

Surveillance and Continuous Quality Improvement of Hiv Antibody Tests in Clinical Laboratory, Taiwan

Abstract

To prevent spreading of AIDS, laboratory examination becomes one of the important tools and test result can be provided for monitor and is the essential reference for investigating epidemiology. Hence, to improve and assure the examination quality becomes the important role in preventing AIDS. The goal of the project is to understand the present situation and trend of laboratory quality of AIDS antibody in all medical laboratory organizations by proficiency testing twice a year. Providing related information and investigative data to offer better assistance when it makes regulation for those medical laboratory organizations. Holding conference and proficiency testing are good programs for them to learn quality control, and expect them to provide better quality of laboratory services by such good interaction.

A total of 513 laboratory which included 21 medical centers, 66 districted hospital, 55 regional hospital, 30 regional teaching hospital, 8 special function hospital, 7 clinics, 298 commercial laboratories, 19 public health laboratories, 2 blood donation centers, 2 CDC laboratories and 1 health centers) information were collected. Among them, 391 laboratories provided routine service for HIV tests. 93.86% of them have intended to join the HIV proficiency testing. A total of 364 laboratories participate proficiency test at year 2006. Among them, 322 laboratories have obtained satisfactory results and 12 laboratories obtain un-satisfactory results.

Key words: HIV antibody ; continuous quality improvement ; clinical laboratory ; Taiwan