

Biosafety & Biosecurity in Zimbabwe's PHL Labs

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Zimbabwe's Public Health Labs

- Biosafety in Zimbabwe's Public Health Labs
- Biosecurity in Zimbabwe's Public Health Labs
- The Personnel
- Training & Learning Opportunities
- Structure
- Infective agents encountered
- Activities
- Concerns/Goals

STRUCTURE

- NUMBER: There are 7 Main Reference PHLs, 4 in Harare 3 in Bulawayo
- There are other Provincial and District PHLs in the ten provinces
- The Facilities include
- A National TB Reference Lab
(biosafety level 3 facility)
- A National Microbiology Reference Lab
(biosafety level 2 facility)

STRUCTURE

- Provincial Public Health Labs
- (biosafety level 2 facilities)
- District Public Health Labs
- (biosafety level 1 and 2 facilities)

Personnel & Training

- Clinical Scientist (MSc or Doctorate)
- Specialist Medical Laboratory Scientist
(After 6 year course)
- Medical Laboratory Scientist (4 year degree course)
- State Certified Medical Laboratory Technicians (2 year course)
- Rapid HIV Testing Nurse Practitioners
- Laboratory Hands
- General Hands
- Clerical Staff

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES and ORGANISATIONS

- University of Zimbabwe
- National University of Science & Technology
- The Pathology & Reference Public Health Laboratories , Provincial & District PHLs
- Incorporation of Biosafety& Biosecurity concepts in basic training
- Workshops
- Post Graduate training courses

- International Training Institutions

ACTIVITIES

- Microbiological Risk Assessment
(as per WHO guidelines)
- Packaging & Transportation
(follow WHO & IATA recommendations)
- Monitoring
(follow chain of conveyance)
- Handling
(SOP derived from WHO & Good Medical Laboratory
Practice guidelines available)
- Disposal
(incineration)

INFECTIVE AGENTS ENCOUNTERED

- Bacteria
- Viruses
- Fungi
- Parasites
- Organisms of unknown pathogenicity

**Some Findings In CSF Specimens examined at Bulawayo
Group Lab from 1st April 2007to 3thApril ,2008**

CONCERNS/GOALS

- To redesign lab buildings to enhance biosafety and biosecurity
- To have legislation for Laboratory Biosafety & Biosecurity
- Creation of Specialist Laboratories to deal with extremely dangerous infective agents
- Enhance research in Laboratory biosafety & biosecurity
- To have periodic Microbiological Risk Assessments.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

- Challengers

Limits in resources

- Improvements

In medical science practice together with safety

- Opportunities

technologies to tap a vast range of unexplored information

- Hopes & Ambitions

Improved biosafety and biosecurity in a progressive science era with improved medical care

- Best Wishes for better safety in scientific work & research
- THANK YOU