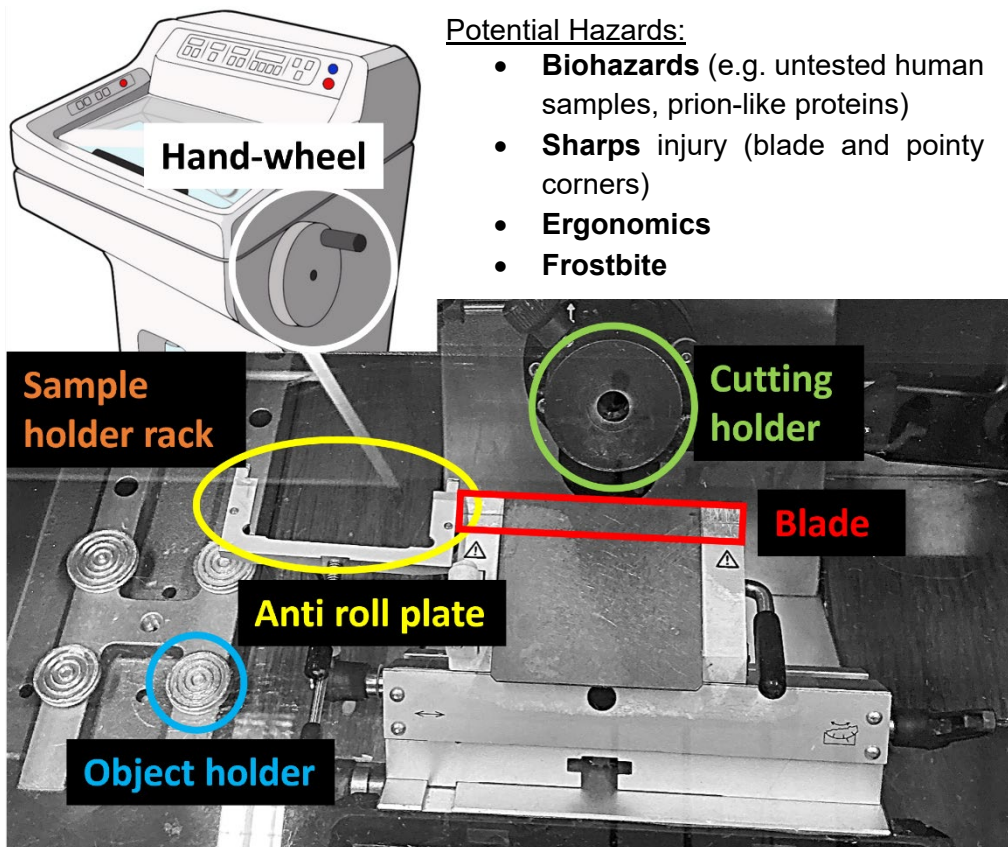


Microtome/cryostat: safety procedure and wound management



Potential Hazards:

- **Biohazards** (e.g. untested human samples, prion-like proteins)
- **Sharps** injury (blade and pointy corners)
- **Ergonomics**
- **Frostbite**

Always cover the **blade** with the knife guard (if available) or the **anti-roll plate**, and lock the **hand-wheel** before:

- changing the sample on the **cutting holder**
- cleaning the cryostat chamber
- mounting the sample on the **object holder**
- trimming the edges of the frozen sample (trim the sample on the **sample-holder rack**, not in the **cutting holder**)
- in case of breakdown, malfunction or when the cryostat is not in use

Remove and change the microtome **blade** after each use (at the end of the session) and dispose of used blades in the designated yellow sharps container.

Always wear **nitrile gloves** (EN 374) and consider using **cut resistant gloves** over nitrile gloves.

Wound management



1. Ask someone to contact the **rescue team**, or call yourself (**115** from a landline, **021 693 30 00** from a personal mobile phone, **SOS** from the **EPFL Campus app**)
2. **Rinse** the wound thoroughly under running tap water and gently wash with soap. Avoid scrubbing or squeezing the wound.
3. **Disinfect** the wound (Merfen disinfectant available in the first aid kit)
4. Apply sterile **plaster or dressing**.
5. Report the accident via the EPFL [Incident Management platform](#).

For samples containing **fibrils (prion-like proteins)** please refer to "Guidelines for Prion-like proteins".