

BACTERIOLOGY LABORATORY SPECIALIST

KIND OF WORK

Difficult professional work in the Health Department Medical Laboratories.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

This employee independently performs advanced specialized tasks including bacteriological examinations of specimens to isolate and identify pathogenic organisms or the serological examination of blood for the detection of antibodies associated with venereal diseases, febrile diseases, mycotic diseases, parasitic diseases, or identifying viruses in pathological material as well as detecting antibodies in blood from persons suspected of illness from viral diseases. Positions in the Health Department Medical Laboratories are responsible for performing those specific tasks as well as providing training and advice in a lead-work capacity for other laboratory employees in the area(s) of special expertise. The employee in this class periodically reports results and interpretations to a higher-level laboratory employee.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Processes clinical specimens for bacterial, parasitic, and fungal agents of disease so that physicians can advise and treat patients, thus eliminating the source of potential community illnesses.

Processes specimens using microscopic, biochemical, and serological procedures in order to recover pathogenic fungi.

Participates in recording and reporting of laboratory test results so that physicians can advise and treat patients.

Conducts quality control studies on culture media, reagents, and serums in order to maintain high laboratory standards.

Participates in the national evaluation of serological tests for syphilitic, parasitic, and febrile diseases so that laboratory standards are maintained at the highest level possible.

Assists in evaluating, revising, and incorporating new procedures so that optimum performance can be accomplished.

Provides instruction and assistance to laboratory staff so that knowledge specialized analytical procedures can be developed in other employees.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Thorough knowledge of the principles and techniques of the area assigned in bacteriology, serology, virology, cytogenetics, or clinical chemistry.

Thorough knowledge of the sources of general literature in the fields of bacteriology, serology, virology, cytogenetics, or clinical chemistry.

Ability to:

Ability to prepare comprehensive work reports and to interpret test results.

Ability to evaluate laboratory practices and to make constructive recommendations for the improvement of procedures, methods, facilities, and equipment.

Est.: 11/20/81

Rev.:

T.C.:

Former Title(s):