TRAINING UPDATE

Lab Location:	GEC, SGMC & WAH	**Date Distributed:**	1/26/2016
Department:	Mgmt & QA	**Due Date:**	2/29/2016
		Implementation:	**3/1/2016**

DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURE REVISION

Name of procedure:
Occupational Noise GEC/SGAH/WAH.SA15 v1
Description of change(s):
Section 1 & 2: remove Nichols Institute Chantilly Section 3: update job titles Section 5: update process to match Baltimore BU *(previous CHY process required noise to be assessed each year, this is NOT required by CAP)* Section 9: add appendix This revised SOP will be implemented on March 1, 2016

Document your compliance with this training update by taking the quiz in the MTS system.

Approved draft for training (version 1)

Non-Technical SOP

Title	**Occupational Noise**	
Prepared by	Bryan Mason	Date: 2/9/2011
Owner	Lori Loffredo	Date: 2/9/2011

Laboratory Approval		
Print Name and Title	**Signature**	**Date**
Refer to the electronic signature page for approval and approval dates.		
Local Issue Date:	Local Effective Date:	

Review:		
Print Name	**Signature**	**Date**

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1. PURPOSE

This procedure addresses sound levels within the laboratories of Quest Diagnostics at Germantown Emergency Center, Shady Grove Medical Center and Washington Adventist Hospital.

2. SCOPE

This procedure applies to all laboratory employees.

3. RESPONSIBILITY

The Manager, EHS is responsible for measuring sound levels.

Laboratory management is responsible for ensuring compliance with this SOP.

The Regional Laboratory Director is responsible for review and revision of this SOP as needed.

4. DEFINITIONS

dBA - Decibels measured using the A weighted scale.

TWA – Time weighted average. Used to determine an exposure to an individual over an certain time interval. All uses of TWA in this document will be expressed as an 8 hour TWA.

5. PROCEDURE

1. Historical noise level monitoring is specified in appendix A.

2. The Business Unit EHS Manager / Designee is responsible for measuring sound levels in the laboratory as conditions change which could increase the exposure levels.

3. Supervisors shall report complaints or concerns from their employees about the noise level to the EHS Manager for further investigation.

4. No areas within the laboratory shall have excessive noise levels as defined in this procedure. If a process change, new piece of equipment or other facility change causes an increase in the noise level, measurements will be conducted using an integrated sound level meter.
    a. The sound level meter will be calibrated prior to use following instructions from the manufacturer.
    b. Measurements will be taken at approximately 60 inches from the ground at workstations, aisles and other locations where employees typically work to simulate the sound level at around ear height.
    c. If sound level measurements identify a noise source with excessive noise levels as described by this procedure, engineering or administrative controls shall be employed to ensure employee exposure levels remain under 85dBA TWA.
    d. If excessive noise levels are not reduced to acceptable levels or the employee exposure is not controlled to ensure less than an 85 dBA TWA, then a *Hearing Conservation Program* shall be initiated in compliance with the OSHA Occupational Noise Exposure Standard (29CFR 1910.95).
    e. Employee may request hearing protectors (i.e. ear plugs or muffs) for noise levels less than excessive levels by contacting the EHS Manager.

5. Specifications:
    a. Excessive Noise Levels means exceeding the OSHA action level of 85 decibels measured on the A-weighted scale (dBA) over an 8 hour Time Weighted Average (TWA) or exceeding higher noise levels for a shorter duration of time resulting in 50% of the Permissible Exposure Level (PEL).
    b. Permissible Exposure Level (PEL) means the sound level at which an employee cannot exceed averaged over a period of time. The PEL for an 8 hour work shift is 90 dBA.
    c. Hearing Conservation Program is required by OSHA if employee noise exposures equal or exceed an 8-hour time- weighted average (TWA) sound level of 85 dBA or, equivalently, a dose of fifty percent.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

None

7. REFERENCES

29 CFR 1910.95 *Occupational Noise Exposure*

8. REVISION HISTORY

Version	Date	Reason for Revision	Revised By	Approved By
		Supersedes Occupational Noise, dated 10/23/2006		
000	2/9/16	Section 1 & 2: remove Nichols Institute Chantilly Section 3: update job titles Section 5: update process to match Baltimore BU Section 9: add appendix Footer: version # leading zero's dropped due to new EDCS in use as of 10/7/13	L Barrett	L Loffredo

9. ADDENDA AND APPENDICES

A. Noise Survey Results

Appendix A

Noise Survey Results

Survey Date: March 14, 2013
Location: Quest Diagnostics, SGAH laboratory
Sound level meter: Q300-Noise Dosimeter
Serial number: QC8D20074
Calibration Date: 25 June 2012 (Ashtead Technologies)
Survey performed by: Bryan Mason, Manager, EHS

Area	Area under 85dBA?	List equipment if area over 85 dBA, continuous sound level	Comments
General Laboratory areas, excluding Histology laboratory	Yes	None	Centrifuge measured at approximately 71 dBA during operation.
Storage area	Yes	Vacuum pump system (86.3 dBA). Intermittent automatic operation	Intermittent automatic operation of the vacuum pump system causes the area near the compressors to have sound levels above 85 dBA

Survey Date: March 15, 2013
Location: Quest Diagnostics, WAH laboratory
Sound level meter: Q300-Noise Dosimeter
Serial number: QC8D20074
Calibration Date: 25 June 2012 (Ashtead Technologies)
Survey performed by: Bryan Mason, Manager, EHS

Area	Area under 85dBA?	List equipment if area over 85 dBA, continuous sound level	Comments
General Laboratory areas and Phlebotomy area (including waiting area)	Yes	None	Laboratory area approximately 70 dBA. Air compressor in area – active for 3 minutes at 75 dBA directly at source. All other areas within lab and phlebotomy normally below 70 dBA.