Acid-Fast Direct Smear Microscopy

A Laboratory Training Program

This multinational training project has been the collective effort on the part of the following organizations:

World Health Organization (WHO)

International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease (IUATLD)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), USA

Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)

Instituto Nacional de Diagnóstico y Referencia Epidemiológicos (INDRE), Mexico

Association of Public Health Laboratories (APHL), USA

The technical content for this training program was developed by the following individuals:

Adalbert Laszlo, IUATLD

Karen Weyer, South Africa Medical Research Council (WHO)

Lucia Barrera, Instituto national de Microbiología "Dr. Carlos L. Malbrán," Argentina (PAHO)

Susana Balandrano Campos, INDRE

John Ridderhof, CDC

Ron Smithwick, CDC

Ken Jost, Jr., Texas Department of Health (APHL)

Kajari Shah, APHL

Geri Lennon, Lennon International

July 2000

Video and photographic elements were filmed with the gracious assistance of Ramon Valdez Leal, Juan Felipe Hernández Rebolloso, María de los Angeles del Bosque Moncayo and the entire staff of Nuevo Leon State Public Health Laboratory, Monterrey, Mexico. Use of trade names is for identification only and does not constitute endorsement by APHL, WHO, IUATLD, the US Department of Health and Human Services and the Mexican Ministry of Health.

Many thanks to the following:

Phillip Connolly, GlaxoWellcome, and Paul Ellis Associates, England, for permission to use images from the "1 in 3" video.

Laura Godfrey and Pan American Health Organization for use of the PAHO training segments.

Cheryl Tryon and Bereneice Madison for assistance with video microscopy and graphics.

Special thanks to Rene Bach, Sarah Bellem, Jim Boltman, Ed Desmond, and Graciela Zuñiga Groot for technical advice and assistance.

Initial quotation was extracted from "TB: A Crossroads" from a statement by G. Harlem Brundtland, M.D., Director, WHO, 1998.

This laboratory training program was produced by the Association of Public Health Laboratories through Cooperative Agreement #U60/CCU303019-12 with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

All attempts have been made to acknowledge copyrighted material.