

Laboratory Biorisk Management – Focus on MC&A, and Good Laboratory Work Practices

Student Guide



Laboratory Biorisk Management –
Focus on MC&A, Good Laboratory
Work Practices, & Decontamination

BEP CBEP

Lab and Field Biosecurity

Group Activity:

What are some **differences** between biological work in the **field** and biological work in the **lab**?

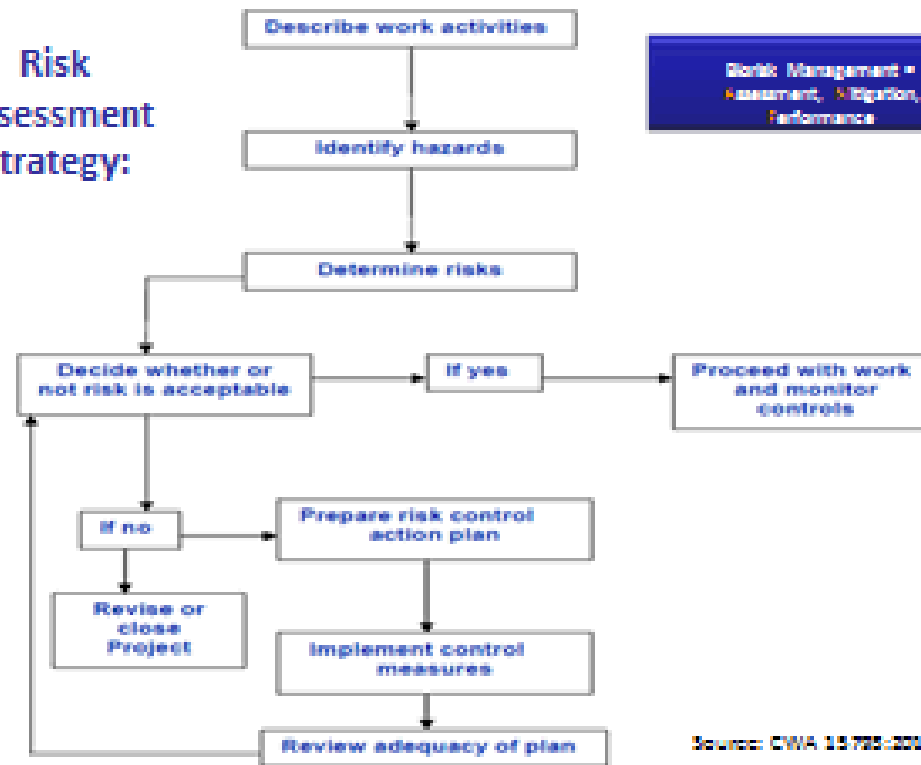
In your small groups, spend **10 minutes** listing as many differences as possible. Write each difference on a sticky note and place them on your flip chart.

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BEP CBEP

Risk Assessment Strategy

Risk Assessment Strategy:



Source: OWA 15.705-2011



Material Control & Accountability

The third “pillar” is **Material Control & Accountability**

Material Control & Accountability is the assurance that there is an awareness of what exists in the laboratory, where it is, and who is responsible for it.

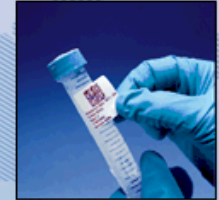


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Material Control & Accountability

The Objective of **MC&A** is to:

- Ensure the complete and timely knowledge of:
 - What materials exist
 - Where the materials are
 - Who is accountable for them
- Objective is **NOT** to detect whether something is missing. This could be impossible. The objective is to create an environment that discourages theft and misuse by establishing oversight.
- Most laboratories already control and track their samples for scientific reasons. The emphasis here is that this is also important from a security perspective.






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Material Control & Accountability

Key Issues in MC&A

- What materials are subject to MC&A measures?
- What operating procedures are associated with the materials?
 - Where can they be stored and used?
 - How are they identified?
 - How is inventory maintained?
- What records need to be kept for those materials? What timeliness requirements are necessary for those records?
- What does accountability mean?
- What documentation and reporting requirements?



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Material Control & Accountability

Material Control & Accountability

What information should we keep track of?

