or bone	Respiratory (AB)	Cardiovascular (C)
<b>Application of the CPI Biomechanical Principles: Bed/Trolley Transfer Low and Medium Levels of Restriction</b>										
Low	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Application of the CPI Biomechanical Principles: Upright, Recumbent, Supine and Lateral Positions Low, Medium and High Levels of Restriction</b>										
Low	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
<b>Application of the CPI Biomechanical Principles for Specific Clinical Procedures: Oral and Nasal Sedation, Nasogastric Tube Low, Medium and High Levels of Restriction</b>										
Low	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
High	1a	2b	2b	1a	1a	1a	2b	2b	1a	1a
<b>Application of the CPI Biomechanical Principles for Specific Clinical Procedures: Intravenous Medication/Bloods Low, Medium and High Levels of Restriction</b>										
Low	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a	1a
Medium	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a	2a
High	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b	3b

## Control Measures

- These interventions should only be taught and used in settings where the organisation has provided explicit authorisation and approval for use, underpinned by a clear policy and recording and reporting procedures which prevent misuse and/or abuse.
- Individuals who can reasonably be expected to be subject to physical interventions should have their own individual risk assessment. This assessment should identify known triggers, control measures, and interventions that are authorised and not authorised for use.
- Use the least restrictive response to minimise harm and maximise safety. Make suitable and reasonable adjustment to the application of the interventions in relation to the person and their behavior.
- While holding, do not excessively bend the person forward. The greater the forward flexion in the upper body, the greater the likelihood of respiratory compromise.
- Do not apply any physical intervention in a way that interferes with the person's airway, breathing, or circulation. Do not apply direct weight or pressure to the chest, back, or abdomen.
- While holding, do not compromise the person's ability to communicate (i.e., do not cover eyes, nose, mouth, or ears).
- Physical restraint should not be routine. When used, holding should not typically exceed 10 minutes. Staff should seek to apply non-physical, safer alternatives to avoid prolonged use.
- Staff trained in CPI holding skills should also be trained in emergency first aid (immediate life support) to respond appropriately to adverse incidents that may occur. Should any member of staff become concerned about the safety and welfare of the individual or staff during an intervention, the term "medical emergency" should be used as a cue for everyone to immediately cease the intervention to provide the necessary emergency first aid if required.

## The following documents were used to inform this risk appraisal:

- Aiken, F., Duxbury, J., Dale, C., & Harbison I. (2011). *Review of medical theories and research relating to restraint related deaths*. Caring Solutions.
- Barnett, R., Bower, E., Chan, A., & Stirling, C. (2018). An investigation into the range of movement and forces involved by the application of wrist flexion restraint techniques – pain inducing or not? *Journal of Emergency Medicine and Care*, 1(2), 1-8.
- Barnett, R., Green, M., Price, W., & Stirling, C. (2019). An investigation into the physiological and psychological impact of supine and side lying physical restraint techniques. *Journal of Emergency Medicine and Care*, 2(1).
- Barnett, R., Green, M., Price, W., & Stirling, C. (2018). *An investigation into the physiological and psychological impact of the High-Level Holding Standing Team Control Position (HHSTCP) and Lateral Emergency Holding Position (LEHP) physical restraint techniques*. Unpublished scientific research project and risk appraisal. Crisis Prevention Institute.
- Barnett, R., Hanson, P., Stirling, C., & Pandyan, A. (2013). The physiological impact of upper limb position in prone restraint. *Medicine, Science and the Law*, 53(3), 161-165. <https://doi.org/10.1258/msl.2012.012044>
- Barnett, R., Stirling, C., Hall, J., Davies, A., & Orme, P. (2016). Perceptions of supported and unsupported prone-restraint positions. *Journal of Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing*, 23(3-4), doi: 10.1111/jpm.12295
- Barnett, R., Stirling, C., & Pandyan, A. (2012). A review of the scientific literature related to the adverse impact of physical restraint: Gaining a clearer understanding of the physiological factors involved in cases of restraint-related death. *Medicine, Science and the Law*, 52(3), 137-142. <https://doi.org/10.1258/msl.2011.01101>
- Crisis Prevention Institute. (2022). *Instructor guide for CPI Safety Intervention training*.
- Department of Health. (2014). *Positive and proactive care: Reducing the need for restrictive interventions*.
- Ministry of Justice. (2011). *Behaviour recognition and physical restraint – medical advice*, 3.
- Ministry of Justice. (2011). *Behaviour recognition and physical restraint – technique index risk assessment*.
- National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. (2015). *Violence and aggression: Short-term management in mental health, health and community settings*. <https://nice.org.uk/guidance/ng10>
- National Patient Safety Agency. (2008). *A risk matrix for risk managers*.
- Parkes, J., & Carson, R. (2008). Sudden death during restraint: Do some positions affect lung function? *Medicine, Science and the Law*, 48(2), 137-141.