



The Arizona Border Study

An Extension of the Arizona National Human Exposure Assessment Survey (NHEXAS)Study Sponsored by the Environmental Health Workgroup of the Border XXI Program

Quality Systems and Implementation Plan for Human Exposure Assessment

The University of Arizona Tucson, Arizona 85721

Cooperative Agreement CR 824719

Standard Operating Procedure

SOP-UA-T-3.0

Title: Field Personnel Training--General

Source: The University of Arizona

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Office of Research and Development Human Exposure & Atmospheric Sciences Division Exposure & Dose Research Branch

Notice: The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), through its Office of Research and Development (ORD), partially funded and collaborated in the research described here. This protocol is part of the Quality Systems Implementation Plan (QSIP) that was reviewed by the EPA and approved for use in this demonstration/scoping study. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by EPA for use.

Environmental Protection Agency 7,14.47	NHEXAS Arizona Projec)
Title: FIELD PERSONNEL TRAINING - GE	NERAL	
Document No. UA-T-3.0	APPROVALS	
<pre></pre>	on Site Principal Investigator:	
Issue Date: 9 14 95	Project QA Director:	
Revision No. 3.0	Independent Reviewer:	
Revision No: Revision Date:	On Site PI:	
Revision Made:	Project QA Director:	
	Independent Reviewer:	
Revision No: Revision Date:	On Site PI:	
Revision Made:	Project QA Director:	
·	Independent Reviewer:	-
	Revision No.	
Distributed To:		

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Field Personnel Training - General

1.0 PURPOSE AND APPLICABILITY

The purpose of this SOP is to describe basic pre- and post-field visit activities and standards which are expected of every Field Team member. This procedure must be followed to ensure consistent data custody, storage, transfer and analysis of a high quality for the NHEXAS Arizona Projects of the University of Arizona/Battelle/Illinois Institute of Technology Consortium.

2.0 DEFINITIONS

Other Health + Environment

- 2.1 BATCH = A collection of individual completed HH packets which have been collated for the purpose of tracking. The HH packets are sent as a batch to be entered into the electronic database, verified and cleaned. The Data Coordinator "batches" packets received from the Field Coordinator.
- 2.2 BUCKET = A plastic container with a buckle top. One bucket is assigned to each household to be visited. Household identification and stage numbers are listed on the outside of the container. The bucket contains all paperwork to be completed by field staff or household respondents. It serves as the primary vehicle for securing and transporting forms, data and samples to and from the field through the course of the study.
- 2.3 CHAIN OF CUSTODY RECORD = A vital data tracking and quality assurance form which is attached to every field sampling data sheet (see Fig. 1).
- 2.4 DATA COORDINATOR = The employee of the research project who supervises data batching, entry, and verification.
- 2.5 FIELD = The sampling environment or the site at which data will be collected. This is almost always at the residence of the primary respondent.
- 2.6 FIELD KIT = A sampling tool-box containing appropriate collection and storage utensils.
- 2.7 FIELD COORDINATOR = The employee of the research project who supervises field data collection and operations. The Field Coordinator collates individual data into HH packets, and upon completion of all visits, sampling, and QA checks, forwards the packet to the Data Coordinator.
- 2.8 FORM, PHYSICAL = The paper or "hard copy" original of the data which is collected in the field. Form is also a generic term for any piece of paper data, such as records and check sheets, questionnaires, etc., which are collected for analysis.
- 2.9 HOUSEHOLD(HH) = The residence occupied by study respondents.

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- 2.10 HOUSEHOLD IDENTIFICATION NUMBER(HHID) = A unique number and character combination which is assigned to each respondent household for identification purposes. This number must be recorded on all data (forms, samples, questionnaires and correspondence) generated by the household.
- 2.11 MATERIALS TECHNICIAN = The employee of the research project who is responsible for assembling and assigning field forms, questionnaires and equipment for field use.
- 2.12 N/A = Not Applicable.
- 2.13 PACKET = A sturdy envelope-like container that can be fully closed and is large enough to hold the physical data forms generated from sampling and surveying a study household.
- 2.14 QUALITY ASSURANCE(QA) = All those planned and systematic actions necessary for ensuring the accuracy, validity, integrity, preservation and utility of collected data.
- 2.15 QUALITY CONTROL(QC) = Those quality assurance actions providing a means to control and measure the characteristics of a datum, process, or the adherence to established parameters.
- 2.16 SAMPLE = That piece of physical data which is collected from the study participants for the purpose of scientific analysis.
- 2.17 TEAM LEADER = The member of the field team who is primarily responsible for respondent contact, data collection, field form and questionnaire completion, and site QC checks of all data.
- 2.18 TEAM MEMBER = The member of a field team responsible for assisting the team leader in the collection of data and quality control checks in the field.
- 2.19 TRACKING SYSTEM = A database system containing information about the custody, transfer and storage of hard copy data, electronic data, field samples, and field sample alloquats.
- 2.20 VISIT = A scheduled appointment with participating respondents at their place of residence (HH) for the collection of samples, questionnaires and other data.

