



دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة الصحة
قطاع الصيدلة والتموين

دليل الممارسة الجيدة لعمل المختبرات لمختبرات رقابة جودة الأدوية

2002

إدارة الرقابة الدوائية



كلمة معالي وزير الصحة



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United Arab Emirates
Ministry of Health
Pharmacy and Supply Sector



In The Name of God The Merciful

Introduction by His Excellency The Minister of Health

Under the leadership of his highness Shaikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nehyan (Gods Bless Him), the United Arab Emirates has moved onward in solid steps targeting the technical fulfillment of drug industry by the application of the modern international scientific systems. That, will ensure the superb efficiency and excellent control of all industrial stages according to the employed worldwide known principles.

Trade marked medicines are imported from research companies that apply the internationally known principles and systems for production, analysis and control. These principles are also employed by medicine manufacturers in the UAE, the Gulf and in Arab countries.

The Health Ministry has adopted a scheme whereby Good Laboratory Practice is applied in a similar fashion to what is being employed internationally.

The publishing of Good Laboratory Practice Guide in the United Arab Emirates will provide the Drug Control Laboratories in manufacturing companies a practical guide that will help auditors in executing their inspection target.

I would like to congratulate the Drug Control Directorate for publishing this guide on Good Laboratory Practice which can be considered as one of the many services accomplished by the Ministry of Health through the Directorate of Drug Control and we are looking towards the application of that guide on all drug manufacturers in the country.

Hamed Abdul Rahman Al Midfa
Minister of Health

Introduction by the
Director of Drug Control.

The Directorate of Drug Control has been always active in achieving the planned goals that were set to ensure the drug safety and its high quality before it reaches the consumer patient. The Directorate exercises all the possible activities to ascertain the continuous supply of essential medicine according to the most recent standards and pharmacopoeias in the developed countries.

The Directorate also expends the required effort in the inspection and auditing visits that are necessary to verify the correct application of the principles of laboratory practice in analyses of medicines using the most recent scientific methodologies.

In order to enforce the mentioned role, this guide was prepared to provide a clear description of the principles of good practice & analyses of medicine and quality assurance. It also clarifies the ideal method to control the correct application of rules in all public and private drug control laboratories.

The leadership of His Excellency the Minister of Health together with the WHO, FDA and MCA standards have all played the major role in achieving this guide.

Dr. Easa Ahmed Bin Jakka Al Mansoori
Director of Drug Control Directorate

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This document is the result of hard work and dedication of a team of staff under the supervision of Dr. Easa Ahmed Bin Jakka Al Mansoori and participation of the UAE Guide to Good Laboratory Practice committee.

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3. REFERENCES

Glossary

Certified Reference Material: is a reference material which has one or more of its property values certified by a technically valid procedure, accompanied by, a certificate or other documentation which is issued by a certifying body, eg. USP, BP and WHO reference substances.

Experimental starting date means the date on which the first study specific data are collected

Experimental completion date means the last date on which data are collected from the study.

Management Review: Is a review conducted by a group of members from the management and evaluate major aspects to help in the development and improvement of the quality system of the lab.

Master schedule means a compilation of information to assist in the workload and for the tracking of studies at a test facility.

Monitoring Authority means an authority in any country or territory, which is responsible (either solely or jointly with other such authorities) for monitoring the Good Laboratory Practice compliance of test facility.

Protocol means a document that defines the objectives and experimental design for the conduct of the study, and includes any amendments.

Protocol deviation means an unintended departure from the protocol after the study initiation date.

Quality Assurance Program means a defined system, including personnel, which is independent of study conduct and is designed to assure test facility management of compliance with these principals of GLP

Raw data means any laboratory worksheets, records, memoranda, notes, or exact copies thereof, that are the result of original observations and activities of the study and are necessary for the reconstruction and

evaluation of the report of that study. It also may include photographs, microfilms and computer readable media (computer printouts).

Reference Material: is a material or substance that has one or more of its properties sufficiently established to be used for calibration of equipment, the assessment of a measurement method or for assigning values to materials.

Regulatory Authority means any authority (Governmental) in any country or territory with legal responsibility for aspects of the control of chemicals or natural items or of biological origin.

Regulatory Study means non-clinical experiments or set of experiments on any item in order to obtain data on its properties and/or safety, which they should be in compliance with the principle of GLP and their results are intended for submission to appropriate regulatory authorities.

Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) mean documented procedures, which describe how to perform tests or activities normally, not specified in detail in protocol or test guidelines.

Test item means an article that is the subject of a study e.g. drug, biological product, and food additive etc.

Test facility means the persons, premises and operational units that are necessary for conducting drug analysis.

Test facility management means the person (s) who has the authority and formal responsibility for organization and functioning of the test facility according to the principals of Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).

