



Iraq Biosafety and Laboratory Biosecurity Workshop

Tuesday, January 31, 2012

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Agenda Overview

Day 1

- Introduction to basic concepts and terminology
- Discussion of the benefits of biosafety and biosecurity
- Objectives of a National Biosafety Committee
- Reporting requirements in Iraq
- Discussion of Topical Areas I

Day 2

- Discussion of Topical Areas 2
- Summary of international non-proliferation obligations
- Roundtable open discussion
- Conclusion and Next Steps



The Benefits of Biosafety and Biosecurity

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Paula Austin and Eric Cook, Sandia National Laboratories



Spectrum of Biological Risks





Key Definitions and Concepts - Biosafety

- **Laboratory biosafety** is the set of containment principles, technologies and practices that are implemented to prevent unintentional exposure to pathogens and toxins, or their accidental release
- The concept of biosafety as it is used under the **Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety** focuses on the safe movement of genetically modified organisms (GMO) between countries, and their use within countries.



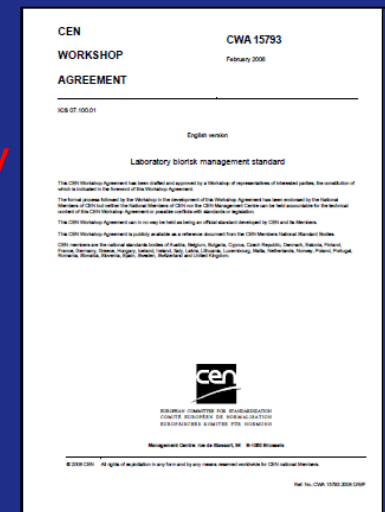
Key Definitions and Concepts - Biosecurity

- **Laboratory biosecurity** is the set of measures aiming at the protection, control and accountability for biological agents and toxins within laboratories, in order to prevent their loss, theft, misuse, diversion of, unauthorized access or intentional unauthorized release
- The concept of biosecurity in the **food and agriculture sector** is the process of managing biological risks to achieve food safety, protect animal and plant life and health, protect the environment and contribute to its sustainable use



Additional Key Definitions and Concepts

- **Biorisk** is “the combination of the probability of occurrence of harm and the severity of that harm where the source of harm is a biological toxin or agent”
 - The source may be an unintentional exposure, accidental release or loss, theft, misuse, diversion, unauthorized access, or intentional unauthorized release.
 - Biorisk is the integration of **biosafety** and **biosecurity**

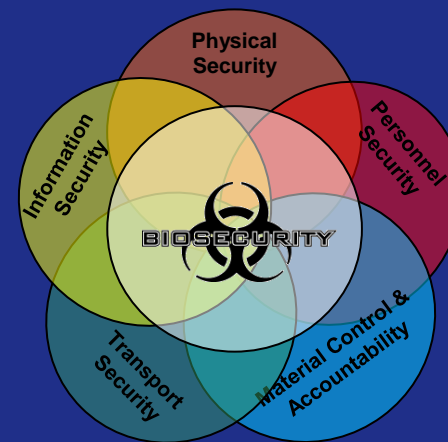


Source: CWA 15790 Laboratory Biorisk Management Standard, Feb 2008



Additional Key Definitions and Concepts

- **Biorisk management** effectively and efficiently manages an institution's biorisks
 - Defines management practices for biosafety and biosecurity, location of the hazards, biological agents and their products
 - Establishes systems and policies to manage the laboratory biorisk
 - Integral in the day-to-day operations of the institute / organization, both in normal times and times of emergency





Additional Key Definitions and Concepts

- **Dual-use** refers to aspects of certain materials, information, research, and technologies with a “legitimate scientific purpose but may be misused to pose a biologic threat to public health and/or national security” (DHHS, NSABB, 2004)