3.0 REFERENCES

3.1 Lebowitz, M.D. 1993. Study Design (Revision of 31 Dec. 1993). <u>EPA NHEXAS</u> Cooperative <u>Agreement</u>.

4.0 DISCUSSION

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- 4.1 This SOP outlines generalities in the training of field team members. Pre- and post-field visit activities and on-site data collection standards. Data retrieval and handling are the primary job responsibilities of all field team members. Team members are expected to execute their responsibilities in an exhaustive and comprehensive fashion in accordance with stated protocol.
- 4.2 Data collected in noncompliance with minimum quality control checks and standards are considered questionable and of limited use to the research endeavor. Proper sample collection, custody and handling must concern all field staff.

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 The Field Coordinator is responsible for:
 - (a) overall quality of the data retrieved by the field teams,
 - (b) post-field QA checks of all data collected by the field teams,
 - (c) accepting custody of all data returned from the field.
- 5.2 The Team Leader is responsible for:
 - (a) overall quality of data collected from the HH,
 - (b) HH and Respondent interaction with the study,
 - (c) coordination and direction of team members in the field,
 - (d) quality assurance & control issues in the field,
 - (e) Chain of Custody procedures and records.
- 5.3 All Team Members are responsible for:
 - (a) obtaining all data according to protocol,
 - (b) properly labeling and storing the collected sample,
 - (c) fully completing all applicable fields on data form,
 - (d) quality control checks in the field.

6.0 MATERIALS AND REAGENTS

6.1 Materials

Materials required to successfully achieve the minimum standards demanded by this protocol will vary according to the data collection method employed.

6.2 Reagents - N/A

7.0 PROCEDURE

- 7.1 Preparation (Pre-Field Procedures)
 - (a) Pre-field standards expected of all team members include punctuality, professionalism, safety and reliability.

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- (b) The particular equipment requirements for the preparation of field visits and sampling are outlined in the appropriate sampling protocol. Field kits must be adequately stocked and maintained at all times.
- (c) HH buckets will be maintained by the Team Leader for the duration of sampling during each visit series or stage.
- (d) Pre-field checks of equipment are required of all Team Members.
- (e) The nature of this research project requires flexibility and team members must be prepared to respond to a variety of sampling environments. "Back-up" plans and necessary supplies to respond to these different environments may become a key element in the success of the sampling visit and the research project as a whole.
- (f) The Team Leader will have access to the Confidential Home Appointment Sheet (Fig. 2) which details confidential address and last name information for the purpose of HH contact. This sheet is produced through an interface of the Confidential database and the NHEXAS tracking system.
- (g) This confidential information is not to be revealed to anyone without a critical need to know. No-one other than project personnel directly involved with the field sampling component of this research study would have any legitimate reason to inquire as to the identity of persons participating in this project (see UA-G-3.0).

7.1.1 Reagents - N/A

7.1.2 Standards & Blanks - N/A

7.2 In-Field Procedure

- (a) Team Leader coordinates with Stage 1 interviewer and makes sure informed consent has been obtained. If not, he or she obtains consent to sampling from respondent(s) in each HH. The team leader then assigns sampling tasks to team members.
- (b) Sampling will proceed according to the appropriate SOPs. All team members must adhere to accepted sample collection methods. Records of sampling and data sheets <u>must</u> be completed comprehensively and exhaustively.
- (c) In-field QC checks of data and method are the responsibility of all field personnel. Specific cross-check tasks will be assigned by the Team Leader. Team members will double check each others work to insure compliance with the appropriate protocol and prevent error.
- (d) Every form, questionnaire, sample and data item collected must be labeled with the HHID, type of sample, date of collection, time of collection and collecting Team Member's initials at a minimum.
- (e) Before leaving the sampling environment all equipment and samples will be inventoried and sampler placement verified by the Team Leader. Arrangements for the follow-up visit will be made by the Team Leader.
- (f) Samples will be stored according to protocol for transport back to the Field Office.