Test Report: Final document that presents test results and other information relevant to a test.

Test site means the location (s) at which a phase(s) of test is conducted.

Test system means any biological, chemical or physical system or a combination of thereof used in a study.

Vehicle or carrier means any agent which serves as a carrier used to mix, disperse, or solubilize the test or reference item to facilitate administration /or application to the test system

GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICE

Introduction

Good laboratory practice (GLP) is a quality system concerned with the organizational process and the conditions under which tests on drugs are planned, performed, monitored, recorded, archived and reported.

The purpose of Good Laboratory Practice is to promote the development of quality test data. Comparable quality of test data forms the basis for the mutual acceptance of data among countries. If individual countries can confidently rely on test data developed in other countries, duplicative testing can be avoided. Thereby saving time and resources. The application of these principles should help to avoid the creation of technical barriers to trade, and further improve the protection of human health and the environment.

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1. GOOD LABORATORY PRACTICE PRINCIPLES

1.1. PREMISES (BUILDING) OR FACILITIES:

1.1.1. General

- It should be of suitable size, construction and location to facilitate the proper conduct of non-clinical laboratory studies and to minimize disturbance that would interfere with validity of the study.
- It should be designed so that there is a degree of separation and isolation from other building that will prevent any function or activity from having an adverse effect on the study.
- It should have proper aeration and ventilation with different emergency exits.
- It has separate lifts (non passenger lifts) to carry chemicals, gas cylinders, and obnoxious or dangerous chemicals.
- It should have a sufficient number of rooms or areas to assure the isolation of test systems (test system means any biological, chemical or physical system or a combination thereof used in a study.) and to avoid substances or organisms known to be or suspected of being biohazards.
- Separate rooms are necessary to protect sensitive instruments from vibration, electronic interference, humidity.... etc.
- Biological, microbiological and radioisotopes laboratories can be regarded as back zones.
- Rest and refreshment rooms should be separated from test system rooms.
- Rooms for changing clothes and for washing toilet purpose should be easily accessible and appropriate for the number of staff.
- There should be storage rooms as needed for supplies and equipment. These storage rooms should be separated from rooms housing test system, and they should provide an adequate protection against infestation, contamination and/or deterioration.
- The testing premises shall be protected as required from excessive conditions such as heat, dust, moisture, steam, noise, vibration and electromagnetic disturbance or interference, and shall be maintained accordingly.
- The premises shall have the equipment and energy sources needed for the testing

- Access to and use of all test areas shall be controlled in a manner appropriate to their designated purpose. Conditions of entry by persons external to the laboratory shall be defined.

1.1.2. Facilities for handling test and reference items.

- As necessary to prevent contamination or mix-up, there should be separate rooms for receipt and storage of the test and reference items.
- Storage rooms for the test and/or control items should be separated from rooms containing the test systems. They should be adequate to preserve identity, concentration, purity, and stability, and ensure safe storage for hazardous substances.

1.1.3. Archive Facilities

Archive facilities should be provided for the secure storage and retrieval of study plans, raw data, final reports, samples of test items. Archive design and archive conditions should protect contents from untimely deterioration.

1.1.4. Waste Disposal

Handling and disposal of wastes should be carried out in such a way as not to jeopardize the integrity of studies. This include provision for appropriate collection, storage and disposal facilities, and decontamination and transportation procedures

1.1.5. Animals

i) Animal care facilities

Test facility should have a sufficient number of animal rooms, to assure proper: Separation of species or test systems, Isolation of individual tests, Quarantine of animals, and Specialized housing of animals.

- A testing facility should have a number of animal rooms separate from those described in paragraph (i) of this section to ensure isolation of studies being done with systems or test and control items known to be bio hazardous, including volatile substances, aerosols, radioactive materials, and infectious agents.
- Separate rooms should be provided, as appropriate, for the diagnosis, treatment, and control of laboratory animal diseases. These rooms should provide effective isolation for the housing of animals either known or suspected of being diseased, or being carriers of disease, from other animals.
- When animals are housed, facilities should exist for the collection and disposal of all animal waste and refuse or for

safe sanitary storage of waste before removal from the testing facility. Disposal facilities should be so provided and operated as to minimize vermin infestation, odours, disease hazards, and environmental contamination

ii) Animal supply facilities:

There should be storage rooms, as needed, for feed, bedding, supplies, and equipment. Storage rooms for feed and bedding should be separated from areas housing the test systems and should be protected against infestation or contamination. Perishable supplies should be preserved by appropriate means.

