

Sample questionnaire for equipment used in instances of torture/CID treatment

This is a guideline questionnaire for specifying details of equipment reportedly used in instances of torture or cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The kinds of equipment listed on the questionnaire have been gathered from incidents of torture around the world: not all will be relevant to your particular country or region, and in some regions no specialised equipment is used in torture at all.

Questions about torture implements, like other questions regarding incidences of torture, should only be asked with the **informed consent** of the victim; **in private** and in the absence of security officials or other government officials; with care **not to violate established standards of medical practice**; and in conformity with both the Istanbul Protocol, and medical ethics.

Personal details (e.g. name of victim or features which could identify the victim) should **not** be recorded on this form.

Procedure:

- 1) **“Used” column:** during and after interview, specialised equipment or implements (if any) reportedly used in the incident of torture or ill-treatment should be recorded in the “Used” column.
- 2) **“Features” column:** If it does not violate medical practice or unduly distress the interviewee, follow-up questions could be asked to specify identifying features of the equipment or implements used, as listed in the “Features” column.

The form is divided into 4 categories of specialised equipment: electric shock equipment; restraints (handcuffs, legcuffs etc.); kinetic impact weapons (truncheons, batons, and weapon-fired ‘impact’ munitions); and chemical irritants.

0) Details of Victim/abuse

Sex:

Age group:

Location of abuse:

Perpetrator of abuse (e.g. police officer, army office):

Duration of abuse:

Date of abuse:

1) Electric shock equipment

Type	Implement	Used?	Features	Feature? (tick all that apply)
Electric Shock Baton	Electric Baton / Truncheon / Stick		Producing sparks	
	Cattle prod		With Hand-guard	
	Other (please specify)		Other (please specify)	
Hand-held device (other than baton)	"Stun gun" / "Electric gun"		Shape: Curved	
	Other (please specify)		Shape: Straight	
			Producing sparks	
			Other (please specify)	
Electric wires	Wires attached to wall socket			
	Wires attached to generator			
	Wires attached to battery			
	"Cranking machine" / wind-up generator			
	Other (please specify)			
Electric Shock shield	Electrified shield / shock shield		Shape: Round	
	Electrified shield with spikes		Shape: Rectangular	
	Other (please specify)		Shape: Oval	
			Shape: Convex / curved	
			Other (please specify)	
Taser / electric dart gun	"Taser"		Number of wires/projectiles	
	Electric dart gun		Producing sparks	
	Other (please specify)		Colours/markings	
			Other (please specify)	
Body worn electric shock	Electric belt		Around waist	
	Electric sleeve		Around arm	

Electric cuff		Around wrist / ankle	
		Around leg	
Other (please specify)		Other (please specify)	

2) Restraints

Type	Implement	Used?	Features	Feature?
Handcuffs	Metal handcuffs		Connected with chain	
	Other (please specify)		Connected with hinge	
			Connected with rod	
			Connector length?	
			'Self-tightening'	
			Circular cuffs	
			D-shaped cuffs	
			Other (please specify)	
		Plastic ties		
Wall cuff	Metal wall cuff (i.e. Single cuff)		Fixed to wall with pin/chain	
	Other (please specify)		'Cuffed' to wall/bar/fixture	
			Circular cuff	
			D-shaped cuff	
			Other (please specify)	
Leg restraints	Metal leg-cuffs/shackles		Connected with chain	
	Other (please specify)		Connected with hinge	
			Connected with rod	
			Fixed to long rod/bar	
			Connector length?	
			Secured with integral lock	
			Secured with padlock	

			Circular cuffs	
			D-shaped cuffs	
			Other (please specify)	
Neck collar	Metal neck collar		Connected with chain	
	Other (please specify)		Other (please specify)	
Thumbcuffs	Metal thumbcuffs		With serrated inner edge?	
	Other (please specify)		Other (please specify)	
Restraint chairs/boards	Restraint chair/prisoner chair		Straps around wrists	
	Restraint bed /board		Straps around legs	
	Other (please specify)		Straps around neck	
			Straps/buckles around chest	
			Straps/buckles around waist	
			With cushions/padding?	
			Other (please specify)	

3) Kinetic Impact Weapons

Type	Implement	Used?	Features	Feature? (tick all that apply)
Batons/ truncheons (non- electrified)	Straight baton		Length?	
	Side-handle / T-baton / Tonfa baton		Made of wood?	
	Spiked baton / 'sting stick'		Made of plastic?	
	Telescopic / expandable baton		Made of metal?	
	Other (please specify)		Handguard?	
			Built-in torch/flashlight?	

			Built-in chemical irritant spray?	
Sjamboks/whips	Sjambok		Length?	
	Whip		Made of wood?	
	Other (please specify)		Made of plastic?	
			Made of metal?	
			Other (please specify)	
Weapon-fired kinetic impact	Rubber 'bullet'		Calibre? (please specify)	
			Shape? (please specify)	
	'Baton round'		Fired from special gas-gun/launcher?	
	'Bean-bag' round		Fired from shotgun?	
	Buckshot/pellets		Fired from rifle?	
	Other (please specify)		Fired from handgun?	
			Fired from other (please specify)	
			Made of plastic-coated metal?	
			Made of plastic?	
			Made of rubber?	
			Made of other (please specify)	
			Number of component pellets/baton rounds in each cartridge?	
			Contains chemical irritant? (please specify e.g. CS, OC/pepper, CN)	
			Markings on round?	
		Markings on gun/launcher?		

4) Chemical irritants

Type	Implement	Used?	Features	Feature? (tick all that apply)
Canisters/ grenades	Unidentified chemical		Calibre of canister/grenade? (please specify if possible)	
	CS			
	CN		Shape? (please specify)	
	CR		Fired from special gas- gun/launcher?	
	OC/PAVA/pepper' (please specify)		Fired from shotgun?	
	Other (if possible, please specify e.g. DM)		Fired from rifle?	
			Fired from handgun?	
			Fired from other (please specify)	
			Hand-thrown?	
			Colours on canister?	
		Markings on canister?		
Hand-held sprays	Unidentified chemical		Capacity? (please specify)	
	OC/PAVA/pepper' (please specify)			
	CS		Colours on canister?	
	CN		Markings on canister?	
	Other (please specify)			
Larger sprays (e.g. fire-extinguisher size or backpack mounted)	Unidentified chemical		Capacity? (please specify)	
	OC/PAVA/pepper' (please specify)			
	CS		Hand-carried?	
	CN		Backpack mounted?	
	CR		Other method of carriage (please specify)	
	Other (please specify)		Colours on canister?	
			Markings on canister?	