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7.3 Post-Field

- (a) Samples collected will be stored and processed upon return to the Field Office as defined in the appropriate SOP. The original completed Chain of Custody Record (Fig.1) will be secured with the sample at all times.
- (b) The Team Leader will review the visit with other team members to promote a continual feedback process. The team will collectively review data and forms collected to insure completeness of data records.
- (c) The Team Leader will forward the original forms to the Field Coordinator within 24 hours of collection.
- (d) Team Leader will report sampling accomplished and the follow-up visit date to the Field Supervisor through the use of a Visit Summary Sheet (Fig. 3).
- 7.4 Analyses N/A
- 7.4.1 Standards/Blanks N/A
- 7.4.2 Samples N/A
- 7.5 Calculations N/A
- 7.6 Quality Control
- 7.6.1 Tolerance Limits

All data collected will be 100% QA checked.

- 7.6.2 Detection Limits N/A
- 7.6.3 Corrective Actions

Apparent mislabeling problems detected in the field may be corrected by the Team Members when appropriate and in compliance with SOP #UA-C-2.0. In the HH sampling site, the Team Leader supervises all work, assigns cross-checking tasks, and QC checks all completed forms. Team members work collectively and check each other's work for accuracy, precision and compliance with the appropriate SOPs. The Team Leader must QC check each form retrieved within 24 hours of collection at which time it is forwarded to the Field Coordinator for QA check. The Field Coordinator must QA check the data record within 24 hours of receipt from the Team Leader, or within 48 hours of collection by the field team.

8.0 RECORDS

8.1 General

Specific records will vary according to procedure defined in the SOP. All records will be completed exhaustively and comprehensively by assigned field members. Without proper documentation, the data collected by Team Members is not usable.

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8.2 Data Sample

All sample containers will have HHID, date, time, sample type and Team Member initials recorded upon it with indelible ink. Sample containers will be processed for SOP-specified shipment and analysis upon return to the Field Office.

8.3 Chain of Custody Record (Fig. 1).

This record will serve as the primary record of sample custody after collection in the field. The Team Leader is responsible for the thorough completion of this form. The completed original Chain of Custody Record will remain with the data sample.

8.4 Confidential Home Appointment Sheet (Fig. 2).

This record is produced by a link between the confidential database and the NHEXAS tracking system. It is one of the fundamental tracking records of the NHEXAS Arizona project.

8.5 Visit Summary Sheet (Fig. 3).

This record is produced by the Team Leader at the conclusion of each HH visit. It is then submitted with all data records which have been QC checked by the Team Leader to the Field Coordinator within 24 hours of visit completion. It provides a summary of the field sampling activities by the field team on that visit.

Figure 1. Chain of Custody Record.

		NHE	Chain of Custody XAS Arizona Projec Respiratory Sci 1435 N. Fremo Tucson, AZ 8 (520) 626 - 4	t (CR-821 iences nt Ave 5719	560)	
Sample Type:				_ •		page of
Generated by:		rint name		_/sig	mature	
Date Generated	Time		Sample ID	# c Conta		Remarks
	:					
		History	of Sample Hand	ling and (Custod	у
Relinquished or Received	Signa	ture	Date mo / day / yr	Time		Action
[Rel] or [Rec]				:		
Rel or Rec				:		
[Rel] or [Rec]			_//	:		
[Rel] or [Rec]				;		
Rel or [Rec]			//	:		
[Rel] or [Rec]		-		:		
[Rel] or [Rec]				:		
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[Rel] or [Rec]				 :		
[Rel] or [Rec]			<i>_/_/_</i>	<u>:</u>	<u> </u>	
Rel or Rec		<u> </u>	 	<u>:</u>		
[Rel] or [Rec]			 			
[Rel] or [Rec]			 			
[Rel] or [Rec]		<u>.</u>	 	 :	-	
Rel or Rec				:		

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Figure 2. Confidential Home Appointment Sheet. wind pender Alli 10/15/15 samples Cross Streets etc Blood P.IRN Name Urine Codes / Comments Derm Active Pump Confidential Home Appointment Sheet Diet Diary Name (contact) Follow Up County_ Ph No (Street City_ PEF Diary Active Diary Base Line Project 1D Out VOC & HCHO Dust Surface (wipe) In VOC & HCHO Out Pump (VOC) Out Pump (PM) In Pump (VOC) Stage #_ In Pump (PM) Descriptive Qx Con-sent Status A z N X Z Z ΥN Z Υ z /19 Relates to IRN day Form ID = UA - T3.0 - 1.0 Last visit series mo Tech Qx FORM = UA - T3.0 - 1.0 Birth Name Water - Sampling PID Outdoors Sentinel Hi-Vol Soil Foundation Soil Composite Team Leader Dust Floors PID Indoors Times: EZ Z

