

COURSE DESCRIPTION

COURSE NAME	Laboratory capacity for supporting HIV/AIDS care and treatment
DATE	January 30 – February 3, 2006
DURATION	5-day didactical/practical course.
VENUE	CAREC, 16-18 Jamaica Boulevard, Federation Park, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, West Indies.
MAIN LEARNING OBJECTIVES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop in participants a sound understanding of the critical elements of assuring accurate, reliable test results; • Provide knowledge and develop skills in describing the essential factors for quality laboratory testing in flow cytometry, haematology, chemistry and viral load testing as they relate to the treatment and care of HIV/AIDS patients; • Create training capacity to train others in the proper use of personal protective equipment used in BL2 and BL3 laboratories; • Provide knowledge about different types of biologic safety cabinets and selection of the appropriate BSC for use in a laboratory setting; • Provide basic knowledge of the critical elements in the diagnosis and management of HIV, pulmonary and extra pulmonary tuberculosis, and related opportunistic infections; • Develop skills in identifying gaps in laboratory procedures and practices, training and education. • The course provides opportunities for gap assessment and the identification of topics for follow up training and education to strengthen the laboratory infrastructure for effective treatment and care of persons with HIV/AIDS.
KEY TOPICS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Laboratory quality assurance and quality control, • Proper use of personal protective equipment and biologic safety cabinets, • Specific testing methods for flow cytometry to measure CD4 concentration, • Haematology testing, • Chemistry testing, • Viral load testing, • Interpretation of the Western Blot assay for HIV antibody, • Selection and handling of specimens for analysis, • Critical values and issues in the testing and reporting of test results to manage HIV and opportunistic infections including pulmonary and extra pulmonary tuberculosis, and other important opportunistic

	infections
BASIS OF CURRICULUM, KEY TEACHING DOCUMENTS AND MATERIALS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The material is drawn from consensus documents, WHO, NIH and CDC, and published scientific literature, either standard textbooks or peer reviewed articles • Set of slides and handouts.
TEACHING METHODS	Presentation, small group discussion, role play, clinical case study.
TARGET AUDIENCE	Laboratory personnel at all levels who are currently performing or supervising testing, laboratory quality assurance personnel, clinicians. Maximum class size: 15-20 participants.
FACULTY	Multidisciplinary team of international and national instructors.
DURATION	5-day didactical/practical course.