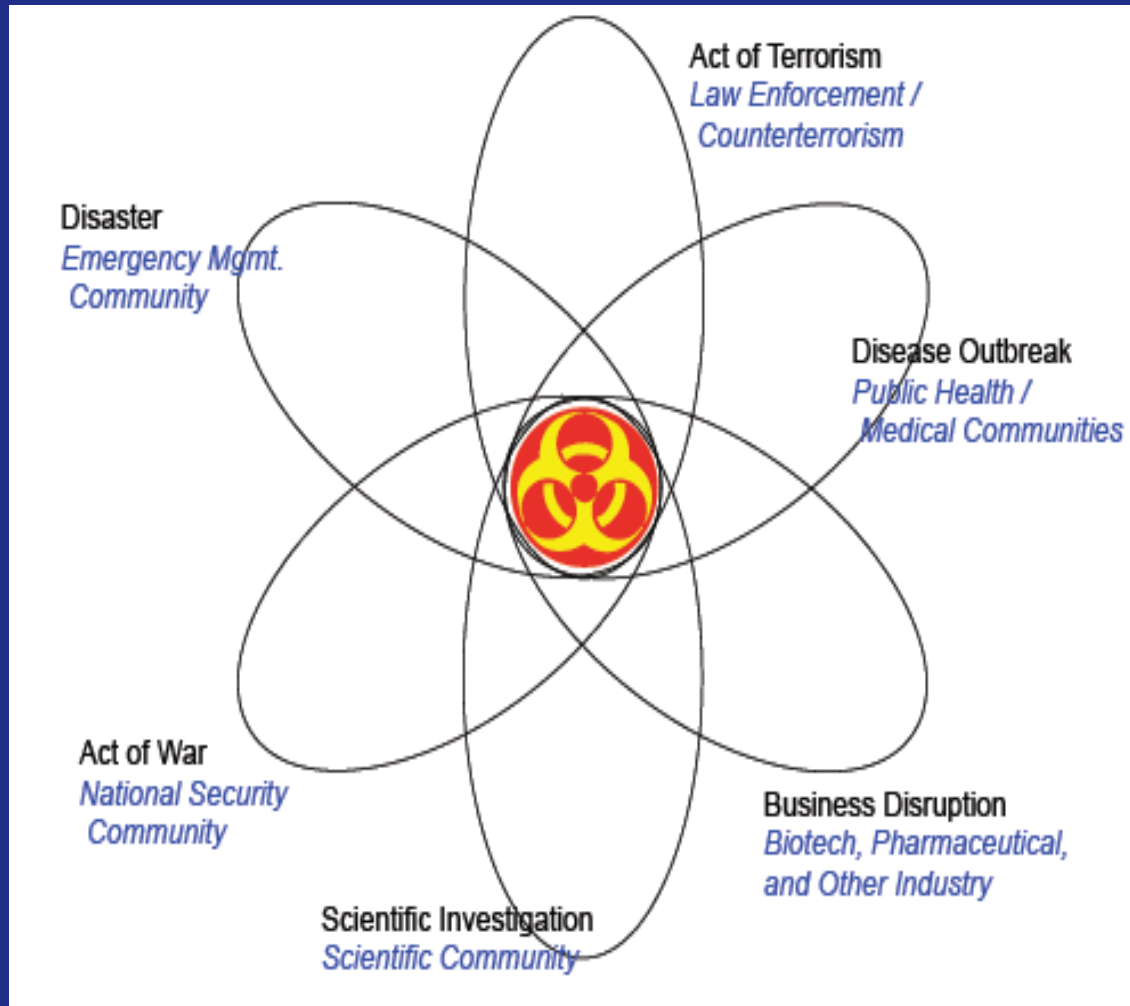
Biosafety and biosecurity offer significant benefits:

- Contains and restricts dangerous biologic agents
- Reduces the potential of exposure of laboratory staff, the public, and the environment
- Improves response capability
- Minimizes impact and spread of animal and human disease outbreaks
- Facilitates international collaboration

Biosafety and biosecurity are important elements to strengthen global health and security



Opportunity: Engaging a Multi-sectoral, Global Community





Biorisk Case Studies

- **Laboratory exposures**
- **Unintentional release from a facility**
- **Theft**
- **Inappropriate shipments**
- **Inventory Discrepancies**
- **Unauthorized Access**
- **Inadequate Biosafety and Biosecurity**
- **Inadequate Training**



Objectives of a National Biosafety Committee

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Eric Cook, Sandia National Laboratories



What is the value of a National Biosafety Committee?