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Figure 3. Visit Summary Sheet respondent B Diet samples Visit Summary Sheet
Completed by Team Leader after each visit and submitted to Field Coord. with all appropriate documentation within 24 hrs. Blood Codes/Comments Urine Interested in Next Stage Comments / Problems: Active Derm Pump wipe Project ID NHEXAS AZ Diet 4-list Diet Diary <u>25542558</u> Visit Number_ Household Level Sampling Follow Up IRN level Sampling Status Active PEF Diary Diary year Out VOC & HCHO Dust Surface (wipe) day In VOC & HCHO In Pump (VOC)
Out Pump (VOC) day year Out Pump (PM) Descriptive Qx In Pump (PM) Base Line e e Visit Date mo Team Leader_ چ ق Next Vist Time Status A ΥN z > z ZZ >> Z Status Relates to IRN Form ID = UA - T3.0 - 2.0Form 1D UA - T3.0 - 2.0 Birth Name Soil Foundation Water Sampling Soil Composite Sentinel Hi-Vol PID Outdoors Dust Floors PID Indoors Tech Qx IRN

Appendix A: Confidential Home Appointment Sheet

	- 1 2		e See one				:						\$ Merconstance	
Form 11) = UA - T3.0 - 1.1	ПНП				Street					!	Gross streets etc.	reers e		
					City									
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					Ph	Ph No (1			į			
V1/	V2_					V3_					+>			
Fimes:			.,											
IRN Birth Name	Relates to IRN	Status A	Con-	Base Line	Active Diary	Follow Up	Diet Diary	Diet F/U	Active Pump	Derm wipe	Urine	Blood	Diet samples	
		ΥN												
		Z Z		_			_					_		
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PID Indoors	_	Carbotrap In	Thin Film Soil		
PID Outdoors		Carbotrap Out	Thin Film Sill		
Sentinel Hi-Vol		PM In	 Dx QX		
H2O (M.P.VOC.CARB)		Pm ()ut	 Tech Qx		-
OVM In	h	Yard Soil			
OVM Out		Foundation Soil			
pE-1 ln		Floor Dust			
1 Pl-1 Out		Sill Wipes		-	
MAC: Home Appt Sheet			Cen	ensus:	

Fract :

BG:

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Sential Tile	Yard soil	condation Soil	Floor Dus:
12-	51-	·) }-	
Thin Film Soil	Thin Film Sill	Thin Film special	
-96-	89-	-69	
H2O Metals	H2O Pesticides	H2O VOCs	H2O Carbaryl
13-	14-	1 5-	16-
Solid Food	Liquid Food	Active VOC Carbotrap	Active VOC Carbotrap
17-	17-	27-	27-
OVM In	OVM Out	PF-1 In	PF-1 Out
21-	21-	25-	25-
PM In metals	PM Out metals	PM In pesticides	PM Out pesticides
31-	31-	32-	32-
Personal Air metals	Personal Air Pesticides	Dermal Wipes metals	Dermal Wipes pesticides
41-	42-	-16	93-
sill Wipes metals	Sill Wipes pesticides	Blood - metals	Blood - VOCs
81.	83-	. 19	(i j) .
Urine sample			
-+0			The company of the second of t

Appendix B: Household Summary & Packet Contents Form

HOUSEHOLD SAMPLING SUMMARY

FORM UA #-3.0-2.1 MC 1 /1 on: 2 V2 on:	1. NHEXAS 2 Border 3 4 5. DAY	YR or I	? 8 0 N/A [Leader: Qc By: Init. 3. V3 on:	Tech ID Tech ID MO	DAY	HID /	YR	QC: V or N/A or N/A	[]
	НО	USEHO	LD I	L <u>EVEL SAM</u>	PLES					
Simple ype	Collected	Sample (QC:	Sample Type		Со	llect	ed	Sample Status	QC:
PIE Indoors	Y N N/A		[]	Yard Soil		Y O	N O	N/A		[]
PIC Outdoors	0 0 0			Foundation So	oil	C	C	C		[]
Sentinel	0 0 0		[]	Soil Thin Film		0	0	0		[]
H2D Metals	Y N N/A		[]	Floor Dust		0	0	С		[]
H20 Pests			[]	Sill Wipes		Y	N O	N/A O		[]
H → VOCS	0 0 0		[]	Sill Thin Film		0	0	С		[]
H2) Carb	0 0 0		[]			Y	N ○	N/A O	<u> </u>	[]
OVM Indoors	Y N N/A		[]			0	0	C.		[]
○ M Outdoors			[]			0	C	0		[]
PF Indoors	0 0 0		[]			0	0	S		[]
or Outdoors	0 0 0		[]			Y O	\sim \sim	N/A		[]
Carbo Trap In	Y N N/A		[]				0	C.		[]
Carbo Trap Out			[]			0	0	C		[]
Pn Indoors			[]	Status Codes: 1 = Completed	4	= Re-	Colle	ected	8 = N/A	
Pm Outdoors			[]	2 = Not - Complete 3= Partially Compl	ed 5	= Ref = Des	used		9 = Miss	