1.2 TEST FACILITY ORGANIZATION AND PERSONNEL:

1.2.1 Test Facility Management Responsibilities

- At minimum it should ensure that:
- A sufficient number of qualified personnel, appropriate facilities, equipment, and materials are available for the timely and proper conduct of the study..
- The maintenance of a record of the qualifications, training, experience and job description for each professional and technical individual.
- Personnel clearly understand the area of responsibility and the functions they are performing and, where necessary, provide training for those functions.
- Appropriate and technically valid Standard Operating Procedures are established and followed, and approve all original and revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).
- There is a Quality Assurance Program with designated personnel and assure the quality assurance responsibility is being performed in accordance with principles of GLP.
- For each study, an individual with appropriate qualification, training, and experience is designated by the in-charge before the study is initiated.
- The maintenance of an historical file of all SOPs
- An individual is identified as responsible for the management of archive.
- The maintenance of a master schedule.
- Test facility supplies meet requirements appropriate to their use in a study.
- Test and reference items are appropriately characterized.
- Establish procedures to ensure that computerized systems are suitable for their intended purpose, and are valid.

1.2.2 Personnel

The laboratory should have personnel having the necessary education, training and experience for the assigned functions.

The scientific disciplines, education, training or expertise of the personnel participating in the analysis should vary according to the type of analysis being carried out by them. Efforts should be made to provide adequate job training and to qualify those individuals to perform the assigned duties.

Analysis must be carried out by a experienced analyst, holding a bachelor degree in pharmacy, chemistry or biology. Graduate staff should normally possess at least 5 years relevant work experience before being considered as experienced analyst. Post-graduate staff e.g. Ph.D. or M Sc. should possess at least 2 years relevant work experience.

Lab supervisors, Lab in-charge or lab head must possess a Ph.D. in a relevant field in addition to sufficient experience in the field of drug quality control.

Personnel's responsibilities

- -Study personnel will have access to the protocol and SOPs involved in the study. It is their responsibility to comply with the instructions given in these documents. Any deviation from these documents should be documented and communicated directly to in-charge
- All study personnel are responsible for recording raw data promptly and accurately and are responsible for the quality of their data
- Personnel should take necessary personal sanitation and health precaution designed to avoid contamination of test and control articles and test systems.
- Personnel engaged in analysis should wear clothing appropriate for duties they perform. Such clothing should be changed as often as necessary to prevent microbiological, radiological, or chemical contamination of test systems and test and control articles.
- Any individual found at any time to have an illness that may adversely affect the quality and integrity of the study should be excluded from direct contact with test systems, test and control article and any other operation or function that may adversely affect the study until the condition is corrected. All personnel should be instructed to report to their supervisors any health or medical conditions that may be have an adverse effect on the study.
- Ensure the calibrated and validated instruments and computers are used. Reagents, chemicals, standards are properly standardized and not expired.

1.2.3 Management Review

A review by the members of review committee should be performed at regular periodicity, to monitor the effectiveness of the implemented system. The agenda of review should cover:

- 1- Input of internal audit
- 2- Surveillance report,
- 3- Complaints and feed backs received from users of laboratory's services
- 4- Any other requirements of the laboratory.

1.3 QUALITY ASSURANCE PROGRAM:

The test facility should have a documented Quality Assurance Program to assure that studies or analysis performed are in compliance with Principles of GLP and consequently assure the integrity of the analysis.

The quality assurance program should be carried out by an individual or by individuals designated by and directly responsible to

management and who are familiar with the test methods and standard operating procedures.

This individual (s) should not be involved in the conduct of the study being assured.

The quality system shall be systematically and periodically reviewed by or on behalf of management to ensure the continued effectiveness of the arrangement, and any necessary corrective action initiated. Such reviews shall be recorded together with details of any corrective action taken.

Responsibility of quality assurance personnel:

The responsibility of quality assurance personnel includes, but is not limited to the following functions.

- a) Maintain a copy of a master schedule sheet of all analysis, maintenance, calibration, training etc. The analysis schedule should describe the test system, the type of analysis, date out of analysis, current studies and that each activity, etc.
- b) It should maintain the copies of all protocols pertaining to different activities being carried out.
- c) The unit should inspect the activities at adequate intervals so that integrity of the data is properly maintained. It should ensure that data reflected is accurate as per the methods and SOPs. The inspection records should show the date of inspection and the activities inspected. The findings of the problems and the action recommended and taken to resolve the existing problem should be documented and further schedule for re-inspection should be properly rescheduled. The problems discovered which are likely to affect the integrity of data should be brought to the notice of in-charge of that discipline and the management. All audits and review findings and any corrective actions that arise from them should be documented. The person responsible for quality should ensure that these actions are discharged within the agreed time frame.
- d) The routine audit report should cover all the different activities, with the problems and corrective action taken. It should be submitted at appropriate intervals to the management.
- e) Deviation from protocols and the SOPs if made, should be audited by the audit unit for its appropriate authorization and documentation
- f) Inspection should also determine that protocol and SOPs have been made available to the analyst and are being followed.
- g) Inspect the final reports to confirm that the methods, procedures, and observations are accurately and completely described, and that the report results accurately and completely reflect the raw data of the study.

