

Inspection of derogated Containment Level 3 Laboratory WTB Level 1 and Level 4

Date: 1 July 2011

Inspection Team: Lisa Grayson (Life Sciences H&S Information Officer) and Ian Scragg (Head of Safety Services)

Format of inspection: Review of Codes of Practice with Susan Wyllie (BSA) followed by a tour of Level 1 Laboratory.

Overview: an extremely well managed laboratory with high standards of training and supervision of staff to ensure competence.

Recommendations:

1. work using robotic equipment should be carried out in a suitable ventilated enclosure that gives the same level of containment as a microbiological safety cabinet used for culturing parasites. This is especially important for work with *T.cruzi*.
2. additional storage space for consumables outside of the laboratory is obtained. On the day of inspection there were many cardboard boxes being stored in the laboratory, as well as 'clutter' on floors. This would make cleaning/disinfection in the event of a spill extremely difficult and time consuming.
3. for transport of infectious samples between Level 1 and Level 4 the metal box with clips to secure the lid should be used. If the plastic box is used then the lid should be taped closed.
4. ideally, all work with *T.cruzi* should take place in a dedicated room so consideration should be given to re-organising the use of the 4 rooms to achieve this.
5. the ventilation rate should be confirmed with E&B. On the day of inspection there seemed to be very little movement of air.
6. the efficacy of fumigation of microbiological safety cabinets should be confirmed using spore strips
7. validation records for liquid waste disposal should be included in Code of Practice
8. the 'record of work' for staff should be updated
9. the health card should be updated and re-issued to all staff by OH Service.

There was insufficient time to inspect level 4 laboratory. Issues identified from the review of Code of Practice are:

1. investigate if a cut resistant glove worn on hand used to restrain mice would further reduce risk when injecting mice
2. document fully risk assessment for filling syringe and injecting mice without use of microbiological safety cabinet
3. meet with Resource Unit staff to review findings of risk assessment and discuss Code of Practice

4. review use and type of respiratory protective equipment with users
5. OH Service should review animal allergy health surveillance for staff
6. arrange date to inspect laboratory.