

Title: Assessment of knowledge and practice towards chemical security and safety among academic laboratory staff in Puntland State of Somalia

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Abstract

Somalia is a country with a lot of explosions and misuse of hazardous chemicals because of shortage of chemical security and safety. Our study assesses the knowledge and practice of academic laboratories staff on chemical security and safety. Longitudinal study design was conducted with 80 respondents from three universities.

Data was analyzed by using the statistical package for social scientists (SPSS). This presentation will present the study and the results which showed the majority of the respondents (75%) currently teach chemical safety to their students and (25%) only teach chemical security to their students. This simply elucidates that academic laboratory staff safety education is provided more frequently than security education.

The study also revealed the level of implementation of inventory system with more than half of the respondents (65%) showed low level of inventory. The rest of the respondents (35%) showed medium level. This means more than half of academic laboratory staff do not record the numbers of chemical and 35% of respondents apply very primitive inventory. Because of this condition, there are many laboratories staffs who have not implemented the best practices of chemical security. In conclusion there is still of a need for more awareness, knowledge and practice for academic laboratories staff on chemical security to improve and mitigate the misuse of chemicals. In addition, the government and academia management need to pay more attention to educate people who engage with chemicals to raise their awareness into chemical security best practices.

Biography



Mr. Abdullahi Sheikh Abdi, Double Mater

Mr. Abdullahi sheikh, a holder of B.Sc. of Biology and Chemistry and double M.Sc. (Master of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering and Master of MPH Major of Epidemiology and Biostatistics) from Mogadishu University, Mogadishu, Somalia, and North South University and Daffodil International University, Bangladesh. He works with Somali National University, Faculty of Education Department of Chemistry as Lecturer and lab supervisor. a Former Alumni Member from Chemical Security Program (CSP) activities, also Member of Somali Chemical Society.