- **Helps to inform policy, both institutional and governmental**
- **Reduce biorisks**
- **Manages dual-use issues**
- **Supports mitigation strategies**
- **Promotes biosafety and biosecurity**
- **Reviews information relating to accidents/incidents/data trends**
- **Helps establish an institutional review and approval process**
- **Publishes national guidance documents**



Objectives of a National Biosafety Committee

- To put in place appropriate policy (national and institutional) and decision-making mechanisms to maximize the potential benefits of biotechnology while minimizing its associated risks
- To reduce risk to human and economic health
- To ensure the effective management of biological materials, in keeping with international standards
- To facilitate public awareness in biosafety and biosecurity policy implementation and transparency in decision-making
- To increase capacity of national institutions to implement and monitor a national framework for biosafety and biosecurity
- To serve as a resource for best laboratory practices



Topical Areas I
Topic 1: Lab Biorisk Management
and Risk Assessment

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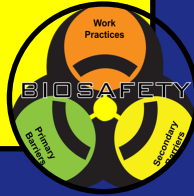
Paula Austin, Sandia National Laboratories



Biosecurity Supports Biosafety

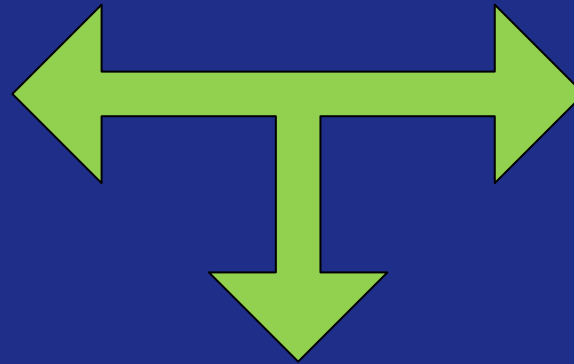
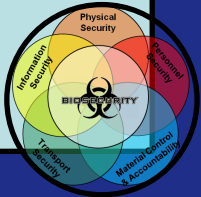
- A set of preventive measures designed to reduce the risk of **accidental** exposure to or release of a biological hazard

Laboratory Biosafety



- A set of preventive measures designed to reduce the risk of **intentional** removal (theft) of a valuable biological material

Laboratory Biosecurity



- Implement graded levels of protection based on a risk management methodology

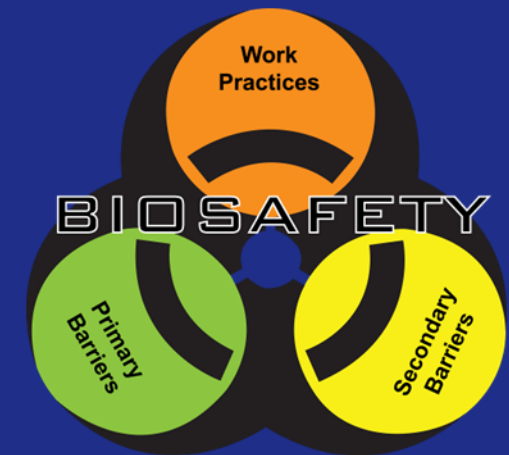
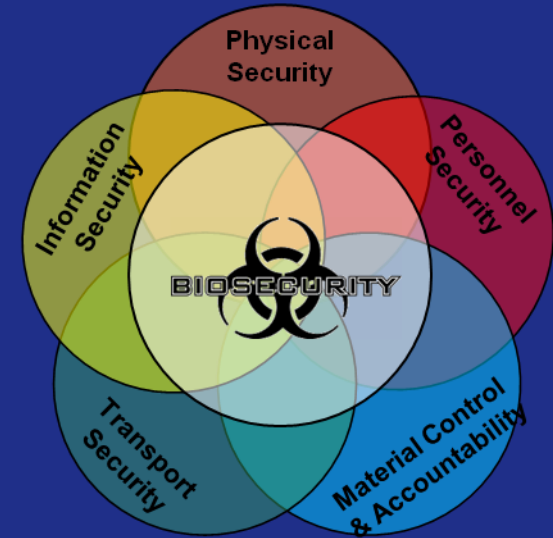
Common Biorisk strategy





