



## 20 – Wearing of Medical Devices in Taekwondo

### Medical Devices including-

- Hearing Aids and Cochlear Implants
- Glucose Monitors (Flash or Continuous)
- Insulin Pumps

### Hazard

- Abnormal protrusions from the body
- Could become dislodged or removed during contact

### Who could be harmed?

- Harm to self or harm to partner/opponent

### Risks

- Damage to the device
- Harm to the wearer causing skin tears/bleeding
- Harm to a partner/opponent from cuts

### Risk Controls

- **In a BT Club**

Wearing medical devices during Taekwondo activities such as stretching, basic movements and poomsae etc. is low risk, this can be managed by the wearer with the knowledge and supervision of the Club Instructor.

When performing contact activities such as 1/3 Step Sparring, Non-contact Sparring etc. this can be managed, with care, by the use of suitable Taekwondo PPE (Head Protectors, Arm/Body Protectors etc.) together with controlled contact and supervised practice.

For high-risk activities like full-contact sparring and self-defence, consideration should be given to removing any medical device.

- **In a BT sanctioned Competition**

**For Kyorugi:** The wearing of body attached medical devices is strictly prohibited during competition. These must be removed prior to inspection and replaced after completion of competition participation (or for each and every match until participation is completed)

**For Poomsae:** Medical devices can be worn in Poomsae events with the exception of Freestyle Poomsae where Kyorugi rules (above) will apply.