

# DRAFT

**Open Government  
Status: Fully Open**

**ACDP/79/P5**

## **Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens**

### **ACDP Work Plan for 2005/6**

#### **Issue**

1. Members are asked to consider and approve the draft ACDP Work Plan for 2005/6.

#### **Background**

2. Members were presented with a draft ACDP Work Plan for 2005/06 at the September 2004 meeting. Members were asked for any suggestions for items that should be included on the Plan.
3. Members suggested that ACDP should endeavour to address the training of personnel working in Containment Level 4 laboratory settings.
4. The Secretariat has made amendments and provided further detail in the Work Plan (Annex 1). Once finalised, the Work Plan will be placed on the ACDP website.

#### Additional Considerations

5. HSE has had a number of inquiries about some of the advice in the ACDP guidance on blood borne viruses. HSE will therefore look into these issues and the guidance, and will report back to ACDP in May. ACDP members are asked to forward any evidence or concerns about the status or information in the current BBV guidance to the HSE secretariat
6. The Anti-terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 introduced a number of security requirements for laboratories handling certain dangerous pathogens. ACDP guidance, where appropriate, should cross-refer to this legislation (as has been done in the Managing the Risks guidance). HSE will systematically review current ACDP guidance, and where a clear need for change is identified will bring the relevant

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guidance, with suggested amending text, to ACDP for endorsement.

## **Action**

5. Members are asked to approve the Work Plan for 2005/6.

**Secretariat**

**August 2004**

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## Annex 1:

### **Advisory Committee on Dangerous Pathogens (ACDP) Work Plan for 2005/6**

- To develop comprehensive guidance on intentional work with highly pathogenic (ACDP HG 4 and others) agents including consideration of appropriate training.
- To investigate the options for revising and updating the current ACDP Guidance: '*Management and Control of Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers*'
- To complete the update of the ACDP's 1996 BSE Occupational Guidance, which will be published on the ACDP website once complete.
- To produce the electronic newsletter of the ACDP: the *Biological Agents Bulletin*, in response to the information needs of the 'Dangerous Pathogens' stakeholder networks.
- To maintain oversight and monitor developments on the suggested link between Mycobacterium Avium subspecies Paratuberculosis (MAP) and human health.
- To provide advice on worker protection and public health implications for government guidelines dealing with possible bio-terrorism emergencies i.e. smallpox
- To review the suitability of the current ACDP guidance dealing with Blood Borne Viruses (BBVs): *Protection against blood-borne infections in the workplace: HIV and hepatitis 1996* (ISBN0113219539).
- To address issues relating to the worker safety and public health implications of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSEs). The work of the TSE WG also includes the production and monitoring of the current TSE guidance, as necessary.
- To monitor developments and provide advice on the implications of UK cases of European Bat Lyssavirus (EBLV).
- To provide advice, where necessary, to the Department of Health/Defra on the work of the Pet Travel Scheme (PETS).