

Non-Intentional Exposure to “Biologicals”

Exposure in the field

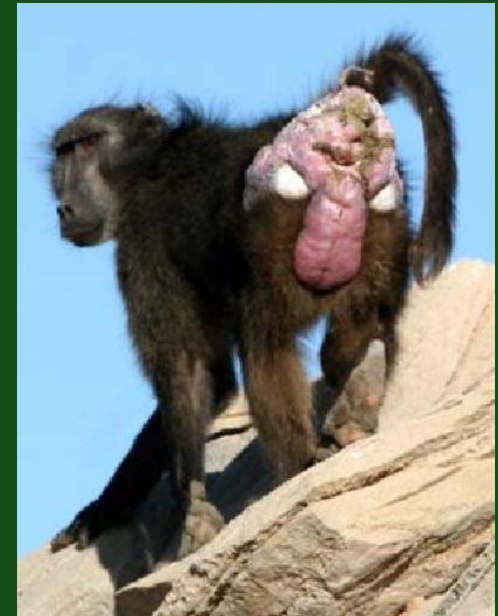
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Exposure in the field



Exposure in the field



Zoonoses & Fieldwork

**“Non-human primates...are the most dangerous of all animal groups with regard to the potential for disease transmission to humans”
(Fiennes, *Zoonoses of Primates*, 1967)**



Primate Zoonoses

resulting from direct human/NHP contact
(e.g., B virus encephalomyelitis)

resulting from transfer of NHP disease from remote
habitat to high density human populations
(e.g., Urban yellow fever)

“Species jumping” = initial transmission from NHP to
human, with subsequent human to human transmission
(e.g., HIV/AIDS)

Anthropozoonosis:

disease transmitted from animal to human

Planning & Training for Fieldwork

Fieldwork Assistance & Supervision

Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

**Sample Storage, Handling,
Packaging & Transport**

Planning & Training for Fieldwork

Provide training information and describe procedures designed to prevent (or minimize) exposure to pathogens and other potentially infectious agents

**Define scope of activities &
supervisory arrangements**

Risk assessment

Health & basic fitness

Immunisation

First aid training

Planning & Training for Fieldwork

Health & basic fitness

Avoidance of gastro-intestinal disorders
& food poisoning

Microbiological hazards

First aid training



Planning & Training for Fieldwork

Immunisation

When exposed to certain pathogenic organisms immunisation is recommended

Rabies

Hepatitis B

Yellow fever

TB

Polio

Tetanus



Individuals should keep a written record of their vaccinations

Fieldwork Assistance



Fieldwork Assistance & Supervision



Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

Personal protective equipment



Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

Personal protective equipment



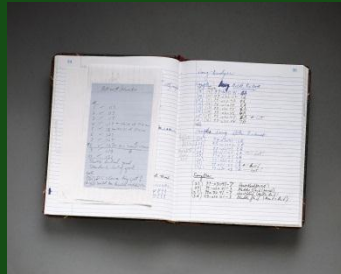
gloves
disposable lab coats?
face shields/masks?
safety glasses/goggles?
shoes/shoe covers?



**Ensure PPE is used properly
& effectively**

Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

Minimise risk during sample collection



How to collect?
How many samples?
How often?

Expect the unexpected



Be prepared to collect samples
before you leave for the field

Labeling & Logging Samples

Field Data Collection Form

ID	TYPE	DATE	SEX	REMARKS	RESR
1	F	2/2/12	U	Fresh	KA

Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

Prevent contamination post-sample collection

Prevent risk of exposure at field site

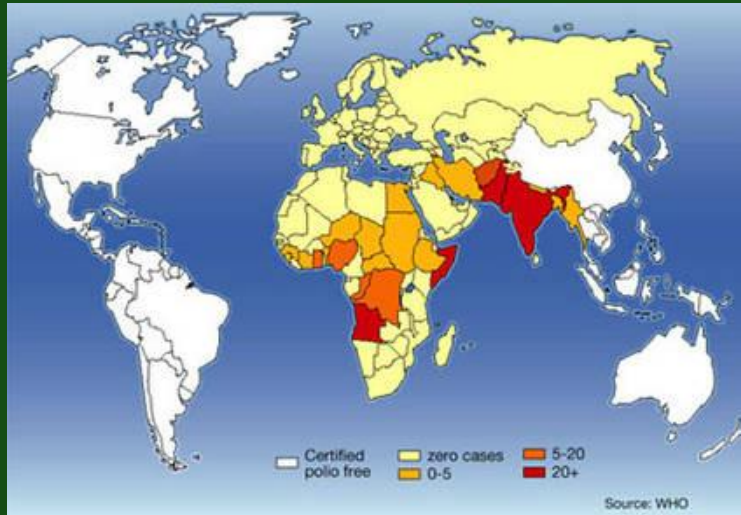


Use disposable materials
(needles, blades)

Biosecurity
(disinfection)



Sample Collection & Biosafety Issues

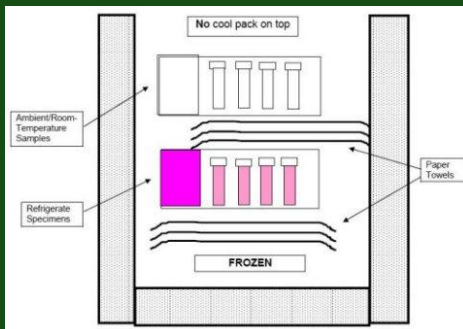


Sample Storage, Handling, Packaging & Transport



Goal: protect specimens during transportation

- Use three packaging layers
- Use water tight first layer
- Use absorbent material in all layers
- <500mL of liquid in collection container



Sample Storage, Handling, Packaging & Transport

Goal: avoid exposing others during or after transport



A Final Thought



While exposure in the field may not be disadvantageous for all primates

**fieldworkers should try to minimise exposure
in the field (airport and lab)**