



SECTION OF LABORATORY AREA

Location of Area

A small room which has a sink with running water may be used for the Laboratory Area. In school buildings the science laboratory is a suitable area and the hospital laboratory may set up in a portion of it, (see plate 15). School cupboards are useful as storage areas for equipment. A suitably placed wall receptacle is required for the electrical connection for the microscope sub-stage lighting.

Equipment

All of the necessary equipment is packed in two chests and two boxes. The laboratory is supplied with all equipment required for undertaking basic bio-analytical tests on patient's blood, urine and stools. These tests can be carried out by any technician with laboratory experience. Seven instruction cards containing full details of the techniques of the tests are packed with the laboratory equipment.

The information on the cards covers the following tests:

Card No. 1	Urinalysis Specific Gravity Reaction Acetone Bodies Bilirubin
Card No. 2	Urinalysis Reducing Substances Protein
Card No. 3	Urinalysis Combistix Test Blood Occult Blood
Card No. 4 & 5	Blood Analysis Hematocrit Hemoglobin Plasma Proteins
Card No. 6	Blood Analysis R.B.C. Count W.B.C. Count Differential White Blood Cell Count
Card No. 7	Bacteriologic Smear Gram Stain

During the initial shock phase and the first several days after a disaster, shortage of person-

nel and time will allow only simple bio-analytical tests to be carried out.

If the emergency hospital is located fairly close to an existing hospital with more complex laboratory facilities, this will assist in the development of a more effective laboratory service to the emergency hospital in the second week post-disaster.

Pharmaceutical Area

The Director of Pharmaceutical Services who is appointed by the Provincial Emergency Health Services Director will have the responsibility for the operation of the Pharmacy area and the Pharmacy stores. He is responsible for the supervision of the Central Supply Area and for ensuring a free flow of supplies which require sterilization before use in the operating rooms and other functional areas, from the Pharmacy and Central Supply stores. He should have as an alternate an Assistant Director (Pharmacist). Two additional pharmacists will be required on the staff to provide continuity of service over a twenty-four hour period during the first critical forty-eight hours. The Director of Pharmaceutical Services should have a background of experience in Hospital Pharmacy Services, the Assistant Director may be a local pharmacist.

Duties and Functions of Director of Pharmaceutical Services

His detailed responsibilities are as follows:

Pre-Disaster

1. To maintain the supplies and equipment in operational readiness at all times.
2. To maintain the storage area in accordance with the requirements specified by Federal Emergency Health Services
3. To be responsible for the safe custody and security of all narcotics and controlled drugs
4. To rotate all dated items as requested
5. To make arrangements through the Municipal Emergency Government H.Q. for re-supply of all items required from local resources such as oxygen, propane gas, batteries, etc.,
6. To obtain and/or arrange for all staff required to man his areas