

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LABORATORIES

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Date of interview _____/_____/_____	Interviewer's name: _____
Department/province: _____	Municipality/district: _____
Laboratory name: _____	
Laboratory level: Regional Ref. Lab () National Ref. Lab () Subnational Lab ()	
Person interviewed: _____	Position: _____

		EVALUATION CRITERIA		RESPONSE		COMMENTS - OBSERVATIONS			
Ask	1.1	Does the laboratory perform tests for the investigation of EPI diseases?				If the response is no, go directly to Part IV.			
Ask	1.2	For which of the following diseases are laboratory diagnostic tests performed?				Has a protocol	Type of tests performed	N° of samples processed	Comments
	1.2.1	Measles and rubella							If the response is YES, complete Part II - MEA/RUB; if the response is NO continue with Parts I and IV.
	1.2.2	Poliomyelitis							If the response is YES, complete Part III - Polio; if the response is NO, continue with Parts I and IV.
	1.2.3	Diphtheria							
	1.2.4	Whooping cough							
	1.2.5	Influenza							
	1.2.6	Diarrheal diseases caused by rotavirus							
	1.2.7	Invasive bacterial diseases							
	1.2.8	Yellow fever							
	1.2.9	Other (specify):							
Ask	1.3	How are positive and negative results for vaccine-preventable diseases (VPD) reported?				Specify.			
Verify	1.4	Is training provided to the personnel that collect samples at the local or intermediate levels? Indicate the frequency and provide data on the training workshops.				Specify.			
Ask	1.5	Have laboratory personnel been trained in biosafety standards?				Specify.			
Ask	1.6	Is there a vaccination program for laboratory staff?				Specify the schedule.			
Verify	1.7	The laboratory has:							
	1.7.1	-20 °C freezers?				Record the temperature at the time of the visit.			
	1.7.2	-70 °C freezers?				Record the temperature at the time of the visit.			
Ask	1.8	Are financial resources available to support							
	1.8.1	Training?							
	1.8.2	Sending samples to another laboratory?							
	1.8.3	Equipment maintenance and repair?							

INTERVIEW GUIDE FOR LABORATORIES (CONTINUED)

	EVALUATION CRITERIA	RESPONSE		COMMENTS - OBSERVATIONS	
		Yes	No		
PART I. GENERALITIES	1.8.4 Contracting human resources?				
	1.8.5 Procurement of reagents and supplies?				
	1.8.6 Procurement of office equipment (telephone, fax, computers)?				
	1.8.7 Procurement of laboratory equipment?				
	1.8.8 Other?				
	Ask	1.9 Does the laboratory participate in periodic meetings with epidemiologists and the EPI to coordinate surveillance and final classification of cases?			
	Ask	1.10 Does the laboratory receive supervisory visits?			
	Ask	1.11 Does it perform quality control tests?			
		1.11.1 Internal			
		1.11.2 External			
Verify	1.12 Years and results of the most recent quality control tests.			Record the percentage of concordance for this level.	
Verify	1.13 Does the laboratory keep records of all the tests performed?			Specify.	
PART II. MEASLES/RUBELLA (MEA/RUB)	Ask	2.1 Is the IgM for measles and for rubella analyzed simultaneously for each suspected case?			Specify.
	Ask	2.2 Are other diagnostic tests (IgG, PCR, culture, others) available for measles and rubella?			Specify which ones.
	Ask	2.3 Are differential diagnoses made for other febrile rash illnesses?			Specify.
		2.4 Samples:			Specify.
	Verify	2.4.1 Do they arrive with completed reporting forms?			Specify any incomplete data.
	Ask	2.4.2 Do they meet the minimum standards (quantity and temperature) for optimal processing according to the type of test to be performed?			Describe the main difficulties.
	Verify	2.5 Does this laboratory comply with the indicator to report laboratory results to the appropriate level within 4 days?			If it does not comply, why not?
PART III. POLIO	Verify	3.1 Does this laboratory send samples of acute flaccid paralysis to another laboratory?			Specify the laboratory.
	Ask	3.2 How long does it take on average (weeks or months) to obtain results on acute flaccid paralysis samples?			Specify.
		3.3 Samples:			Specify.
	Verify	3.3.1 Do they arrive with completed reporting forms?			Specify any incomplete data.
	Ask	3.3.2 Do they meet the minimum standards (quantity and temperature) for optimal processing according to the type of test to be performed?			Describe the main difficulties.

