



## THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION OF OHASIS, A HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM IN A HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE



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## NATIONAL HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE (NHLS)

- Largest Pathology Laboratory in South Africa
- Servicing > 80% of the population
- Employ > 6700
- 349 pathology laboratories across South Africa, 268 sites
- 2 National Institutes and the Cancer Registry



## INTRODUCTION

### OHASIS (Occupational Health and Safety Information System):

- Incidents in the workplace
- Worker health assessments (HIV & TB)
- Hazards in the workplace
- Health and Safety Committee
- Developed by the Global Health Research Program (U. B. C. Vancouver, Canada)
- Piloted elsewhere in South Africa



- First time it was used in multiple sites in South Africa
- July 2011, OHASIS was installed at the National Health Laboratory Service, South Africa
- Research was confined to the incidents in the workplace module



### Method of implementation:

- Paper based system
- Step by step guide
- Reporting form distributed to all facilities
- Captured in 5 locations
- Safety, Health and Environment Officers
- Reasons:
  - Quality control of documentation
  - Train and Implement



## AIM

### Look at:

- Perceptions of laboratory managers around:
- reporting of incidents
  - implementation process of OHASIS
  - value of OHASIS as a tool for dealing with incidents



## METHOD

### Self administered email questionnaire:

- 6 months after introduction
- Sent to 333 Lab Managers
- A response rate of 35% (n = 116)
- Disappointing
- Introducing positive bias?



Question	%
Familiar with the OHASIS form and guide	86 (n = 100)
Report form available in their office	96 (n = 111)
Guide to completing form useful	90 (n = 103)
Have completed a form	50 (n = 58)
Feel competent to complete the incident investigation	70 (n = 80)
Signed off on a form if completed by someone else	65 (n = 73)
Completing a form is worth the time	82 (n = 92)
Feel that completing 2 forms is necessary (Workmans' Compensation)	63 (n = 73)

Between 1 – 5% of respondents thought various questions were not applicable



## Discussion

- Audit in place to ensure availability of OHASIS form in facilities
- During audits, SHE Officers train Lab Managers and Health and Safety Reps
- SHE Officers to provide OHASIS reports to management



## Results

Importance of	Important / useful %	OK if I have time %	Makes no difference / waste of time %
Reporting all incidents	93	2	5
Incidents investigation	89	9	2
Standardised form	97	1	2



- Although OHASIS was rolled out as a paper based system, 59% of respondents would prefer a web based OHASIS
- The Regions with more rural facilities preferred a paper based OHASIS, reliability of internet?
- Need for a hard copy as a backup



- Eliminate need for completing two forms - OHASIS populates Workers' Compensation forms
- Quality control of incident investigations must be maintained when rolled out as a web based system
- Full evaluation of the roll of OHASIS in reducing incidents can only come at a latter stage



## Acknowledgements

- Laboratory Managers
- Management and staff - SHE Department
- Management and Staff - IT Department
- Management and Staff - Epidemiology








Home Administration Settings Sign Out

Find Problem Affected  
Incident Report  
Incident Investigation  
Investigation Team  
Contributory Factors  
Contributory Factors - 1  
Prevention Measures

### Incident Case - Contributory Factors - 1

Incident ID: 100

Subcategory	Organization / Administration	Worker	Equipment / Device
<input type="checkbox"/> Navigation	<input type="checkbox"/> Personal Protective Equipment	<input type="checkbox"/> Working Alone	<input type="checkbox"/> No PPE
<input type="checkbox"/> Workplaces / Conditions	<input type="checkbox"/> Shift Work	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Design
<input type="checkbox"/> Workload / Workpace	<input type="checkbox"/> Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Work History	<input type="checkbox"/> Training	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of PPE	<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/> Incident History	<input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate Supervision	<input type="checkbox"/> Inadequate Health	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Available at Point of Use
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Lack of Policy Enforcement/Lack of Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Other

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### Prevention Measures

Priority:  PPE:

Responsible:  Date:

Person Responsible:  Email Address:

Business:  Point Location:

Save

Measure	Value	Due Date	Description
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THANK YOU