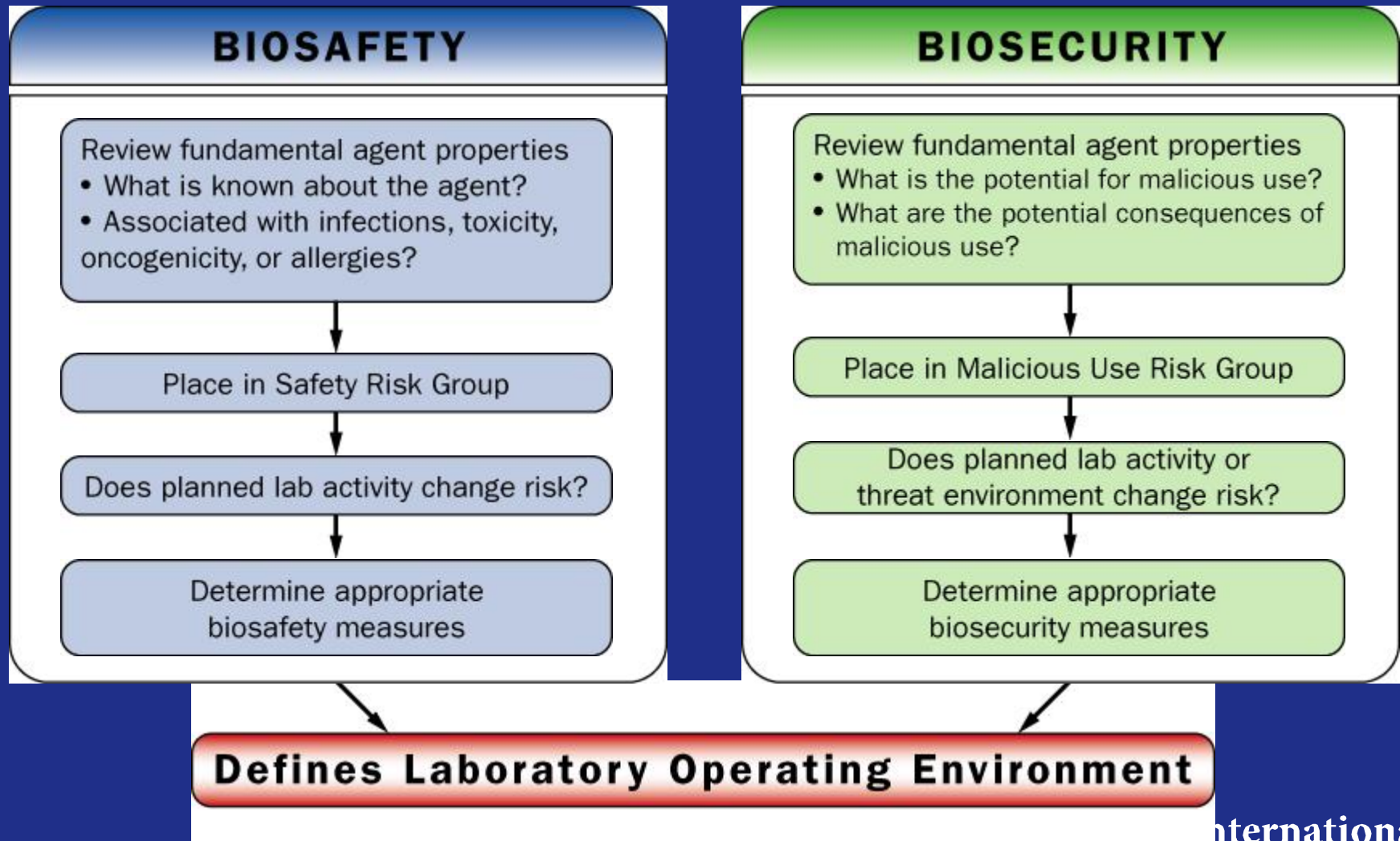
Biosecurity Supports Biosafety

- Laboratory biosecurity supports the laboratory biosafety agenda of preventing disease in people, animals, and plants and minimizing the risk of worker injury
- Biosecurity and biosafety should be integrated systems that avoid compromising necessary infectious disease research and diagnostics





