Clinical Labs and Select Agents

Betsy Weirich, MS, SM(NRM), CBSP Centers for Disease Control and Prevention The information in this presentation referring to select agents is for instructional purposes only.

For Specific Questions
And Guidance Please Refer to:

CDC Select Agent Program www.cdc.gov/od/sap

Federal Regulations 42 CFR Part 73

Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents and Toxins, Final Rule

Prior to Select Agent Regulation

- There were no laws governing movement of human pathogens (except import and export permits)
- First Select Agent regulation (1995) covered only the transfer of agents

42 CFR 73

- March 18, 2005: Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents and Toxins; Final Rule (HHS)
- Covers agents that have the potential to pose severe threat to public health and safety, to animal health, or to animal products

Select Agents

- Three government agencies
 - HHS (CDC)
 - USDA (APHIS)
 - DoJ (FBI)
- · Three regulations
 - 42 CFR 73 (HHS human pathogens)

Select Agents

- 9 CFR 121 (USDA animal pathogens)
- -7 CFR 331 (USDA plant pathogens)
- Some agents are on both HHS and USDA lists-Overlap Agents

42 CFR 73

 Unless exempted under 73.5, 73.6, or 9 CFR 121.6, an individual or entity shall not possess, use, or transfer any HHS or overlap select agent or toxin without a certificate of registration issued by the HHS Secretary

42 CFR 73

 Any laboratory intending to confirm the identity of any SA and/or maintain a stock of viable SA must register with Select Agent Program (SAP) at CDC or USDA

42 CFR 73

- Registration
- · Responsible Official
- Restricting access; security risk assessments
- Security
- Biosafety
- · Incident response

42 CFR 73

- Training
- Transfers
- Records
- · Inspections
- · Notification of theft, loss or release
- · Civil money penalties

Clinical Laboratories Do Not Need to Register with the Select Agent Program:

- Provided Isolates Are:
 - Suspected isolates of SA are forwarded to a registered LRN lab for confirmatory identification

Clinical Laboratories Do Not Need to Register with the Select Agent Program:

 Patient specimens, isolates and/or stock cultures are not maintained destroyed or transferred within 7 days after confirmation (90 days for PT)

Select Agents

 Any laboratory identifying SA (presumptive or confirmed) must secure the specimen, isolate or toxin against theft, loss or release from identification to transfer or destruction

Select Agents

- Theft
 - Removal by unauthorized personnel
- Loss
 - Unaccounted absence
- Release
 - Outside of primary containment
- Occupational exposure

Reporting and Documentation

- Form 2: Transfer of SA-prior approval
- Form 3: Theft, loss, or release
 - Includes occupational exposure
 - Report immediately (same day) by phone, fax, email for some agents
 - Notify local law enforcement
 - File form within 7 days

Reporting and Documentation

- Form 4: Confirmed identification of SA
 - In initial receiving lab and/or subsequent reference lab
 - PT isolates
 - Final disposition

Consult with Your State Public Health Laboratory About Select Agent

- Handling
- Destroying
- Transporting
- Documentation



