



## ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS PATHOGENS

### WORK PLAN FOR 2007/2008

#### Issue

1. Members are asked to consider and agree the draft ACDP Work Plan for 2007/8

#### Work Plans

2. Last year ACDP published a work plan for 2006/7 and this is given in Annex 2 for ease of reference. Based on last year's work plan and current developments, a work plan for 2007/8 has been drafted for Members' consideration (Annex 1)
3. The TSE Working Group has produced a separate work plan, which will be published alongside the ACDP work plan on the ACDP website. This work plan is included as Annex 3 and has been signed off by the TSE Working Group at their recent meeting
4. The draft work plan contains specific objectives for 2007/2008 with expected completion dates given

#### Action

5. Members are asked to consider and agree the ACDP work plan for 2007/2008 given in Annex 1
6. Members are asked to consider and agree the ACDP TSE Working Group work plan for 2007/2008 given in Annex 3

**Secretariat**  
**May 2007**

**Annex 1**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS PATHOGENS**

**DRAFT WORK PLAN FOR 2007/2008**

1. To complete the revision of the ACDP's 1996 Guidance: '*Management and Control of Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers*' for publication on the ACDP website by late 2008
2. To review and revise the ACDP's 1996 guidance: '*Protection against blood-borne infections in the workplace: HIV and hepatitis*', and issue the revised guidance in 2008
3. To review and revise the ACDP guidance: 'Transmissible spongiform encephalopathy agents: safe working and the prevention of infection' and maintain oversight of the ACDP TSE Working Group's work plan for 2007/2008
4. To review the recommended measures for pandemic influenza in relation to worker safety and public health
5. To advise the Department of Health on isolation facilities to be provided within the NHS

**Annex 2**

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS PATHOGENS**

**WORK PLAN FOR 2006/2007**

1. To complete and update ACDP's 1996 BSE Occupational Guidance and publish on the ACDP website by Summer 2006
2. To complete and produce Guidance on Animal Isolators for small animals infected with Biological Agents and publish on ACDP website by Summer 2006
3. To complete the revision and update of the ACDP's 1996 Guidance: '*Management and Control of Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers*' and publish on the ACDP website by Summer 2007
4. To review and revise ACDP guidance dealing with Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs): *Protection against blood-borne infections in the workplace: HIV and hepatitis 1996* and look to issue revised guidance in the next Reporting Year
5. To maintain oversight of developments related to Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE) and to drive forward delivery of the outputs of the ACDP TSE Working Group as given in the approved TSE Working Group's work plan for 2006/2007
6. To review the recommended measures for pandemic influenza in relation to worker safety and public health
7. To provide advice, where necessary, to the Department of Health/ Defra on the work of the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS)
8. To produce the electronic newsletter of the ACDP: the *Biological Agents Bulletin* in Summer 2006

**Annex 3****Work Plan for the ACDP TSE Working Group 2007/2008**

1. To review and update the current TSE guidance\* when new evidence becomes available
2. To draft an additional annex of the TSE guidance\* to provide comprehensive and up-to-date advice on Ophthalmology and CJD infection control. Expected publication of guidance in 2008
3. In conjunction with the work of ESAC-Pr<sup>†</sup>, to consider and draft relevant guidance when necessary on the handling and disposal of single-use surgical instruments
4. To supplement the TSE guidance\* with additional advice on the handling of samples in neuropathology and histopathology specifically from individuals identified as at risk of CJD. Expected publication of guidance in late 2007
5. To review the draft text on dialysis equipment and CJD (Annex G of the TSE guidance\*)
6. To revise Annex F of the TSE guidance\* on the decontamination of endoscopes, to include possible alternatives to permanent quarantining of endoscopes and modifications to endoscopes to prevent contamination for certain procedures
7. To respond to any policy issues arising from consideration of recent HPA dentistry studies
8. To address issues of risk management as they arise

\* The TSE guidance referred to above is the "Transmissible spongiform encephalopathy agents: safe working and the prevention of infection" available from:

<http://www.advisorybodies.doh.gov.uk/acdp/tseguidance/>

The guidance was published in 2003 but individual sections are revised as further scientific information becomes available or future policy decisions need to be reflected.

† ESAC-Pr – The Engineering & Science Advisory Committee into the Decontamination of Surgical Instruments including Prion Removal