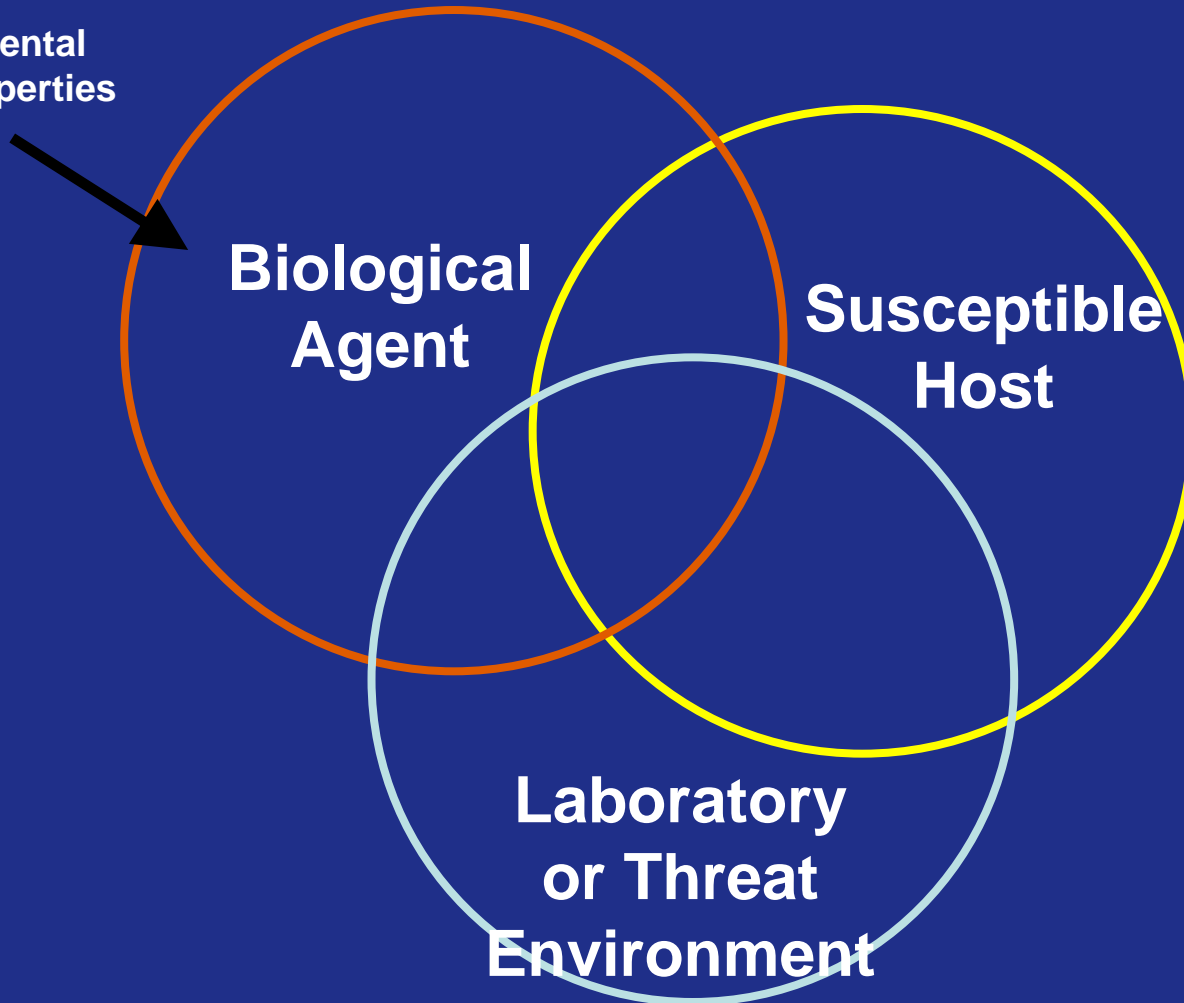
Risk Assessment: Integrated Biosafety and Biosecurity





