

Training Proposal for activities 1.1.2 & 2.2.4: Training and Capacity building for laboratory Staff on COVID19 testing using GeneXpert machines and Laboratory Biosafety guidelines/protocols

General Objective:

During these unprecedented times, it is critical for Laboratory Staff to be trained and updated on Biosafety lab procedures/protocols. This is especially relevant when dealing with highly infectious diseases such as SARS-CoV-2. It is therefore essential to incorporate these activities to better inform laboratory staff on ways to safely handle and perform tests on potentially highly infectious samples.

Samoa is one of the few fortunate countries to remain COVID-19 free; this has been made possible by strengthened border control, mandatory passenger quarantine and the safe release of passengers from quarantine upon testing negative for SARS-CoV-2. Diagnostic testing is claimed to be a critical factor in a country's strategy to best combat the challenges brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is essential to not only have staff trained to perform COVID-19 tests but also their ability to perform these tests safely by complying with biosafety procedures/protocols. As COVID19 is a new virus, its pathogenic and fatal consequences are continuously changing. Therefore, Health and Biosafety protocols should change accordingly and lift to another higher level of biosecurity. The current health and safety manual /guideline for clinical laboratory need to be reviewed and insert biosafety guides and procedures in response to COVID19 and those that are applicable to Public Health Lab.

Specific Objectives:

Upon completion of these activities;

1. There is an updated Health & Safety Manual/Guideline for Laboratory (Biosafety Guideline for Laboratory)
2. Laboratory staffs are compliant with Biosafety procedures and competent in handling potentially infectious samples safely.
3. All laboratory staff are competent in carrying out COVID19 testing

Target audience:

1. Senior Laboratory staff
 - a. Reviewing of the Biosafety Guidelines for Laboratory
2. All Laboratory staff
 - a. Monthly refresher trainings for both current and new lab staff are required; not only to re-introduce current procedures but to also give updates on any new testing standard if any.

- Monthly trainings for all lab Staff. (Duration 1 year: initially for first 5 training sessions per group and agenda and training material reviewed for the subsequent trainings)
Presentations from Trained staff members on:
 - Biosafety Procedures – Equipment maintenance, infectious substances, etc.
 - Health and Safety Procedures –PPE's, Hand Sanitation, etc.
 - COVID Testing Procedures – current and new updates, inventory and supplies management, etc.

Details of the 2 Activities:

1. Review of Biosafety Guideline for Laboratory –
 - a. Venue - TBC
 - b. Date – 19 – 20 November 2020
 - c. Tentative Participants

	Names	Designation	Location
1.	Hinauri Leaupepe – Ngau Chun	Manager Lab	TTM Hospital – Clinical Lab
2.	Perenise Eti	Principal MLT – Micro/Serology	TTM Hospital – Clinical Lab
3.	Tupou Chan Tung	Principal MLT – Public Health	Public Health
4.	Sandra Semi	Principal QA	TTM Hospital – Clinical Lab
5.	Matauaina Aviata	Principal MLT – MTII Hosp Lab	MTII Hosp Lab
6.	Maeva Ah Yen	Principal MLT – Anatomic Pathology/Mortuary	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
7.	Kerena Ulumani	Charge MLT – General	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
8.	Dr Mareta Tautogi	Pathology registrar	TTM Hosp – Clinical lab
9.	Stefania Keileni	Senior MLT – Microbiology	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
10.	Victor Mapesone	Senior MLT – Biochemistry	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
11.	Vanessa Samuelu	Senior MLT – General	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
12.	Daiana Davetanivalu	Senior MLT – Haematology	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
13.	Lelea’I Ah Fook	Senior MLT – Anatomic Pathology	TTM Hosp – Clinical Lab
14.	Eric Tuia	Senior MLT – Public Health	Public Health
15.	Tagi Sapini	Senior MLT – Public Health	Public Health
16.	Tauli Aperaamo	Senior MLT – MTII Savaii	MTII Hosp – Clinical Lab
17.	Leausa Dr Take Naseri	DG/CEO	MoH
18.	Dr Glen Fatupaito	DDG – H & C services	Hosp & Clinical Services
19.	Dr Robert Thomsen	DDG – Public Health	Public Health Services
20.	Gaulofa M Saaga	ACEO HSCRM	HSCRM
21.	Slatua Loau	Principal Health Professional Devt Officer	Registrar & HPD
22.	Darryl Anesi	Project Manager	HSCRM

Tentative Program for Review of Biosafety Guideline

Thursday 19th November 2020		
Time	Activity	Responsible
8.30am	Registration	Tagi
9.00am	Opening prayer	
9.15 – 9.45am	Overview of the 2 days’ workshop and COVID19 update: Objectives & Agenda	Hinauri & Tupou

