



MANAGING THE HUMAN RISK FACTOR IN BIOLOGICAL LABS



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WHAT IS LABORATORY RISK?



WHAT'S THE GREATEST HAZARD IN THE LABORATORY?



AN UNEXPECTED TREAT

At some point during this time, after I was clearly feeling fine and walking around, Amber was in the anteroom talking to me over the phone. Sean, the safety compliance officer, was also in the anteroom—we were always “chaperoned” when we talked—and he cracked open my door and said, “Come over here.”

I looked at him funny, and he said, “Come stand over here.”

I put the phone down and walked over. He made me put a glove on. Amber always wore gloves in the anteroom. When I put my glove on, he held the door so that Amber and I could hold hands. That was an incredible feeling. That was the first contact we’d had with each other since she and the kids had left Liberia almost a month earlier.

Amber

I didn’t know what Sean had planned when he called Kent to the door. I had wanted to hug Kent and hold his hand since the first time I saw him in the unit, but I also didn’t want to touch him until it was completely safe.

Even though we were wearing gloves, I could still feel his fingers and the bones in his hand. I don’t think I’ll ever forget how special that moment was. My rush of emotions surprised me.

In some ways my feelings were comparable to that time years earlier in my car when Kent had held my hand and told me that he liked me—and the idea of my being in his future.





HOW DO WE MITIGATE LABORATORY RISK?

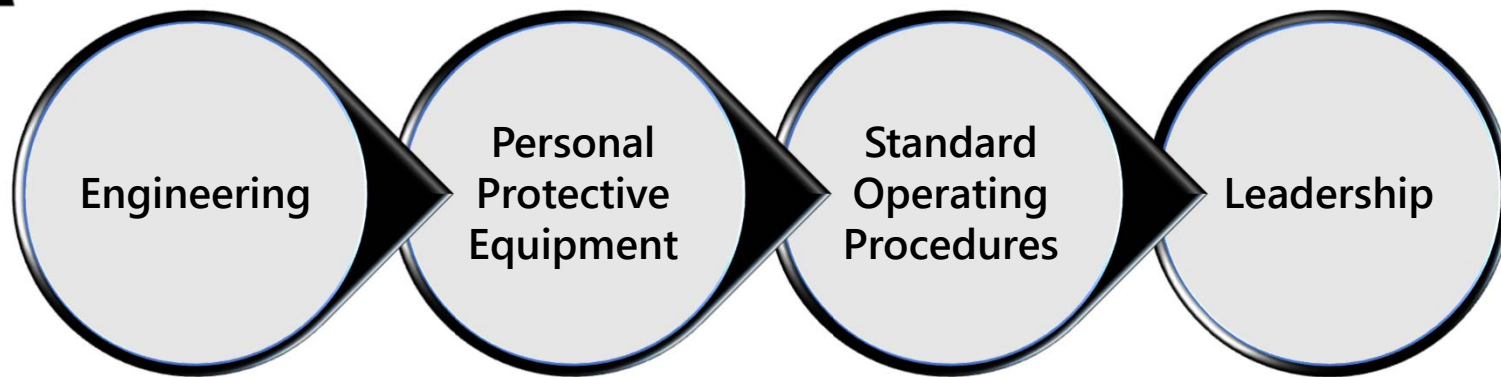
BIOLOGICAL RISK MITIGATION



We must identify all risks, assess risks through sciences and perceptions, manage the risks with strategic plans, and ensure all staff know about the risks and can mitigate them effectively.



FOUR PRIMARY CONTROLS OF SAFETY



Defining biosafety is one thing – integrating biosafety into an organization is another.

Each primary control of biosafety is important. Though one may be more expensive than another – all are equally important in keeping the workforce safe.



THE HUMAN RISK FACTOR



SCIENCE QUANTIFIES RISK –
BUT PEOPLE DETERMINE IT.



A PLAN ALONE DOES NOT
PRODUCE A CONSISTENT
BEHAVIORAL OUTCOME.



HUMAN BEINGS NEED THINGS
(GAS) TO BEHAVE.



Understand Risk
Understand Benefit
Have Resources
Have Skills
Belief You Can Do It!



HUMAN BEINGS ARE REALLY
HUMANS BECOMING.





WE MUST TELL PEOPLE WHAT
WE EXPECT OF THEM.



