

DRAFT

**4th Biorisk Management Workshop:
'Biorisk Assessment: Methodologies and Models'**

April 14 to 17th, 2009
Winnipeg, Canada

Meeting Purpose:

This meeting will convene a group of biosafety and biosecurity subject matter experts to discuss and review factors which contribute to laboratory biorisks. The discussions will be focused to support ongoing efforts that are direct outcomes of past Biorisk Management Workshops. The first discussions will focus on how the relative importance of agent factors differs between an accidental exposure and a malicious release; and how to evaluate the level of risk for the different factors. This meeting will also include discussions on defining and communicating unacceptable and acceptable risks for both biosafety and biosecurity; and how to define the roles and responsibilities for biosafety and biosecurity risk assessments.

Desired outcomes:

1. Determination of relative importance of criteria for biosafety and biosecurity risk assessment methodologies
2. Determination of metrics for evaluating biosafety and biosecurity risk assessment criteria
3. Determining thresholds of acceptable and unacceptable risks
4. Developing roles and responsibilities for executing biosafety and biosecurity risk assessments

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Draft Agenda:

Days will run from 8:45am until 5pm. (Friday will end by 2pm) Lunches are provided and breaks will be taken as needed.

Tuesday April 14, 2009

- Introductions of participants
- Introduction of Biorisk Management Workshop purpose and desired outcomes
- Short review of definitions of biosafety and biosecurity
- Short introduction to biosafety and biosecurity risk assessment processes and the in development models

- Review the agent factors which contribute to consequence of disease and the likelihood of infection
- Discuss the differences between accidental release and malicious release
- Rank (or weight) the factors for both accidental release and malicious release as they impact an individual and as they impact the community (human and animal)

Wednesday April 15, 2009

- Discuss what should be an acceptable level of biosafety or biosecurity risk.
 - How can you define acceptable risk?
 - What are the driving factors that make a risk acceptable or unacceptable?
- Discuss and review historical information which can be used to evaluate thresholds of risk (Risk perceptions, laboratory acquired infections, biological threats, etc)

- Draft metrics for evaluating likelihood of exposure, likelihood of infection, and consequences of disease for an individual working directly with a biological agent.

Thursday April 16, 2009

- Cont' discussions on thresholds of risk and acceptable risk

- Cont' drafting metrics for evaluating likelihood of exposure, likelihood of infection, and consequences of disease for an individual working directly with a biological agent.
- Draft metrics for evaluating consequence of disease to the human and animal communities

Friday April 17, 2009

- Draft metrics for evaluating risk mitigation measures

- Discuss roles and responsibilities for executing biosafety and biosecurity risk assessments
 - Who should be conducting the assessments?
 - How often should they be conducted?
 - Who should have the authority to define an acceptable risk or to halt work?
- Approached for a unified laboratory biorisk framework – introduction of new project

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