- h) Prepare and sign a statement, to be included with the final report, which specifies the phase of the study inspected, and the dates inspection results were reported to management. and the study director and principal investigator, if applicable.

1.4. APPARATUS, REAGENTS, AND ANIMALS.

1.4.1. Apparatus:

Apparatus, including validated computerized systems, used for the generation, storage and retrieval of data, should be suitably located and of appropriate design and adequate capacity.

Apparatus used in a study should be periodically inspected, cleaned, maintained, and calibrated according to Standard Operating Procedures. The frequency for calibration and testing depends from instrument to instrument, the recommendation from manufacturers of equipment, laboratory experience, and the extent of use. For example

- a) pH meter should be calibrated every time before each use.
- b) Titrator should be calibrated every month or whenever cells are removed or reinstalled.
- c) Performance test for chromatography equipment should be carried out within 6-12 months.
- d) The calibration of the UV spectrophotometer and visible colorimeter should be carried out every 3 months.

Records of these activities should be maintained. Calibration should, where appropriate, be traceable to international standards of measurement.

The written SOPs should describe in detail the methods, materials, and schedules to be used in the routine inspection, cleaning, maintenance, testing, calibration, and / or standardization of equipment, and should specify, when appropriate, remedial action to be taken in the event of failure or malfunction of equipment. The written SOPs should designate the person responsible for the performance of each operation.

Written records should be maintained of all inspection, maintenance, testing, calibration and/or standardizing operations. These records, containing the date of operation, should describe whether the maintenance operations were routine and followed the written SOPs. Written records should be kept of non-routine repairs performed on equipment as a result of failure and malfunction. Such records should document the nature of the defect, how and when the defect was discovered, and any remedial action taken in response to the defect. Check list given below can be maintained:

- a- Name of the equipment.

- b- Name of the manufacturer, Model no.
- c- Serial no.
- d- Date on which the equipment was received in the lab.
- e- Condition when received.
- f- Details of checks made for compliance with relevant calibration or test standards specifications
- g- Date when the equipment was placed in service by the lab.
- h- Current location in the lab.
- i- Copy of the manufacturer's operation instructions
- j- Details of maintenance carried out
- k- History of any damage, mal function, modification or repair.

In the exceptional cases case, where the laboratory is obliged to use outside equipment, it shall ensure the quality of that equipment.

1.4.2. Reagents

Chemicals, reagents, and solutions should be labelled to indicate identity (with concentration if appropriate), expiry date and specific storage instructions. Information concerning source, preparation date and stability should be available. The expiry date may be extended on the basis of documented evaluation or analysis.

1.4.3. Animals

There should be SOPs for the housing, feeding, and care of animals.

All newly received animals from outside source should be isolated and their health status should be evaluated in accordance with acceptable veterinary medical practice.

At the initiation of a non-clinical laboratory study, animals should be free of any disease or condition that might interfere with the purpose or conduct of the study. If, during the course of the study, the animals contract such a disease or condition, the diseased animals should be isolated, if necessary. These animals may be treated for disease or sign of disease provided that such treatment does not interfere with the study. The diagnosis, authorization of treatment, description of treatment, and each date of treatment should be documented and should be retained.

Warm – blooded animals, excluding suckling rodents, used in laboratory procedures that require manipulations and observations over an extended period of time or in studies that require the animals to be removed from and returned to their home cages for any reason (e.g. cage cleaning, treatment, etc.), should receive appropriate identification. All information needed to identify each animal within an animal –housing unit should appear on outside of that unit.

Animals of different species should be housed in separate rooms when necessary. Animals of the same species, but used in different studies, should not ordinarily be housed in the same room. If mixed housing is necessary, adequate differentiation by space and identification should be made.

Animal cages, racks and accessory equipment should be cleaned and sanitized at appropriate intervals. a written schedule for cleaning the animal cages, racks and other equipments should be available.

Feed and water used for the animals should be analyzed periodically to assure that contaminants known to be capable of interfering with the study and reasonably expected to be present in such feed or water are not present at levels above those specified in the protocol. Documentation of such analyses should be maintained as raw data.

Bedding used in animal cages or pens should not interfere with the purpose or conduct of the study and should be changed as often as necessary to keep the animals dry and clean.

If any pest control materials are used, the use should be documented, Cleaning and pest control materials that interfere with the study should not be used.

Records of source date of arrival, and arrival condition of animals should be maintained.

Animals should be acclimatized to the test environment for adequate period before the first test.

Services of veterinarian should be availed whenever necessary.

