

- Occupational risk prevention programs should be revised in view of the findings of epidemiological studies on fatal occupational accidents. The Maryland study on deaths among truck drivers, for example, emphasizes that most occupational safety programs virtually ignore commercial vehicles, which account for close to 40% of all fatal occupational accidents. Even in the manufacturing industry, more workers' deaths are caused by freight vehicles than by fixed machinery. In framing policies for the prevention of occupational accidents, and especially serious and fatal ones, it is important to regard occupational and traffic accidents as inseparable when they occur in occupational situations (commercial drivers, transportation of workers, running over workers in the vicinity of the work site, etc.). In addition to the legal implications, the employer's responsibility in relation to his participation in prevention measures should be clearly spelled out.

- Epidemiological research of fatal occupational accidents shows without exception that some as yet unknown aspects should undergo epidemiological analysis. In Latin American and Caribbean countries, for example, there is not yet any understanding of the true extent of the problem, chiefly because of the limited social security coverage of large groups of work-

ers, including, among others, those employed in agriculture.

- Occupational accidents should be included with a systematic and coordinated focus in the sphere of action of public health programs. In some countries this area is the jurisdiction of institutions and programs not properly coordinated with the health sector, and hence the problem is rarely addressed as a public health issue.

## References

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- (4) Pan American Health Organization. Occupational Health in Latin America and the Caribbean. Consideration on Some Problems, Alternatives, Trends and Challenges for its Promotion. Washington, D.C.: Pan American Health Organization, 1981. 32 p.

(Source: Worker's Health Program, Health Programs Development, PAHO.)

# WHO Collaborating Centers for Tropical Diseases in the Americas

One of the purposes of the *Epidemiological Bulletin* is to provide information on national and international health institutions which are technical resources available to PAHO member countries in the Americas. The WHO Collaborating Centers—national institutions that function as reference centers for service, research, and

training in the health field—are included in this group of institutions.

The *Epidemiological Bulletin* (Vol. 4, No. 3, 1983) published the list of WHO Collaborating Centers for Viral Diseases in the Americas. Table 1 below lists the WHO Collaborating Centers for Tropical Diseases.

Table 1. WHO Collaborating Centers for Tropical Diseases in the Americas.

Area of activity	Institution	Location
Diagnosis and research on Chagas' disease	Instituto Fataala Chaben	Avenida Paseo Colón 568 Buenos Aires 1063 Argentina
Research and training in the immunology of parasitic diseases	Oswaldo Cruz Foundation	Avenida Brasil 4365 Manguinhos, CEP 21040 Rio de Janeiro Brazil

**Table 1. WHO Collaborating Centers for Tropical Diseases in the Americas (Cont.).**

Area of activity	Institution	Location
Pesticide toxicology	Seção de Toxicologia e Higiene Comparada Instituto Biológico	Avenida Cons. Rodrigues Alves 1252, C.P. 7119 São Paulo 01000 Brazil
Serology of Chagas' disease, leishmaniasis, and toxoplasmosis	Laboratorio de Inmunología Instituto de Medicina Tropical de São Paulo	Avenida Dr. Enéas de Carvalho Aguiar 470 São Paulo 05403 Brazil
Cryopreservation of strains of <i>American Trypanosoma</i>	Centro de Pesquisas René Rachou FIOCRUZ	Avenida Augusto de Lima 1715 Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais Brazil
Training of personnel in the control of leprosy, mainly for Portuguese-speaking countries	Hospital Lauro de Souza Lima	Rodovia Comandante João Ribeiro de Barros Km. 115, Caixa Postal 62 Bauru 17100, São Paulo Brazil
Pesticide application testing and development	Dirección de Campañas Directas Sección <i>Aedes</i> -Vacunación	Avenida Caracas 1-91 Sur Bogotá Colombia
Onchocerciasis	Centro de Investigaciones Ecológicas del Sureste (CIES)	Carretera Panamericana y Periférico Sur Código Postal 29290 San Cristóbal de las Casas, Chiapas Mexico
Work on insecticide resistance	Department of Entomology Division of Toxicology and Physiology University of California	P.O. Box 112 Riverside, California 92521 USA
Evaluation and testing of new insecticides	Insects Affecting Man and Animals Research Laboratory Agricultural Research (Southern Region) U.S. Department of Agriculture	1600 S.W. Twenty-third Drive, P.O. Box 14565 Gainesville, Florida 32604 USA
Reference and research on <i>Mycobacterium leprae</i>	Virology Division Bureau of Laboratories Centers for Disease Control	Atlanta, Georgia 30333 USA
Studies on <i>Mycobacterium leprae</i>	National Hansen's Disease Center Laboratory Research Branch U.S. Public Health Service Hospital	Carville, Louisiana 70721 USA
Parasites of insect vectors and the impact of biological control agents on nontarget species	Gulf Coast Mosquito Research Laboratory U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Research Service	P.O. Drawer 16923 Lake Charles, Louisiana 70616 USA
Biological control of vectors of human diseases	Department of Entomology College of Biological Sciences Botany and Zoology Building, Room 185 The Ohio State University	1735 Neil Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43210 USA
Evaluation and testing of new insecticides	Division of Parasitic Diseases Control Technology Branch Centers for Disease Control	Atlanta, Georgia 30333 USA
Histopathology of filarial diseases in man	Department of Infectious and Parasitic Diseases Pathology Armed Forces Institute of Pathology	6825 Sixteenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20306 USA
Research on the chemotherapy of parasitic diseases	Division of Experimental Therapeutics Walter Reed Army Institute of Research	Washington, D.C. 20307 USA
Host and parasite studies on malaria	Malaria Branch Parasitic Diseases Division Center for Infectious Diseases Centers for Disease Control	Atlanta, Georgia 30333 USA
Applied medical malacology	School Public Health and Tropical Medicine Tulane University	Tulane Avenue New Orleans, Louisiana 70112 USA
Reference and research on histological identification and classification of leprosy	Instituto Nacional de Dermatología Universidad Central de Venezuela	Apartado Postal 4043 Caracas 1010 Venezuela

(Source: Epidemiology Program, Health Programs Development, PAHO.)