

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON DANGEROUS PATHOGENS

Review of published ACDP guidance

Issue

1. The committee reviewed a list of its published occupationally related guidance at the last meeting in October. Members were asked to identify those documents likely to be considered for review and consequently placed on ACDP's future work plans.

Background

2. ACDP's occupationally related guidance covers many topic areas and encompasses a large number of industry sectors. Current guidance which remains extant ranges as far back as 1994 to the present. With the passage of time, scientific and technological advancements, some of the guidance documents may now be outdated. Furthermore with the advent of the new single regulatory framework and "Contained Use" 2010 regulations due for implementation in October of this year, all of the existing guidance material will reference legislation that has been amended or revoked. Members considered the list of current documents at the last meeting in October and provided a steer on the documents requiring change together with priorities. The committee identified the following publications as a priority for revision;

- The management, design and operation of microbiological containment laboratories (2001)
- Biological agents: Managing the risks in laboratories and healthcare premises (2005)
- Working safely with research animals (1997)
- The large-scale contained use of biological agents (1998)

The Secretariat agreed to review these documents and propose a workplan for members to consider. Attached (Annex 1) is a proposal for revision and eventual withdrawal of the above documents taking into account the audience, main purpose and content of each against the new CU2010 biosafety guidelines.

Action

The committee is asked to;

- Consider the proposal to make the new CU2010 guidelines central to future related documents and
- agree in principal to brigade all existing relevant information into selected and specifically identified electronic specialist supplements, linked a the central core

(CU2010); reducing the likelihood of repetition whilst retaining, building upon and adding new material into supplements, by subject matter, as necessary.

- Agree on formation of a new working group (possibly two) to begin work later this year.

Diagram 1 below illustrates the approach, using in the first case CU2010 as the central core linking by subject matter updated supplements such as laboratory based issues; experimental animals; large scale etc. related to deliberate handling i.e. contained use. ACDP also produces occupational guidance linked to incidental exposure such as BBV, VHF etc. for which the central core would be the amended COSHH regulations as indicated in **Diagram 2**.

With the development of electronic documents and associated hyperlinks this approach should allow amendments to core and supplements with relative ease, prevent duplication and allow withdrawal of outdated publications.

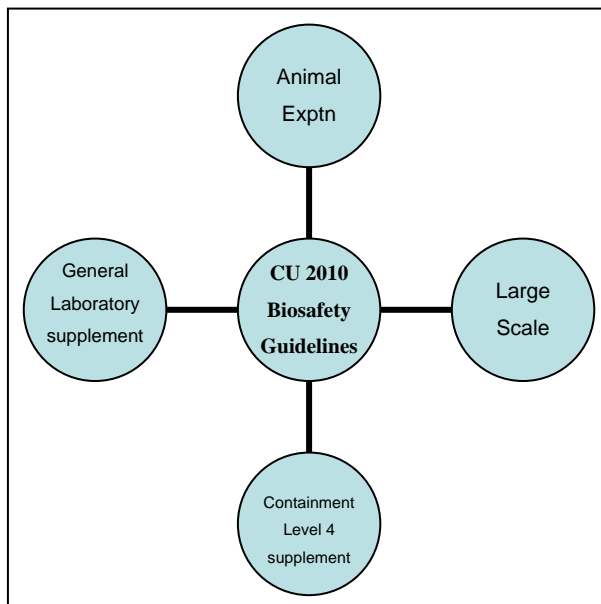


Diagram 1:
Publications relating Contained Use 2010 regulations

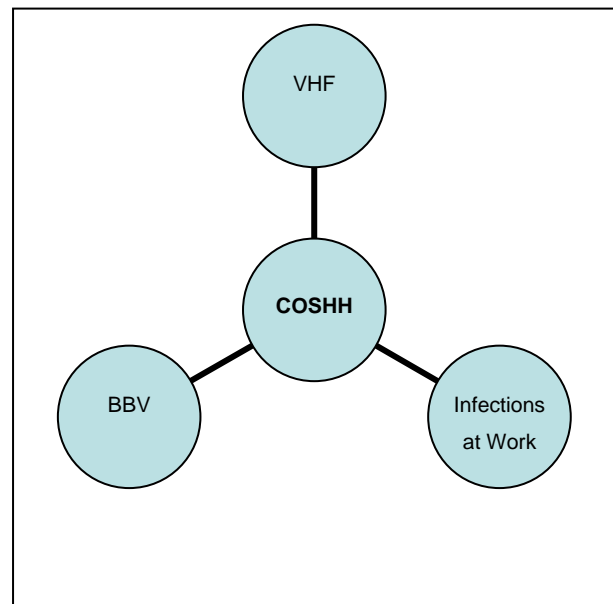


Diagram 2:
Publications relating amended COSHH regulations

Secretariat