The temperature and humidity should be monitored and documented periodically.

Proper identification mark should be made on cages with suitable labels.

1.4.4. Microbial Cultures

There should be standard operating procedure for storage of microbial cultures with proper labelling. The records of sub culturing of microbial culture should be properly maintained. In case of the cultures have become non-viable or ineffective, proper procedure should be undertaken to destroy it autoclaving. The persons handling the cultures should be solely responsible. No unauthorized person should have access to the stock cultures. Air locks and change rooms should isolate key activities. The air circulation in the sterile area should be such that it ensures the maintenance of aseptic

conditions in the area. Peoples working in the sterile areas should be appropriately dressed and trained for the aseptic area.

1.5. TEST & REFERENCE ITEMS

One of the most important elements in the laboratory quality control program is the quality and the accuracy of the standards, which are used. This standard can be broadly classified into two categories namely primary standards and secondary standards. The security of the standards should be properly maintained by keeping them in locked standard cabinet. Secondary standards are those obtained from reliable source whose purity and strength have been obtained through tests comparing with the primary standards

1.5.1. Receipt, Handling, Sampling and Storage.

Records including test item and reference item characterization, date of receipt, expiry dates, quantities received and used in different tests should be maintained.

Handling and storage procedure should be identified.

Storage containers should carry identification information, expiry date, and specific storage instructions.

The secondary standards should not be accepted unless it is evaluated and the written record is available for evaluation

1.5.2. Characterization

Each test and reference item should be appropriately identified.

For each study, the identity, including batch number, purity, composition. Concentrations, or other characteristics to appropriately define each batch of test or reference items should be known.

The stability of test and reference items under storage and test conditions should be known.

If the test item is administered or applied in a vehicle, the homogeneity, concentration and stability of the test item in that vehicle should be determined through separate laboratory experiments.

A sample for analytical purpose from each batch of test item should be retained for all studies except short-term studies.

1.6. STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES.

Standard Operating Procedures are written procedures for the different activities being conducted in a laboratory. They define how to carry out protocols specified activities. They should be written in a chronological order listing different steps leading to analysis of the drug.

A test facility should have written Standard Operating Procedures approved by test facility management that are intended to ensure

the quality and integrity of the data generated by that test facility. Revision to SOP should be approved by test facility management.

Each separate test facility unit or area should have immediately available current SOP relevant to the activities being performed therein. Published textbooks, analytical methods, articles and manuals may be used as supplements to these SOPs.

Deviation from SOPs related to the study should be documented.

SOPs should be established to the minimum respect of the following:

- a- Sample Handling and accountability
- b- Receipt identification and storage
- c- Record keeping, reporting, storage and retrieval of data
- d- Coding of different studies, handling of data including use of computerized data system
- e- Operating of technical audit personnel in performing and reporting audits, inspections and final report reviews
- f- Routine inspection of cleaning maintenance, testing, calibration and standardization of instruments
- g- Action to be taken in response of the equipment failure
- h- Analytical data methods
- i- The raw data
- j- Data handling and storage retrieval
- k- Health and safety protection
- l- Animal room preparations

Animal care

Storage and maintenance of microbial cultures

Maintenance of sterility room

Use and storage of reference standards

Instrument receipt, operation, calibration, training, maintenance and validation

1.7. PERFORMANCE OF THE STUDY:

1.7.1. Protocol

For each study or analysis, written protocol should exist prior to the initiation of the study. The protocol should be approved by dated signature of the in charge and verified for GLP compliance by Quality Assurance personnel.

In a pharmaceutical analysis the protocol from different pharmacopoeias are used, however, in case of Patent and Proprietary Preparations protocols developed by the manufacturers form part of the routine analysis. The

protocols should conform to the requirements of pharmacopoeia parameters in regard to the precision, accuracy, reproducibility, specificity, etc.

Deviation from the protocols should be described, explained, acknowledged and dated in a timely fashion by in-charge and maintained with the protocol. If the deviation from the protocols is intended to be permanent the amended protocols should be issued.

1.7.2. Content of the protocol

The protocol should contain, but not be limited to the following information:

1.7.2.1 Test item specifications (e.g. release and stability specifications)

1.7.2.2 Reference standards

1.7.2.3 Methods of analysis of finished product in details e.g.

Identification and assay by high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) require the following information:

- a) In physicochemical testing
 - Column used and temperature
 - Ref. Standards and/or internal standard with method of preparation
 - Sample preparation
 - Detector and wave length
 - Mobile phase.etc.
- b) In pharmacological testing, the following information is required
 - Characterization of the test system, e.g. the animal species, strain, source of supply, number, body weight, sex, age etc.
 - The method of administration and reason for its choice
 - Each dosage level, expressed in milligrams per kilogram of body weight or other appropriate units, of the test or reference item to be administered and method and frequency of administration/application.
 - A description and / or identification of diet used in the study as well as solvents, emulsifiers, and /or other materials used to solubilize or suspend the test or reference items. The description should include specification for acceptable levels of contaminants that are reasonably expected to be present in the dietary materials and are known to be capable of interfering with the purpose or conduct of the study if present at levels greater than established by the specifications.
 - Detailed information on the experimental design etc.

c) In microbiological testing, for example in antibiotic assay, the following information required:

- Name of media and diluents
- Test organism name
- Measuring tools
- Sample & standard preparation
- Incubation period
- Calculation procedure

1.7.2.4 Records

-A list of records to be retained.

