

Laboratory Diagnostics - Appendix 4

PHEL Cross Training Procedure for Novel Influenza Testing

Goal: Expand the range of the staff's capabilities for the following assay:

Rationale: Provide back up support in the event of a flu pandemic in order to have the capability of performing testing in this area regardless of the circumstances.

Focus area of cross training:

LRN Influenza A/H5 Protocol.

Nucleic Acid Extraction

Preparation of Master Mix

Preparation of plates for PCR testing

Amplification using the ABI 7000/7900

Data analysis on ABI instruments

Use of the Qiagen Biorobot to perform nucleic acid extraction and to load plates for PCR testing.

Procedure:

Staff will be shown how to do the assay by a trained team member.

The trainee will perform the assay themselves with the trainer present to answer questions regarding the test.

When trainer/trainee feels confident a competency proficiency test will be administered by the trainer consisting of 5 samples. Test results will be analyzed and scored by the trainer. In the event that the PT is not passed, remedial training will be provided and a re-test will be administered.

PT testing will be an on-going part of the trainees experience to demonstrate competency with this assay.

Staff to be trained:

Initial staff in the virology program will be selected for training. This has already been initiated. We have three members familiar with the assay described above. We will augment this group over time.