

will be responsible for the activities listed in 1. Recipient Activities, and CDC will be responsible for the activities listed in 2. CDC Activities.

#### 1. Recipient Activities

a. Provide leadership in evaluating the knowledge of clinical laboratory professionals regarding antimicrobial susceptibility testing.

b. Develop an evaluation protocol to determine gaps in knowledge associated with susceptibility testing.

c. Determine if laboratory professionals understand why susceptibility testing is necessary and the implications associated with not performing this type of testing. Develop training and education programs and related materials based on up-to-date laboratory procedures.

d. Implement training and education programs to resolve the knowledge gaps and apply evaluation model to ensure laboratory professionals have received appropriate training, knowledge gaps are resolved, and that knowledge is retained over a specific time period.

e. Provide leadership in developing, implementing, and evaluating training and education programs associated with HIV Rapid Testing.

f. Determine if laboratory professionals know how to perform HIV rapid testing, what algorithm should be applied to results obtained from rapid testing, *i.e.*, how does HIV Rapid Testing affect the current testing algorithm in the United States, as well as, how rapid testing performed in the international laboratory may affect rapid testing in the United States.

g. Provide leadership in developing, implementing, and evaluating training and education programs associated with performing tests to detect chemical terrorism events. Recipient would determine among the clinical laboratory professionals, how many professionals are knowledgeable in detecting chemical terrorism agents and, even if knowledgeable, does their laboratory have the capacity to perform testing.

h. Evaluate the knowledge of laboratory professionals concerning their understanding of DNA testing and the relationship to identification of genetic disorders.

i. Develop and implement training programs for laboratory professionals to increase the awareness of genetics testing in their laboratory and how the testing results assist the clinician in the diagnosis of genetic disorders in their patient, *i.e.*, inherited or mutated disorders.

j. Provide leadership in developing, implementing, and evaluating training and education programs related to CLIA.

Ensure that laboratory professionals have received adequate information and are aware of the impact of CLIA regulations on the day-to-day operation of their laboratory.

k. Access information obtained from the CDC sponsored Quality Institute Conference to develop strategies that can be used to improve quality assurance activities, use of quality control materials, recognition of where most testing errors may be occurring, and issues related to point of care testing. It may be necessary for the recipient to form focus groups of experts to discuss the information from the conference associated with these issues to determine possible future recommendations. This may include developing a set of indicators for quality laboratory testing and testing services against which changes in the safety, effectiveness, timeliness, and adequacy of service can be measured.

#### 2. CDC Activities

a. If requested, senior staff will provide consultation and technical assistance in the planning, implementation, and evaluation, of program activities.

b. Senior staff will provide the most up to date scientific information related to antimicrobial susceptibility testing that would assist grantee in developing the appropriate training and education programs.

c. Senior staff will provide consultation and technical assistance related to HIV Rapid Testing and any published reports or other scientific information related to rapid testing that would assist grantee in understanding the possible impact of rapid testing in the United States, and how rapid testing has been performed in international laboratories.

d. Senior staff in the division would provide any up to date genetics testing information, use of genetics quality assurance materials, or other information grantee would find useful in developing training and education programs related to genetics testing.

e. Senior divisional staff would assist the grantee in collaborating with other organizations, other CDC staff, and obtaining useful information regarding testing for chemical terrorism agents that could be useful in developing, implementing, and evaluating training and education programs for chemical terrorism agent testing.

f. Provide current information and experienced senior staff that could assist grantee in preparing training and education programs concerning CLIA regulations and the impact on laboratory testing.

g. Provide information from the CDC sponsored Quality Institute Conference. Senior staff would assist grantee in establishing any expert focus groups from whom strategies and recommendations could be developed, *e.g.*, assistance might be related to helping establish collaborations with world expert scientists who may participate on focus group panels.

#### F. Content

##### *Applications*

The Program Announcement title and number must appear in the application. Use the information in the Program Requirements, Other Requirements, and Evaluation Criteria sections to develop the application content. Your application will be evaluated on the criteria listed, so it is important to follow them in laying out your program plan. The narrative should be no more than 50 pages, double-spaced, printed on one side, with one inch margins, and unreduced 12-point font.

The narrative should consist of goals and objectives, methods and technical approach, project management and staffing, evaluation plan, and proposed budget for carrying out the recipient activities consistent with the criteria listed in the evaluation criteria section of this announcement.

The plan and methods should address activities to be conducted over the entire three-year project period. Narrative should include a detailed plan for the first year and a brief plan for years two through three.

#### G. Submission and Deadline

##### *Application Forms*

Submit the signed original and two copies of PHS 5161-1 (OMB Number 0920-0428.) Forms are available at the following Internet address: <http://www.cdc.gov/od/pgo/forminfo.htm>.

If you do not have access to the Internet, or if you have difficulty accessing the forms on-line, you may contact the CDC Procurement and Grants Office Technical Information Management Section (PGO-TIM) at: 770-488-2700. Application forms can be mailed to you.

##### *Submission Date, Time, and Address*

The application must be received by 4 p.m. Eastern Time August 8, 2003. Submit the application to: Technical Information Management—PA#03119, CDC Procurement and Grants Office, 2920 Brandywine Road, Atlanta, GA 30341-4146.

Applications may not be submitted electronically.