9.45 -10.30am	Outline of the Current Health & Safety Manual	Sandra
10.30am – 11.00am	Allocation of teams & group photo Morning tea	Perenise
11.00 – 11.15am	Outline of Manual sections to be reviewed and discussion questions (Sections 4 – 6)	
11.15am – 12.00pm	Group discussions	
12.00 – 1:00pm	Group Presentations	
1.00 – 1.30pm	LUNCH	
1:35 – 1:55pm	Outline of Manual Sections 7 - 10 to be reviewed and discussion questions	Sandra
2:00 – 3:00pm	Group discussions	
3:00 – 3:15pm	Afternoon tea	
3:15 – 4:00pm	Presentations	
	End of day 1	
Friday 20th November 2020		
Time	Activity	Responsible
9.00am	Opening prayer	
9:15 – 9:30am	Outline of Manual sections to be reviewed and discussion questions (Sections 11 - 15)	Sandra
9:30 – 10:15am	Group discussions	
10:15 – 10:30am	Morning tea	
10:35 – 11:30am	Presentations	
11:35 – 11:50am	Outline of Manual sections to be reviewed and discussion questions (Sections 16 - 22)	Sandra
11:55 – 12:55pm	Group discussions	
1:00 – 1:30pm	LUNCH	
1:35 – 2:30	Presentations	
2:35 – 3:30 pm	BIOSAFETY MEASURES SPECIFIC TO COVID19	
3:30 – 3:45 pm	Afternoon tea	
3:45 – 5:30 pm	Summary of Outcomes and FINAL COMMENTS	

	End of day 2	
6.00pm	<i>Dinner</i>	

2. The fortnightly trainings on the operation of COVID19 tests and implementing of the biosafety guidelines will take place in the Clinical Laboratory Conference room at Tupua Tamasese Meaole Hospital. The TTM & MT2 clinical laboratory staff and the public health lab staff will be split into 2 groups to minimize disruption to routine work.

Refer to table below for breakdown of group allocation for respective dates.

Date	Group
25.11.2020	1
9.12.2020	2
13.01.2021	3
27.01.2021	1
0.02.2021	2
23.02.2021	3
09.03.2021	1
23.03.2021	2
06.04.2021	3

Tentative Schedule of Operations trainings:

Time	Topic
9:00am-10:30am	COVID testing theory & Biosafety procedures
10:30am-11:15am	Tea Break
11:15am-1:00pm	COVID Testing Procedures & Discussions
1:00pm	Lunch Break & call the day

Tentative List of participants for Operation trainings: Group 1:

	Name	Designation
1.	Perenise Eti (trainer/facilitator)	Principal MLT –Microbiology/Serology
2.	Hinauri Leaupepe-Ngau Chun	Manager
3.	Lelea'I Ah Fook	Senior MLT – AP
4.	Victor Mapesone	Senior MLT – Biochem
5.	Vanessa Samuelu	Senior MLT – Haematology/Biochem
6.	Isitolo Paulo	Med Lab technician – Blood Bank
7.	Joe Letufuga	Med Lab Assistant
8.	Tauli Aperaamo	Senior MLT – MTII hosp Lab
9.	Makai Muaulu	Medical Laboratory Technician
10.	Tuiulupona Lene	Medical Lab Trainee
11.	Sinatulaga Ah Sam	Phlebotomist

Tentative List of participants for Operation trainings: Group 2

	Name	Designation
1.	Sandra Semi (trainer/facilitator)	Principal QA
2.	Maeva Ah Yen	Principal Medical Laboratory Technician – Histo
3.	Diana Davetanivalu	Senior Medlab Technician – Hematology
4.	Galutoto Paniani	Medical Laboratory Technician
5.	Peniel A. Magele	Medical Laboratory Technician
6.	Andy Avia	Medica Laboratory Technician
7.	Reeves Brown	Medical Laboratory Technician
8.	Sina Reti	Medical Laboratory Technician
9.	Tagi Sapini	Senior Lab Technician – Public Health
10.	Frank Amituanai Misi	Phlebotomist

Tentative List of participants for Operation trainings: Group 3

	Name	Designation
1.	Tupou Chan Tung (trainer/facilitator)	Principal Lab Tech – Public Health
2.	Kerena Ulumani	Charge MLT – General
3.	Stefania Keileni	Senior Medlab Technician – Microbiology
4.	Jurieaster Tuilagi	Medical Laboratory Scientist
5.	BJ Tapuai	Medical Laboratory Technician
6.	Tima Kilepoa	Medical Laboratory Technician
7.	Puasina Kilepoa	Medical Laboratory Trainee
8.	Eteuini Nafoi	Medical Lab Assistant
9.	Eric Tuia	Senior Lab technician – Public Health
10.	Taumate Niu	Medical Laboratory Technician

Budget Breakdown: For Review of Biosafety Guideline

Allocation: US\$5000

#	Activity	Particular	Unit Cost	Total Cost
1	Venue hire: Conference Room		\$1000 X 2	\$2000
2	Stationery	Notepads Pens Flipcharts Markers Flash drives	\$8 X 22 \$1 X 22 \$24.5 X 4 \$42 (box) X 2 \$29.90 X 5	\$176 \$22 \$98 \$84 \$149.50
4	Meals:	Morning tea Lunch Afternoon tea	\$25 X 22 X 2 \$55 X 22 X 2 \$25 X 22 X 2	\$1100 \$2420 \$1100
5	Total cost WST			\$7,142.50

Budget Breakdown: For Review for Trainings

#	Activity	Particular	Unit Cost	Total Cost
1	Beverages	Coffee Milo Tea	\$70 \$50 \$10	\$70 \$50 \$10
2	Meals	Lunch	\$10 X 10 X 9	\$900
	Total cost WST			\$1,030