Evaluating Biosafety Level Three Laboratories
An In-Depth Look at the Facility, Its Operations and Documentation
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I. Introduction
   A. BSL3 agents
   B. Concepts
   C. An overview of an operating BSL3
   D. Why redo the inspection process
      1. A internal review of the ‘most hazardous’ operation
      2. Problems discovered that were not covered by regular inspections
      3. Lessons learned in working with the BSL3 operators
      4. Learn if the workers are thoroughly familiar with the details.
   E. What was involved in developing the evaluation

II. Preparing for the BSL3 laboratory evaluation
   A. Make appointment
   B. Tell the lab director/BSL3 manager what you will be looking for
   C. Let them know that this will take 1-3 hours
   D. Make appointments with the laboratory workers (scientists to dish washers)
   E. Don’t expect perfection and a collaborative effort to resolve deficiencies.

III. Evaluating the documentation and records
   A. Documentation of operational specifications
   B. Practices and Procedures
      1. Access control
      2. Worker certification
      3. Identify & reporting problems
      4. Handling and storage of biohazardous materials
      5. Sharps handling
      6. Waste handling & disposal
      7. Decontamination & housekeeping
      8. Transport & shipping
   C. Biosafety Manual / Exposure control plan
      1. General BSL3 containment conditions
      2. Conditions, equipment, and practices unique to the laboratory culture, facilities and the type of work being conducted
      3. Symptoms, mode of transmission, and risks associated with the infectious agents
      4. All workers are very familiar with the “Exposure Control Plan”.
D. Worker certification / authorization
1. Every worker has the training, experience and authorization to work in the BSL3.
   a) Authorization is renewed on a regular basis
2. Maintenance, administrative, and visitors are informed and authorized
   a) Authorization each visit

E. Training
1. Right to know
2. Annual training or a curriculum that is covered piece-by-piece at lab meetings
3. Curriculum is prepared and schedule set
4. Records (outline, trainer, attendees & date) all attendees are provided with duplicate records for their personal files

F. Spill/exposure/emergency preparedness
1. Medical emergency
2. Utility failure
3. Fire
4. Earthquake, storm, etc
5. Spill

G. Equipment & PPE
1. Laboratory and containment equipment
2. PPE appropriate for the application and used correctly

H. Medical Monitoring
1. Immune-suppressed
2. If a person has symptoms of a laboratory-acquired illness
3. Vaccinations
4. Serum Storage
5. Antibody testing

I. Responsibilities
1. Principal Investigator (Laboratory director)
2. Research staff

IV. Facilities inspection
A. Determine if laboratory still meets operational specifications
B. Signs
C. Security
D. Doors self closing/locking – anteroom doors interlocked
E. Directional air flow
F. Ventilation alarms
G. Floors, walls, ceiling & windows
H. Sinks
I. Eyewash (douse shower)
J. Vacuum system protected
K. Autoclave tested, alternative identified
L. Pest management

V. Interviewing the laboratory staff
   A. Operations
   B. Problems
   C. Things to put in the report
   D. Emergency preparedness

VI. Confounding issues
   A. Hazardous materials
   B. Animal studies
   C. Human studies
   D. All research including pilot studies incorporate all BSL-3 containment
   E. Work outside the BSL3 lab
   F. Visiting scientists
   G. Sharing laboratory space