Establishment and Training of Biorisk Management Committee for the Izmir Bornova Veterinary Control Institute
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Background
- BVKE is responsible for diagnosis and control of animal and zoonotic diseases in the Aegean region.
- The BVKE annually processes more than 160,000 samples including high risk pathogens.
- Biorisk Management (BRM) is relatively new to the BVKE and other veterinary control institutes in Turkey.
- At the start of this project, there were only two employees at BVKE who had received any BRM training, there is no risk assessment process, and no BRM manual.

Objectives
- This project will establish a BRM Committee at the BVKE with defined roles and responsibilities.
- The members identified to serve on the committee will be trained in BRM.
- The BRM Committee will be essential in the future development of a BRM manual and risk assessments at the BVKE.

Methodology
- Approval of Project
- Preparation of BRM Charter
- Awareness Meeting (Pre and Post questionnaire)
- Selection of Participants for BRM Training
- BRM Training (Pre and Post questionnaire)
- Establishment of BRM Committee
- Approval of Charter by Committee
- BRM Implementation

Resources
- CWA 15793 section 4.4.1; Roles, responsibilities and authorities.
- Other parts of CWA 15793.
- Related National Legislation.
- Institutional needs.
- Future Goals.

Results
- Awareness meetings were held.
- BRM training was conducted.
- Charter was written and approved.
- BRM Committee was established.
- Committee will implement BRM activities.

Results (continued)
- 1 - Awareness Meetings - What is Biosafety, Biosecurity, Biorisk, CWA-15793
- 2 - Introduction to Biorisk Management
- 3 - Biorisk Characterization & Evaluation
- 4 - Biorisk Mitigation Strategies
- 5 - Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); 6 - Good Laboratory Work Practices (GLWP)

Conclusions
- 75 staff members of BVKE received awareness training.
- 13 participants received 4 days of BRM Training.
- Questionnaire results showed an increase in BRM understanding.
- The BVKE BRM Committee was established.
- The BVKE BRM Charter was approved.
- All staff are expected to perform BRM practices from now on enhancing biosafety and biosecurity at the BVKE.
- The Institute administration has expressed many plans for BRM.
- The quality policy of the Institute has improved.

Lessons Learned
- This was the first Committee established with BRM Authority in Turkey.
- There are many more BRM trained people in Turkey.
- There is much more awareness about BRM in Turkey.
- There are high expectations about BRM.
- Everyone in the project was very understanding and helpful.
- The Institute Administration and central authority supported all project steps.

Moving Forward
Planning in the Institute:
- Risk Assessments of the priority departments.
- Prepare BRM Manuals.
- New and improved BRM Training.

Planning in Turkey:
- Project report was sent to General Directorate.
- Same concept may be implemented in the other Veterinary Control Institutes.
- Charter may be adopted throughout the country within MoFAL.

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