

NEWEST MESSAGES FIRST

Daniel Scungio: Kathleen- Most of the instruments are kept and used inside the BSC.

Daniel Scungio: Nicolle- We do not plan to discard instruments as they are dedicated for those patients. We will decontaminate after use per manufacturer recommendations.

Daniel Scungio: Andrea- that is a great solution!

Daniel Scungio: Juiana- The lab can run QC for the iSTAT, but RNs are trained to do so as well.

Kathleen Kalinowski: I meant to ask if the lab equipment is dedicated to the infectious lab unit, i.e are they kept in the hood at all times?

Nicolle Ellious: What is your plan if you have an actual Ebola confirmed patient? Are you discarding instruments after use?

Daniel Scungio: Diane- There were many changes. The most recent test menu requirements can be found on the Ebola page at the CDC web site.

Peggy Mann: Thanks Dan

Daniel Scungio: Peggy- Because we do not have an autoclave (the cheapest way to go for sure), we have a contract with a company who will take the waste to their facility in the western part of the state.

Daniel Scungio: Kathleen- The unit is not dedicated- these are regular Emergency Department rooms until we stand up the Infectious Disease Unit.

Brenda Suh-Lailam: Juliana-We were thinking the same thing.

Daniel Scungio: Tawny- The decision was made to have nurses test samples on the iSTAT to avoid the transfer of samples from one room to another where possible.

Shana Nowelani Gaug: Thanks, Dan.

Daniel Scungio: Shana- we use bleach wipes for disinfection.

Andrea King: Thanks Daniel. We also have a CDRU unit utilizing the iSTAT as POC and found that the results could be printed through the glass window so the printer does not enter the patient room.... Pretty neat!

Juliana Hospodor: how do you satisfy the CAP requirement stating QC should be performed by testing personnel?

Daniel Scungio: Peggy- initially, \$1.5 million was spent for facility reconstruction.

Daniel Scungio: Brenda- Lab staff perform iSTAT QC, RNs perform the testing. The instrument is cleaned before transport to the patient room or the lab.

Diane Branch: Where can the most recent information be found for the official laboratory testing platform recommendations? It seems from the information shared that there have been changes to the original list of recommended lab tests for these patients. Thanks.

Peggy Mann: this is just a curiosity question since I know 'Texas waste' comes to our campus for incineration and the huge amount of regs to handle that type of waste...where in the state of VA does the hazmat waste of Ebola nature 'go' for incineration and final disposition?

Kathleen Kalinowski: Are these dedicated units?

Tawny Arensmeyer: If the Lab is so close to the patient rooms, why are you not running the iSTATs in the lab rather than POC?

Jonathan Harris: thanks Daniel, very useful information

Daniel Scungio: Catherine- Thank you. We trained 10 staff members from various labs throughout our system.

Shana Nowelani Gaug: @Dan, if they are moved into the lab each time, how is it disinfected?

Daniel Scungio: Jonathan- Check with instrument manufacturers' guidelines and wipe efficacy before making a decision on how to decontaminate equipment. Methods will vary.

Kimberly Skala: Just a comment-great information Dan!

Peggy Mann: Dan, excellent presentation! Question: in round numbers, do you have any idea how expensive it was to set up (the facility part, not considering any training cost) your assessment center?

Daniel Scungio: Lou Ann- yes, POCT instruments are moved into the lab each time it is set up. The room is used for patients when the lab is inactive, so we remove as much as we can.

Daniel Scungio: Tawny- If a plastic item can be broken to create a sharp edge during handling, it should be treated as a sharp. We always want to avoid exposure, even more so in this situation.

Brenda Suh-Lailam: Thank you for the presentation. I found it interesting. Do your RN's fill the iSTATs only or are there times that the lab staff perform iSTAT tests?

Catherine Walker: Thanks for the great presentation Daniel. How many staff did you train to work in the containment lab?

Daniel Scungio: Brenda- We have actually just changed to a new device (a CAPR) which has no hose. There is a battery unit we will wear on the belt and it is much lighter. When we used the PAPR we were inspected by a NIOSH representative and were told we were wearing them correctly based on our decontamination methods.

Jonathan Harris: hi, are the regular wipes sufficient for cleaning the POCT devices for e bola positive patients?

Lou Ann Wyer: Are point of care instruments moved into the lab each time the lab is stood up/opened for use?

Daniel Scungio: Shana- we run QC and proficiency testing on the POCT devices and of course we use them to train staff as well.

Tawny Arensmeyer: Dan, you mentioned you dispose of your Piccolo disks in the sharps container. Why not in the biohazardous waste if they are plastic?

Brenda Suh-Lailam: I'm the clinical educator for our department. Is there a reason you wear the PAPR belts that hold the battery on the outside of your gowns/overalls. We were taught by CDC to wear them on the inside so they are not contaminated and can be reused. Belts are difficult to properly disinfect.

Daniel Scungio: Monica- The iSTAT downloader is located inside the actual patient room. We do not currently have wireless iSTATs, but that is a great consideration moving forward.

Shana Nowelani Gaug: Are all of the POCT devices used on a regular basis?

Daniel Scungio: Shana- Our plan is to drill at least quarterly. We are not at that schedule yet, but we are headed there. It is important to keep all team members current on testing and PPE.

Monica Ianosi-Irimie: Dan, Is your iSTAT downloader located in the patient room? Or do you disinfect the iSTAT and download at a downloader in a centralized location outside the patient room? Have you considered wireless iSTATs?

Daniel Scungio: Lou Ann, we have 10 members on the team trained to work in the lab. Succession planning is important, and we have had team members leave. We actively recruit volunteer members and need to train them as they come on board.

Lou Ann Wyer: Can you tell us how many members you have on your lab team that are trained to work in this lab? Do you have a succession plan for when members leave your organization?

Shana Nowelani Gaug: Aloha Dan! How often were drills performed?

Daniel Scungio: Thank you, Lou Ann, and good morning!

Lou Ann Wyer: "Good morning! I will be moderating this Q&A session for you.

Thank you for joining in on our discussion of POCT and lab safety in the face of an infectious crisis. I want to thank Dan for his outstanding presentation and for jumping over here to the Networking Lounge for this Q&A.