



# *Material Control and Accountability*



Biosafety and Biosecurity Awareness Training  
For Afghan and Pakistani Bioscientists  
December 7 to 9, 2009



# Material Accountability

## A Comprehensive Approach

- **Material accountability is an essential part of good laboratory practice**
- **Material accountability requires that you know**
  - What material you have
  - Who is responsible for it
  - Where it is located
  - Who has access to it
  - How it is controlled
  - How it is documented
- **The systems we use to achieve material accountability include**
  - Laboratory access controls
  - Personnel reliability
  - Material handling and control measures
  - Transport security
  - Information security
  - Program management practices

# Material Control and Accountability

- **Material Control and Accountability (MC&A) ensure complete and timely knowledge of:**
  - **What materials exist**
  - **Where the materials are**
  - **Who is accountable for them**
- **NOT: to detect whether something is missing**





# Material Control and Accountability **Discussion**

- **What are some of the reasons you think a bioscience facility should implement MC&A besides for biosecurity?**
- **What details should be in a laboratory inventory and are they feasible with biological agents? Is it ever appropriate for the facility and laboratory have different levels of detail in their inventories?**
- **What is the span of the MC&A program? (e.g. from a blood sample submitted for diagnosis until the sample and all other items used in diagnosis destroyed?)**
- **What documentation should be kept on day-to-day use, repositories, destruction?**

# Material Control and Accountability

- **Agent**

- What agents are high risk?
- Viable? Whole organism or DNA?

- **Quantity**

- Any amount can be significant
- A threshold amount for toxins

- **Form**

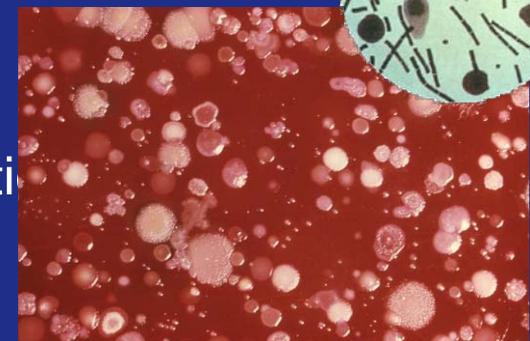
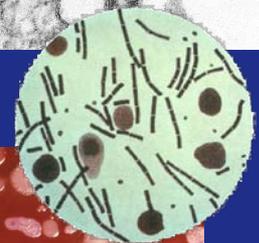
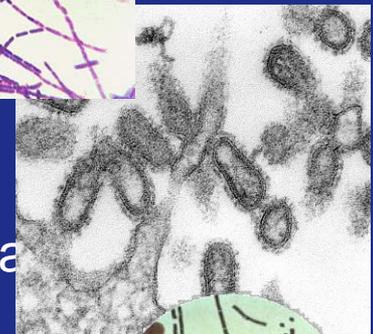
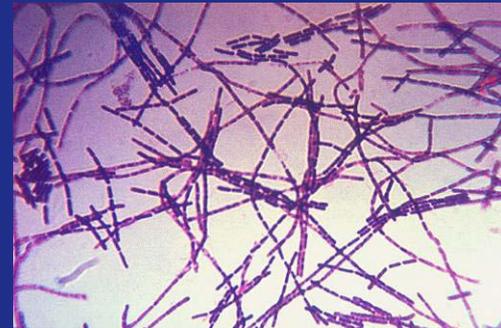
- Repository stocks, working samples, in host, contamination

- **Detail—what level is adequate for MC&A?**

- Material as *items*
- Each vial as a separate inventory record?

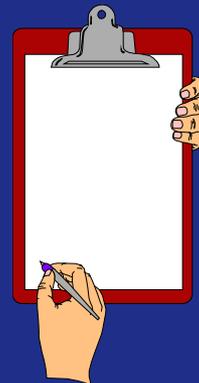
- **Capture—when does MC&A start & stop?**

- Naturally occurring; clinical samples; disposition



# Material Control and Accountability

- **Control is either...**
  - Engineered / Physical
  - Administrative
- **Containment is part of material control**
  - Containment Lab / Freezer / Ampoule
- **Procedures are essential for material control**
  - For both normal and abnormal conditions



# Material Control and Accountability

- **All material should have an associated “accountable person”**
  - The person best in a position to answer questions about the associated material
  - Not someone to blame!
  - Ensure that no material is “orphaned”
- **Procedures should ensure accountability**
  - Experimental work: laboratory procedures
  - Inventory: know what you have
  - Reporting: document routine MC&A practices
  - Audit/ assessment: is this working?
    - Ensures effective *implementation* of MC&A
  - Training: personnel understand requirements





# Material Control & Accountability Examples

- **Moderate risk biological agents**
  - Seed stocks cataloged and records stored securely
    - **Transfers in and out**
    - **Source**
    - **Strain**
    - **Form**
    - **Responsible individual**
  - Working stocks, including infected animal status, tracked through laboratory notebooks
- **High risk biological agents**
  - Moderate plus
    - **Increased control over working stocks**





# Material Accountability Problems: Discussion

- What are some examples of material accountability problems?
- How could they be prevented?
- How should management address these problems?

