Biosafety Program

Biohazard

An agent of biological origin that has the capacity to produce deleterious effects on humans, i.e. microorganisms, toxins and allergens derived from those organisms; and allergens and toxins derived from higher plants and animals.

Biosafety

The application of combinations of laboratory practice and procedure, laboratory facilities, and safety equipment when working with potentially infectious microorganisms.

Biosafety Laboratories

Lab Classification into Biosafety Levels 1-4: Combinations of laboratory practice and procedure, laboratory facilities, and safety equipment to provide containment

- Communication
- Knowledgeable personnel
- Aware of potential hazards
- Proficient in practices & techniques
- Lab specific bio safety manual
  - Policies
  - Exposure control plans/programs
  - Emergency response
- Safety committee(s) compliance

Biosafety Principles

- Standard and Special Practices
- Staff Proficiencies
- Risk Assessment
- Safety Equipment
- Laboratory facilities
- Waste Management
Biosafety Manual

A Biosafety Manual is required for all laboratories. The manual is lab specific and provides guidelines, policies and procedures for the safe use and manipulation of biological materials.

Minimum Contents

- Hazard Communication
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Agent Specific SOP's
- Incident Response Procedures
- Emergency Contact Information
- Medical Surveillance Program If required
- Pest Management Plan
- Location of emergency exit, spill kits, eyewash stations, showers
- Training Documentation
- Lab Inspection Documentation
- Biological Materials Inventory

Risk Assessment

Risk assessment is a process used to identify a procedure or the hazardous characteristics of a known infectious or potentially infectious material, the activities that can result in a person’s exposure to an agent, the likelihood that such exposure will cause a lab acquired infection and the probable consequences of such an infection. Risk assessment requires careful judgment. Information identified will provide a guide to selecting appropriate biosafety level, procedures, safety equipment, and facility safeguards to prevent any lab acquired infection.
Resources:

Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, 5th Edition.
http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/biosfty/bmbl5/bmbl5toc.htm

ABSA, American Biological Safety Association http://www.absa.org/riskgroups/index.html

Animal and Biosafety Compliance Program:

http://manoa.hawaii.edu/ovcrge/research/biosafety_program/index.html

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Biosafety Program Training

Refresher training on Biosafety, Bloodborne Pathogens
https://laulima.hawaii.edu/autoenroll/?uh_biosafety

Transportation of Infectious Substance and Transport Awareness Training  https://laulima.hawaii.edu/autoenroll/?tibs-permits