

LABORATORY INFORMATION MANAGEMENT TRAINING

Technical assistance visit to strengthen implementation
of an electronic laboratory information system at
_____ National Tuberculosis Reference
Laboratory

SUPRANATIONAL TB REFERENCE LABORATORY - UGANDA

Objectives

- ☁ To review current laboratory information management operations and identify areas of improvement.
- ☁ To conduct data quality assurance activities on laboratory data.
- ☁ To update the eLIMS in use with latest patches and functionality improvements.

Objectives...

- ☁ To retrain laboratory staff on the use of the eLIMS, including monitoring of laboratory quality indicators and data quality assurance.
- ☁ To support documentation/review of laboratory information management related SOPs.
- ☁ To review and strengthen laboratory information backup and recovery procedures and practices

Expected Outcomes

- Improved functionality of the electronic laboratory information management system in use
- Cleaning and validation of records already entered into the LIMS
- Training of laboratory staff on the use of the LIMS, including monitoring laboratory quality indicators
- Protocols and SOPs for laboratory information management operations
- Contingency plan for information management and established information backup and recovery procedures

Observations

- The laboratory started using TBLIS for samples received starting 1st January 2018.
- The laboratory has a stable LAN network which is facilitating the smooth use of LIS.
- Only two knew how to use the LIS since other people that were trained left the Laboratory.
- TBLIS has not been used to monitor Laboratory indicators like turn around time and contamination rates.

- There has been a lot of redundant or incomplete information in the system.

Achievements

- Status on implementation of previous LIMS related recommendations was reviewed
- Current laboratory information management operations and tools were reviewed and areas of improvement identified
- The LIMS in use was updated with latest patches and necessary functionality improvements
- The laboratory information management manual and the sample reception SOP were reviewed to include current practice of handling information management.
- Procedures for laboratory data backup and recovery were also designed and documented
- NTRL staff were retrained on the use of the LIMS
- Supported various data cleaning efforts as there were a lot of errors, redundancy, and incomplete data entered into the LIMS

Recommendation/Action

- NTRL to strengthen periodic analysis and monitoring of key laboratory quality indicators.
- NTRL Data Management Unit to spearhead orderly placement of printed results reports that are at different states in the laboratory process cycle.
- Data manager to train new staff on how to use the TBLIS.