





#### STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

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#### INTRODUCTION

This lecture has been designed and developed to introduce you to the **concept of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).** 

#### LEARNING OBJECTIVES

The objectives of this lecture are:

- 1. To introduce you to the **concept** of SOP.
- 2. To introduce you to the process of development of an SOP.
- 3. To provide **guidance** on development of your own specific **SOP.**

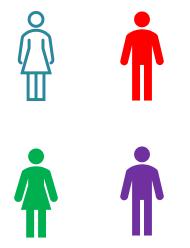
#### **LEARNING OUTCOMES**

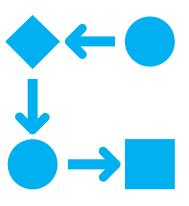
Upon completion of this module you should demonstrate the ability to:

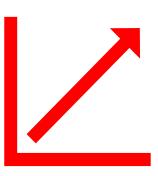
- 1. Describe the **function** of an SOP.
- 2. Describe the procedure of design, development, implementation and improvement of an SOP.
- 3. Design and develop a basic Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

#### **GOAL OF AN SOP**

- Reproducibility.
- Ensures that different individuals performing the same procedure obtain a similar result.



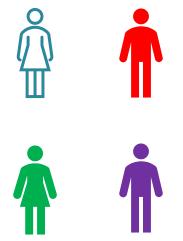


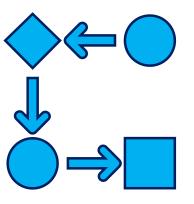


**Different Laboratory Workers** 

Same Process SOP

**Same Result** 







**Different Laboratory Workers** 

Same Process SOP

Different results!

#### INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENT

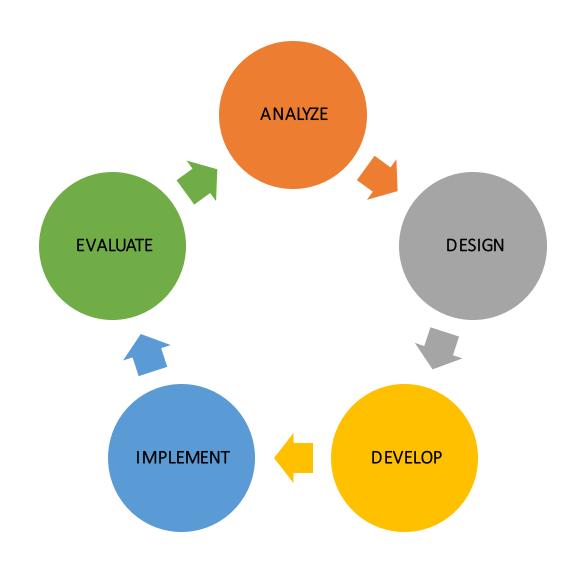
- Reader centered.
- **Engages** the end users during the developmental process.

#### INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENT

- Instructional documents teach a reader to:
  - Understand a rule or principle.
  - Envision a process or workflow.
  - Perform a task.
  - Use a tool.



#### SOP DEVELOPMENT



#### INSTRUCTIONAL DOCUMENT

Policy: A plan or guiding principle that influences other actions A set of tasks or actions, performed in a specified sequence or manner, that Program Plan: achieves a particular result. A specific task, work instruction, or action. Procedures may include steps Procedure: or actions

#### POLICY DOCUMENTS

**EXAMPLE:** Dispose of biological waste in compliance with national regulations.

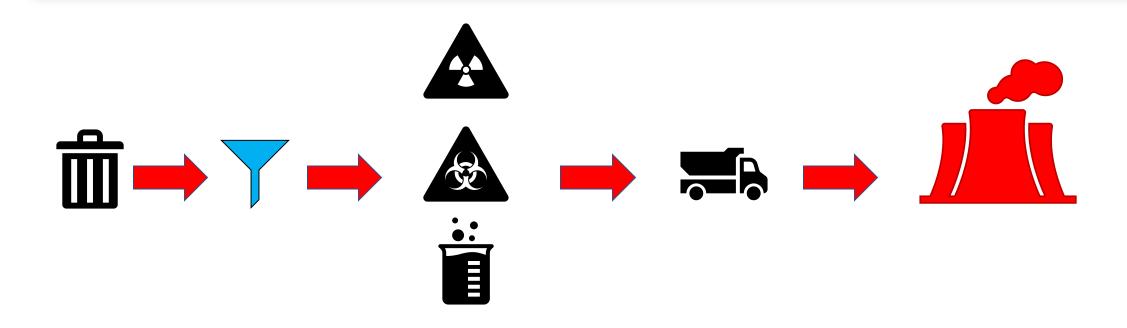
- Who writes this document?
- Who is the audience?
- What is the intended purpose?