-A statement of the proposed statistical methods to be used.

1.7.2.5 Conduct of the Study

The study should be conducted in accordance with the study protocol

All data generated during the conduct of the study should be recorded directly, promptly, accurately, and with dated signature

Any change in the raw data should be made so as not to obscure the previous ones, should indicate the reason for change and should be dated and signed.

Data generated as a direct computer input should be identified at the time of data input by the individual responsible for direct data entries. Computerized system design should always provide for the retention of full audit trails to show all changes to the data without obscuring the original data. Reason for change should be given.

1.8. RECORDS AND REPORTS:

1.8.1. Reporting of the study results:

A final report should be prepared for each drug test or analysis.

Reports of analyst or scientists involved in the study or analysis should be signed and dated by them..

The final report should be revised, signed and dated by the supervisor and laboratory in charge to indicate acceptance of responsibility for the validity of the data.

Correction and addition to the final report should be in the form of amendments. Amendments should be clearly specify the reason for the corrections or additions and should be signed and dated by the in-charge.

1.8.1.1 Contents of the final report:

The final report should include at least following information:

- a) Name and address of testing laboratory and location where the test was carried out when different from the address of the testing laboratory.

- b) Unique identification of report (such as serial number) and of each page, and total number of pages of the report.
- c) Identification of the test and reference items by code or by name as IUPAC
- d) Name and address of the drug manufacturer
- e) Starting and completion dates.
- f) Description of Materials and Test methods e.g.
 - The test and reference items identified by name, chemical abstract number or code number, strength, purity, and other appropriate characteristics.
 - The statistical methods used for analyzing the data.
 - Stability of the test and reference items under the condition of administration.
 - Description of the methods used.
 - Description of the test system used, where applicable, the final report should include the number of animals used, sex, body weight range, source of supply, species and strain.
 - Description of the dosage, dosage regimen, route of administration, and duration.
 - Description of all conditions that may have affect the quality or integrity of the data.
- g) Quality Assurance Program statement listing the types of inspections made and their dates including the phase (s) inspected..
- h) Summary of results e.g.
 - A presentation of the results, including calculations and determination of statistical significance
 - An evaluation and discussion of the results.
- i) All information and data required by the analysis or study protocol

1.8.2 Storage and retrieval of records and data

- a) The following should be retained in the archives for the period specified in their SOP's by the appropriate authorities:
 - The study protocol, the raw data, samples of test and reference items and final report for each study.
 - Records of all inspections performed by the quality assurance program,
 - Records of qualifications, training, experience and job descriptions of personnel.
 - Records and reports of the maintenance and calibration of apparatus.

- Validation documentation for computerized systems.
 - The historical file of all SOPs
 - Environmental monitoring records.
 - -Records required may be retained either as original records or as true copies such as photocopies, microfilm, or other accurate reproductions of the original records.
- b) Material retained in the archives should be indexed so as to facilitate orderly storage and retrieval.
 - c) Proper condition of storage should minimize deterioration of documents. Paper documents should not be kept for very long period under high humidity. Storage conditions should be monitored so that the deviation from proper storage can be promptly rectified.
 - d) Presentation of raw data in the form of tape or discs is to properly take care of. In case of raw data on thermal paper, it should be known that might fade a way with time, therefore, a photocopy of thermal paper should form a part of the archive.
 - e) Only personnel authorized by management should have access to archives.
 - f) Movement of material in and out of the archives should be properly recorded
 - g) The retention period for documents is as SOP's.
 - h) Samples of test and reference items should be retained only as long as the expiry date..
 - i) In the absence of a required retention period, the final disposition of any study materials should be documented.
 - j) When samples of test and reference items are disposed of before the expiry of the required retention period for any reason, this should be justified and documented.

2. INSPECTION AND AUDITS

2.1 Inspection procedure:

Governments are responsible for effective protection of their public and environment, therefore in most countries chemicals, plants and biological of various categories are not permitted to be marketed unless the safety have been determined. These safety-testing results are made reliable by GLP evaluation which is now incorporated in each country's legislation, therefore a National GLP Inspection and Study Audits Compliance Monitoring is being adapted.