Agent	Quantity	Form	Detail	Scope
Which agents?	Any amount of a replicating organism can be significant.	Repository Stocks, Working Samples, yes...	Materials as Items	Laboratory Strains? Wild-type?
Only viable organisms? Whole org. or just DNA?	For toxins, must define a threshold amount.	What about: In host? Contamination?	Each vial as a separate inventory record?	Clinical Samples?




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Material Control & Accountability

Material **Control** & 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



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Material Control & Accountability

Material Control & **Accountability**

All material should have an associated "accountable person" who is ultimately responsible for the material.

- The person best in a position to answer questions about the associated material
- Not someone to blame!
- Ensure that no material is "orphaned"



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Material Control & Accountability

Material Control & **Accountability**

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- The person best in a position to answer questions about the associated material
- Not someone to blame!
- Ensure that no material is “orphaned”



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Good Laboratory Work Practices

A **Good Laboratory Work Practice** is a practice, technique, or procedure that, when followed, has been demonstrated to **protect** lab workers and the environment and **reduce the risk** of exposure to hazardous agents.



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Good Laboratory Work Practices

Group Activity:

Prepare a list of good laboratory work practices

Questions:

Are GLWPs only concerned with safety and security?

In your group, please spend **10 minutes** to create a list of GLWPs. Write each GLWP on a separate sticky note and place them on your flip chart. Consider the question as you think of your GLWPs.



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Good Laboratory Work Practices

Questions:

- Why are good laboratory work practices so important?
- What is the risk of inadequate laboratory practices?
 - Increased risk posed to people and the environment
 - Increased risk posed by the hazard to people
 - Increased risk posed by people to each other



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Supporting Good Lab Work Practices

Positive vs. Negative Reinforcement

- Positive reinforcement
 - Rewards for periods of no violations
 - Providing solutions to the violations
 - For example, a lunch table outside the lab so no food is brought or consumed in the lab
 - Training
- Negative reinforcement
 - Fines, punitive actions



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Enforcing Good Work Practices

Who is responsible for enforcing GLWP?

- **National/International Laws:**
 - US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), regulated by Congress.
 - » Responsibility for compliance: Employer.
- **Institution:**
 - Biosafety, Biosecurity, Bioethical practices
 - Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
 - Institutional Review Board (IRB)
- **Laboratory:**
 - Lab manager
 - Fellow Researchers
 - **Everyone! It is everyone's responsibility to uphold GLWP**



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Barriers to Good Practices

What barriers must be surmounted?

- **Convenience:**
 - Practice: No food or drink allowed in the lab
 - Problem: No lunch room
 - Result: Food stored and consumed in the lab
 - Assumed Risk: Contamination, risk of infection, accidental exposure
- **Inventory:**
 - Practice: Update the inventory at the end of the day
 - Problem: It's the end of the day, people are tired
 - Result: Out to date or incorrect inventory that is retrospectively updated in the morning
 - Assumed Risk: Theft, misuse, diversion, loss, confusion



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Identifying Poor Laboratory Work Practices

Class Activity:

For each of the following scenarios and pictures, please identify the following:

- The **practice** that is being broken
- The **problem** that the modified practice is trying to "fix"
 - Ex: Eating in the lab. Problem "fixed": there is no lunch room
- The **Result**
- The **Assumed Risk**



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What is wrong with this picture?

- The **GLWP** being broken?
- The **Problem** that the modified practice is trying to "fix"
- The **Result**
- The **Assumed Risk**



Slide 24

What is wrong with this picture?

- The **GLWP** being broken?
- The **Problem** that the modified practice is trying to “fix”
- The **Result**
- The **Assumed Risk**



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Fixing the Poor Practice?



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What is wrong with this picture?

- The **GLWP** being broken?
- The **Problem** that the modified practice is trying to “fix”
- The **Result**
- The **Assumed Risk**



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Practices Matter!

- **Is using a single risk mitigation strategy enough?**
 - **No** – every example shown, misused or misunderstood application of safety and/or security mitigation controls.
- **What can make the difference between success and failure?**
 - Personal responsibility
 - Training in the difference and reasoning between **Good Laboratory Work Practices** and **Poor Laboratory Practices**.



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