#### POLICY DOCUMENTS

**EXAMPLE:** Dispose of biological waste in compliance with national regulations.

- Who writes this document? Biorisk manager in consultation with laboratory workers and management.
- Who is the audience? Laboratory workers and external contractor.
- What is the intended purpose? Ensure the safe disposal of biological waste in compliance with national regulations.

#### PROGRAM PLAN



#### PROGRAM PLAN

#### The following must be in place:

- Procedure for **collection** of waste.
- Procedure for segregation of waste.
- Procedure for **tansport** of waste.
- Procedure for the decontamination and neutraliztion of waste.
- Labels and signage.
- Training.
- PPEs.

# SOP: SECTIONS



**Conditions** 



Context



Actions



Documentation

#### CONDITIONS

- Who should use the SOP?
- When should it be used?
- Why should the SOP be used?
- Where should it be used?

#### CONDITIONS

- Who should use the SOP? Laboratory workers.
- When should it be used? During disposal of laboratory waste.
- Why should the SOP be used? To ensure the safe disposal of biological waste.
- Where should it be used? Containment facility, transport and disposal facility.

#### **CONTEXT**

- Basic process:
  - Input + Actions = Output
- Input
- Output
- Preparation: assumed readiness before implemntation of the SOP.

#### CONTEXT

#### The following measures exist:

- Trained personnel.
- Competent personnel.
- Facilities for storage.
- Facilities for segregation.
- Facilities for transport.
- Facilities for decontamination.

### **ACTIONS**

What steps must be taken to move from the INPUT to the OUTPUT?

# **ACTIONS**

Steps	Action	Checklist
1	Place all the waste from the facility into the designated containers	
2	Label the containers with the designated label(s).	
3	Transfer the containers to the staging area.	
4	Inform the shipper when 50% of the staging area has been occupied.	
5	Transfer the containers onto the transport vehicle.	
6	Secure the containers	
7	Transport to the designated facility.	

#### DOCUMENTATION

- Cross-references: guidelines and best practices.
- Regulatory sources: national laws on disposal of biological waste.

#### IMPLEMENTATION: TESTING SOP

- Comprehension: do you understand the SOP? If no, why?
- Implementation: Could you physically do what the SOP asked? If no, why?
- Reproducibility: Was the outcome the intended outcome? If no, why?
- **Consistency:** Did different individuals achieve the same outcome? If no, why?

#### **VALIDATION**

#### Behavioral Observation Data (BOD)

- A question about an observed behavior that can be answered "yes" or "no".
- Example: Does X don his biosafety suit in compliance with the SOP: YES or NO
- Useful in validating SOPs

# BEHAVIOURAL OBSERVATION DATA



Useful for checking and validating SOPs



Objective assessment.



Observers will also improve.



When expected behavior is standardized and well-communicated, it is easier to see when behaviors change.



Involve personnel who will be observed when developing BOD questionnaire.

## BEHAVIOURAL OBSERVATION DATA



Consistency.



Self-audit: provides a more realistic overview.

#### APPROVAL OF SOP

The SOP must be **approved**, and the process of approval must be documented.

This may involve a consultative session between the biorisk managers and the key stakeholders.

#### REVISION AND REVIEW OF SOP

- How often does an SOP have to be reviewed?
- When is there a need to review an SOP?
- How will the SOP be revised?

#### REVISION AND REVIEW OF SOP

- Is there any sign it has been reviewed or revised?
- How would you undertake a review or revision?
- What needs to happen before you could review or revise the document?
- What are obstacles to getting the document revised?
- What are solutions for routinely reviewing and revising SOPs?

# GENERAL FORMAT



TITLE PAGE	Title
TABLE OF CONTENTS	For SOPs with more than 3 pages.
DEFINITIONS	Definition of specific words or terms.
PURPOSE	The purpose of the SOP from a regulatory context.
PROCEDURES	The specific actions for implementation.
HEALTH AND SAFETY WARNINGS	Procedures which may pose a risk to health.
CAUTIONS	Concurrent SOPs.
INTERFERENCES	Concurrent SOPs.
QUALITY ASSURANCE AND QUALITY CONTROL	Scope within the QC/QA

TITLE PAGE	
REFERENCES	Guidelines, other SOPs which have been cited.
CONTACT LIST	Author(s) / Biorisk Manager
APPENDICES	Related SOPs (if any).
DISTRIBUTION	SOP Administrator decides on the number of copies.
ARCHIVING	Available for audits.

# KEY MESSAGES: SOP



Instructional documents which ensure reproducibility.



Designed to achieve a single outcome.



Effective **SOP writing takes** key components into account.



Validation and evaluation of SOPs are critical to CQI.