It should be kept in mind that inspections one never carried out in an identical way, this is because Test Facilities are different in many respects. Inspectors have different approaches based on their qualification and experience.

Regularity Authority should have, a fixed time schedule for the routine inspections which should be announced about two weeks before commencement, such short period allows minor corrections but not sufficient to make basic changes in GLP System. besides routine inspections " Directed" Inspections may be carried out without announcement prior to inspection's date.

2.2 Pre-inspection:

2.2.1. Purpose: to familiarize the inspectors with the Test Facility which is about to be inspected in respect of management structure, physical layout of buildings and range of studies.

2.2.2. Prior to conducting a Test Facility inspection or study audit, Inspectors should be familiarizing themselves with the facility which to be visited. This may include; the previous inspection reports, the layout of the facility organization charts, study reports, protocols and curricula vitae (CVs) of personnel. Such documents should provide information on: -

- -The type, size and layout of the facility.
- The range of the studies likely to be encountered during inspection
- The management structure of the facility.

2.2.3. Inspectors should note, in particular any deficiencies from previous test facility inspections. In case of no previous test facility inspections have been conducted, or pre-inspection visit can be made to obtain relevant information.

2.2.4. The test facility may be also informed about the objective and the length of expected time period in the premises. This could allow the test facility to ensure that appropriate personnel and documentations are available. In cases where particular documents or records are to be examined, it may be useful to identify these to the test facility in advance of visit so that they will be immediately available during the inspection visit.

2.3 Start of inspection

At the first instance, normally the GLP inspectors start their work by meeting with the test facility's in-charge, the person responsible for the quality assurance program and selected staff of the facility.

At this meeting, inspectors should:

- outline the purpose and scope of the visit,
- describe the documentation which will be required for the test facility inspection, such as list of on-going and completed studies, study plans, SOPs, study reports...etc.
- Indicate that a close out meeting will be held at the completion of the inspection.

Inspectors may wish to request that a room be set aside for examination of documents, interviewing personnel and other activities.

2.3.1. Organization and Personnel

The purpose of inspection is to determine whether the test facility has sufficient qualified personnel, staff resources and support services for variety and number of studies undertaken and whether management has established a policy regarding training and staff health surveillance appropriate to the studies undertaken in the laboratory.

The management should be asked to produce certain documents e.g.

- Floor plan,
- Qualifications and experience of personnel involved in any types of studies selected for the study audit,
- List of on-going and completed studies with information on the type of the study, initiation /completion dates, test system, and name of study director,
- Staff job description and staff training programs.
- SOPs

The inspector should check, in particular: -

- List of on-going and completed studies to ascertain the level of work being undertaken by the test facility,
- The identity and qualifications of the study directors, the head of the quality assurance unit and other personnel.
- The existence of SOPs for all relevant areas of testing.

2.3.2. Quality assurance program

The purpose of inspection is to determine whether the mechanisms used to assure studies are conducted in accordance of principles of GLP, are adequate. The head of the quality assurance personnel should be asked to demonstrate the systems and methods of quality assurance inspection and monitoring the studies and records of observations made during inspection of different studies.

The inspectors should check: -

- The qualification of the head of quality assurance, and of all quality assurance staff,
- That the quality assurance unit functions independently from the staff involved in the studies,

- How the quality assurance unit schedules and conducts inspections, how it monitors identified critical phase in a study,
- The quality assurance procedure for checking the final report to ensure its agreement with the raw data,
- That the management receives reports from quality assurance concerning problems likely to affect the quality of a study, the action taken by quality assurance when deviations are found,
- The quality assurance role, if any, of studies or part of studies are done in contract laboratories,
- The part played, if any, by quality assurance in review, revision, and up-dating of SOPs.

2.3.3. Facilities

The purpose of inspection is checking if the test facility of suitable size, design and location to meet the demands of the studies being undertaken or not.

The inspectors have to check that:

- The design enables an adequate degree of separation so that e.g. test substances, animals, diet etc of one study can not be confused with those of another,
- Environmental control and monitoring procedures exist and function adequately in critical areas e. g. animal house, storage areas, laboratory areas,
- The general housekeeping is adequate for the various facilities.

2.3.4. Animal house

The purpose: to determine whether the test facility, if engaged in studies using animals, has support facilities and conditions for their care, housing and containment which are adequate to prevent stress and other problems which could affect the test system and quality of data.