Biorisk Assessment

Fundamental
agent properties





Risk Management: Implementation of Biosafety

Reservoir of pathogen

Portal of escape

Transmission

Route of entry/infectious dose

Susceptible host

Incubation period

Risk Assessment

Practices/
Equipment

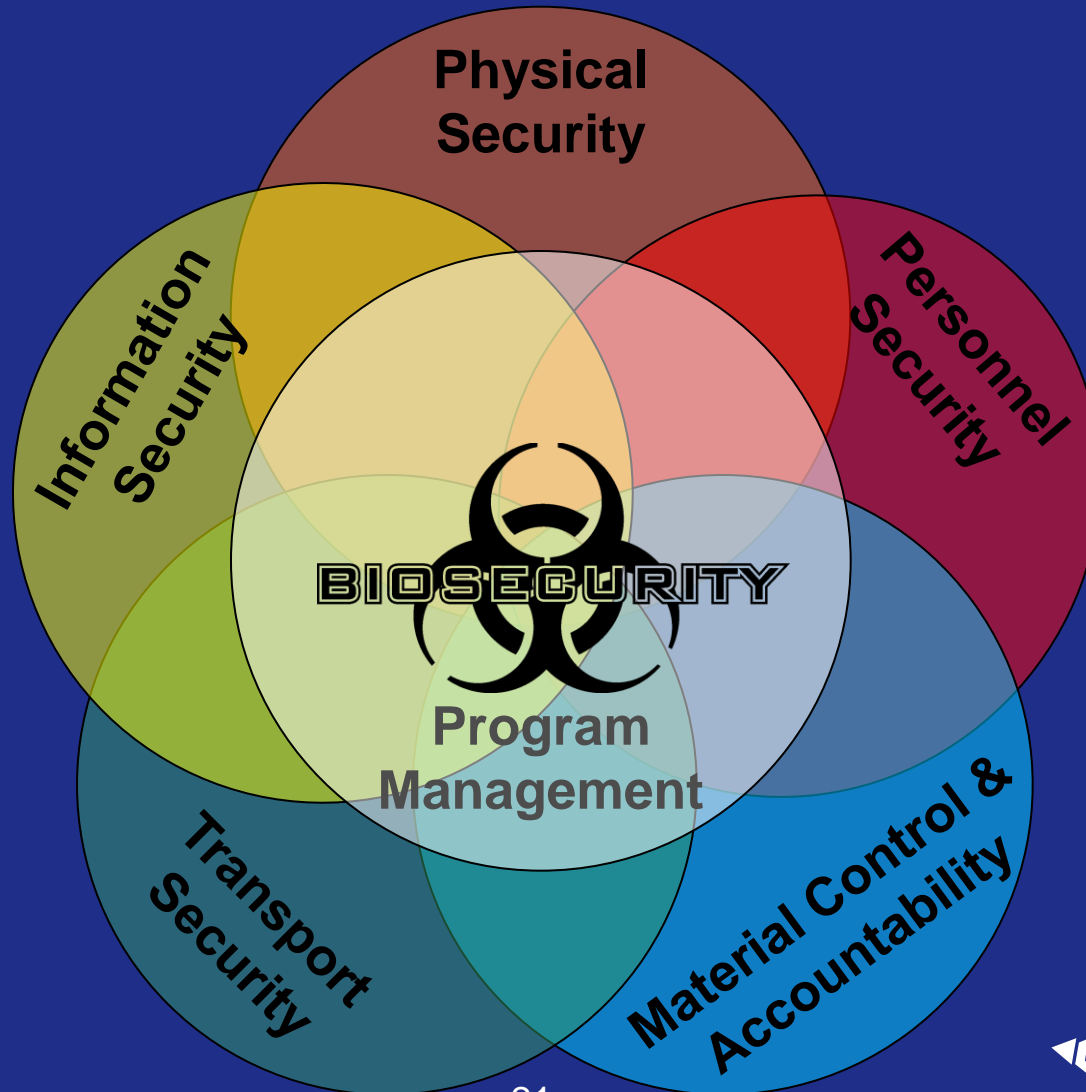
PPE

Immunization

Surveillance



Risk Management: Implementation of Biosecurity



Biosecurity and Biosafety Based on Risk Management