WORKFORCE EXPECTATIONS

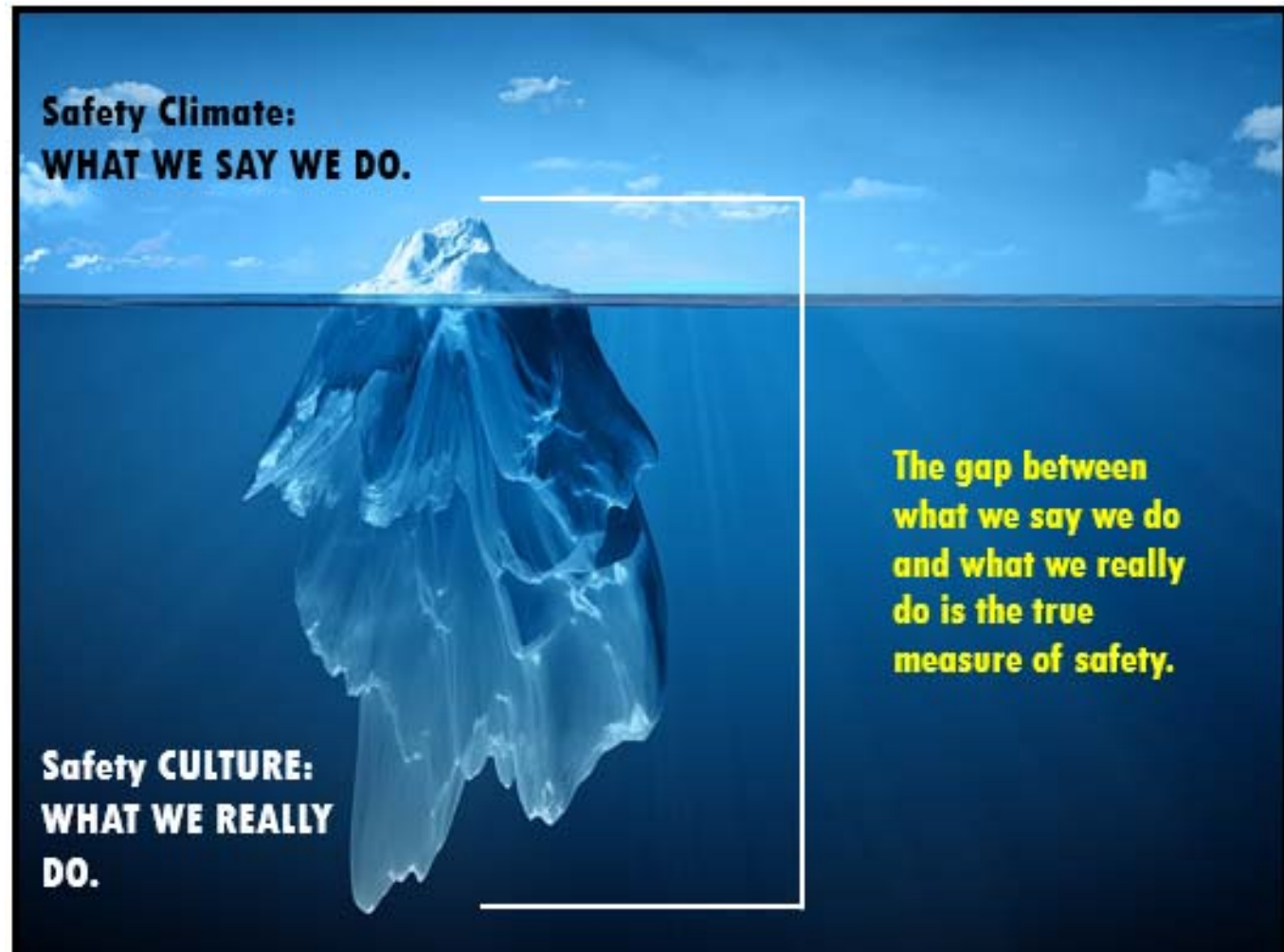
1. Follow all SOPs to the best of my ability.
2. Ensure others follow SOPs to the best of their ability.
3. Report all near-misses, accidents, incidents, and injuries.
4. Report any symptom which matches the clinical presentation of pathogens I am working with in the laboratory.
5. Report any new medical conditions
(including but not limited to diabetes, heart disease, pregnancy, medications which may cause seizures/compromised immune functions, and chronic asthmatic conditions).



WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A SAFETY CLIMATE AND CULTURE?





CLIMATE VS. CULTURE





RISKS, RULES, AND RITUALS



**A “ONE SAFE” culture shares
common risks, rules, and rituals.**



BEING TOGETHER VS. DOING TOGETHER

**Being together and doing together
are very different concepts.**



Let's do safety together.