The inspectors will check that:

- There are facilities adequate for the test systems used for testing needs
- There are arrangements to quarantine animals being introduced into facility and that these arrangements are working satisfactorily
- There are arrangements to isolate animals known to be, or suspected of being, diseased or carriers of disease
- There is adequate monitoring and record-keeping of animal health

- Animal cages, racks, tanks and other containers, as well as necessary equipment, are kept clean
- Facilities exist for removal and disposal of animal waste and refuse from the test systems and that are operated so as to minimize vermin infestation, odor, disease hazards and environmental contamination
- Storage areas are provided for animal feed, that these areas are not used for the storage of other materials such as pest control, chemicals, disinfectantsetc, and they are separated from areas in which animals are housed.
- Stored feed and bedding are protected from deterioration by adverse environmental conditions, infestation or contamination.

2.3.5. Test systems

The inspectors should confirm the availability and existence adequate procedures for the handling and control of variety of test systems required by the studies undertaken in the facility.

Regarding physical and chemical systems, the inspector should check that –

- -The stability of test and reference items was determined and the reference items specified in the protocol were used,
- In automated systems, data generated as graphs or computer print-outs are kept as raw data and archived.

Regarding biological test systems, the inspector should check that

- Test systems are as specified in the protocol
- Test systems should be adequately and uniquely identified through out the study and that records exist regarding their receipt and document the number of test systems received, used, replaced or discarded
- Housing or containers of test systems are properly identified with all necessary information

2.3.6. Equipment, apparatus and computerized systems:

It should be determined whether the test facility has operational equipment in sufficient quantity and of adequate capacity to meet the requirements of the tests being conducted in the facility.

Inspectors should check that:

- Equipment are labelled, clean, have enough space and in suitable place and they are in good working order,
- Relevant authorized copies of SOPs for use, maintenance, cleaning, calibration and validation,

- Records are maintained for operation, maintenance, calibration and validation.

2.3.7. Materials, Reagents and Test items:

It should determine that the materials, reagents, samples and specimens are properly labelled, used and stored.

The inspectors should check that.

- Materials and chemical reagents are properly labelled and stored at appropriate temperature and the expiry dates are not being ignored,
- Labels for reagents should indicate their source, identity, concentration and/or pertinent information,
- Specimens are well identified by test system, study, nature and date of collection.

2.3.8. Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)

The purpose: to determine whether the test facility has written SOPs relating to all the important aspects of its operations. To assure that, the inspectors should check that.

- Each test facility area has immediately available relevant, authorized copies of SOPs
- Procedures exist for the revision and updating SOPs
- Any amendment or change to SOPs have been authorized and dated
- Historical files of void SOPs are maintained

2.3.9. Conduct of the study

The purpose: to verify that written protocol exists and that the plan and the conduct of the study are in accordance with GLP principles. To achieve that, the inspectors should check for example that.

The protocol approval and signature of the in-charge

- Duly signed amendments for updating or deviation to the protocol by manufactures should be maintained.
- Measurements and examination were in accordance with the study protocol and SOPs
- The results of these measurements and examinations were recorded directly, immediately, accurately and were signed and dated
- Any change in raw data is accompanied by the reason of that change,

- The computerized systems used in the study are reliable, accurate and have been validated.

2.3.10. Reporting of the study results

The final report should be prepared in accordance with the principles of GLP. To assure that, the inspectors should check that

- It is signed and dated by the in-charge to indicate acceptance of responsibility for the validity of the study and confirming that the study was conducted in accordance with principles of GLP
- A Quality Assurance statement is included in the report and that it is signed and dated
- The responsible personnel signed and dated made any amendments.
- It lists the archive location of all test items, specimens and raw data.

2.3.11. Storage Retrieval and retention of records and materials

At this stage the inspectors should check that.

- Adequate provision has been made for the safe storage and retention of records and materials,
- A responsible person has been identified for archive,
- The archive facilities for storage of protocol, raw data, final reports, samples, specimens, and records of education and training of personnel,
- The procedure for retrieval of archived materials,
- The procedure whereby access to the archive is limited to authorized personnel,
- An inventory is maintained of materials removed from, and returned to, the archives,
- Records and materials are retained for the required or appropriate period of time and are protected from loss or damage by fire or adverse environmental conditions.

2.4 Close-out meeting

This is the last stage for the inspectors visit to the test facility, which ends their tour. During their closing meeting with the same individuals as the starting, the inspectors will bring forward their findings. Normally these findings are discussed. The major observations are usually presented in writing form at the closing of meeting as a list of observations. Later, a full inspection report is

issued from the authority and the test facility in-charge is asked to reply in short time.

3. REFERENCES

- 1 Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development Principles of Good Laboratory Practice, Paris 1997.
- 2 The Good Laboratory Practice Regulation and Guide to UK GLP Regulations, MCA Publications, London 1999.
- 3 Good Laboratory Practice For Non-Clinical Laboratory Studies, US Government Printing Office, 1999.
- 4 Pharmaceutical Inspection Convention (PIC) Recommendations on a quality system for official medicines control laboratories 1995.