PRECAUTIONS TO PREVENT CONTAMINATION IN TISSUE CULTURE CUBICLE

The staff and other members who are using the common culture room should take extreme care to keep the culture room aseptic. The following instructions are given to help the persons concerned in this regard.

(A) DISINFECTION OF CULTURE ROOM

1. Clean the culture room with hot dilute detergent aqueous solution (floor and walls upto the painting mark).
2. Clean it further with savlon suitably diluted with water and allow to dry itself.
3. Clean the table with 70% alcohol swab, clean the stools with dilute detergent savlon and then allow it to dry.
4. Clean the aircondition unit, the Grills only, with alcohol swab before switching it on.
5. Switch on the U.V. lamp and keep it on for atleast 2 hours before use.

(B) INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING THE COMMON CULTURE ROOM

1. Remove shoes and socks (foot ware) out side culture room.
2. Clean hands upto elbow with soap rinse with diluted antiseptic savlon.
3. Close the door after entering.
4. Rinse hands with alcohol and wear mask and gown in the adjacent room before entering the main culture room. (please take trouble to autoclave gown etc. everytime before use) Each worker must wear sterilized mask, cap and gown only once. If repeat work is contemplated change mask every time you go in. Each group must possess 3 sets per person and several extra masks, sterilized in individual packets.
   Caution : Never wear used mask.
5. Wear the chappals while entering the culture room (put off the U.V. lamp before entering the culture room).
6. Enter inside the culture room with sterilized material as far as

practicable. (please donot bring any contaminated material inside the culture room).

7. Before use, register your name in the log book available with Dr.Ghosh in room No.213.

8. In case of any doubt or inconvenience please contact either Dr. C.V.Bapat or Mr. P. K. Sukumaran or Dr. S. N. Ghosh.

Kindly note that the above mentioned rules are to be strictly followed and if any leftover material (even like bloodstain, match stick or used cotton) is detected after use, the person concerned will be liable to inquiry and necessary action.

Important : The success of tissue culture work lies in avoiding contamination and conducting work aseptically. Tissues 'invitro' possess no defence against bacteria and fungi. Take good care of them as if they are babies.

The protocols and procedures in tissue culture are in fact "the language" which every tissue culture operator must learn and follow. You are not alone in tissue culture community, share cleanliness with others.

U.V. light and antibiotics are not magic words. They will not help, if tissue is contaminated or processing material is contaminated.

If contamination does occur in your tissue cultures, blame yourself, and apply necessary remedy and corrections.

(C) CHECKING BACTERIAL CONTENT OF THE ROOM:

Expose nutrient agar plate in the work area about 18" away from the burner, during the period of culture work. Then close the petri-plate, label - your name, date and period of Exposure. Incubate at 37°C for 24 hours, count the bacterial colonies from the underside, and repeat the count after 48 hours incubation. Number of colonies per 60 minute exposure will indicate possible drop rate per minute. A count of 40 to 80 per 1 hour exposure is common and will not contribute to the contamination in your cultures. If it does occur it is your mistake please recheck your operative procedure.

C.V.BAPAT - June, 1975.