 Data Use Only:
 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 A B C D E F G H I J



HOUSEHOLD LEVEL FORMS

PAGE 2

HH Summary

Form Type	Collected	Form Status	QC:	Form Type	Col	llected	Form Status	QC:
PID Sheet	Y N N/A		[]	Tech QX	Y	N N/A O O		[]
Sentinel	0 0 0		[]	Descriptive QX	0	0 0		[]
H2O Metals	Y N N/A		[]		Y O	N N/A	N *	[]
H2O Pe st s			[]		0	0 0		[]
H2O VOCS			[]		0	0 0	1	[]
H2O Carb	0 0 0		[]		0	0 0	,	[]
OVM & HCOH	Y N N/A		[]	Status Codes:	<u> </u>]
Active 700	0 0 0		[]	2 = Not - Completed 5 =	Re-Co Refus Destro		8 = N/A 9 = Missi	ng
PM Sheet	Y N N/A		[]	Comments:				
Soil Sampling			[]					
From Liust	Y N N/A		[]					
Comments:								
an manage of a constant of the								
								







INDIVIDUAL LEVEL FORMS

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	QX St	tatus Diary	Status	Follow Up QX	Status	QC: ✓
Y N N/A	Y N N/A	Y N N/A		Y N N/A		[]
C. 7 12 0				0 0 0		[]
0				0 0 0		[]
04 0						[]
CF - 0 -				000		[]
06 Y N N/A	Y N N/A	Y N N/A		Y N N/A		[]
07 1 0				0 0 0		[]
	000			0 0 0	\$1 00 00 00 \$1 0 00 00 00	[]
09 . 0	000			000		[]
10 0	0 0 0			0 0 0		[]

IRN #	Diet Checkli s t	Status	Diet Diary	Status	Diet Follow Up	Status		Status	QC:
C 1	Y N N/A		Y N N/A		Y N N/A		Y N N/A		[]
	Ç.		000		000				[]
03	. O		000		0 0 0		0 0 0		[]
04	0 0		0 0 0		000		000		[]
05			000		000		0 0 0		[]
06	Y N N/A		Y N N/A		Y N N/A		Y N N/A		[]
			000		000				[]
ijε.			000		000				[]
Ç.;	0 0		000		000		000		[]
10			000		0 0 0		000	1	[]

Other Form		
Other Form		
Code	1	

INDIVIDUAL LEVEL SAMPLES

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HH Summary

Sample Typa	Collected	From IRN#	Sample Status	Field Form	Form Status	Comments	QC:
Dermal (M)	Y N N/A			Y N N/A			[]
Dermai (₽)	0 0 0			0 0 0			[]
	Y N N/A			Y N N/A			
Blood d	C 0 0			0 0 0			
Blood (VOC)	0 0 0			0 0 0			[]
Urine Sa aple	Y N N/A			Y N N/A			
· ·	9.,						[]
Food Sample				0 0 0			
Bev Sample	0 0 0			0 0 0			[]
Persona Air (M)	Y N N/A			Y N N/A			
							[]
Person Air (P)	Y N N/A			O O O O			[]
1				0 0 0			[]
2	000						
3							
4				0 0 0			
	000			0 0 0			
1 flamp 1 O Samp 2	. i	ents:					
Creample O Samp 4							
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atus:	Tech. ID	мо /	DAY	YR	Tech. ID	MO DAY	/ YR
Form States of Algorithms S.Ret 7.Dest 8.N.A. A.	Init.	/	/[DE:	nit.	QXV: FSI	/ JM 1
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Page Con	signed to packe	et on:[]		_/	Box UA G4	1-2.0	
Data	a Use 0 1 2	3 4 5	6 7 8	9 A B C D O O O O		H I J	7706

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