

BRMC 302- Establish, Implement and Maintain Biorisk Management System for Biomedical Laboratories

Trainer Profile

Dr Sabai PHYU



After Sabai graduated from one of the Myanmar Medical schools (M.B.,B.S.) in 1987, she was involved in Hepatitis B vaccine clinical trial research work for >2 years. She then worked as a medical doctor in health care centres for refugees in Thailand for 4 years. Her biosafety/ biosecurity and biomedical laboratory experience started when she joined the University of Bergen, Norway for her PhD and post-doctoral training between 1994-2003. In 2004, Sabai joined the Novartis Institute for Tropical Diseases (NITD), Singapore as a Research Investigator. She was involved in designing and outfitting the animal BSL-3 (ABSL-3) laboratory and headed the NITD BSL-3/ABSL-3

laboratory operations and management (2006-2012). She also coordinated the outfitting of NITD outstation laboratories in Indonesia.

She joined the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUSMed) in 2012 and served as a Deputy Director for the BSL-3 Core Facility until Feb 2019. She worked together with a team of laboratory designers, architects, high containment engineers and consultants for outfitting the BSL-3 Core Facility. She headed the BSL-3 operations team and oversaw both the safety and security of the Facility. In addition, she served on the Singapore MOH Working Committee for the training and development of biosafety professionals and as a member of the Expert Advisory Panel of the MOH (Biosafety Branch) for preparing the National Biosafety Standards for Maximum Containment Facilities. She was a trainer for the South East Asia region Design, Construction, Operation and Management of Microbiological Laboratories courses organised by the EU CBRN CoE in 2017-2018.

She has been providing BSL-3/ ABSL-3 laboratory certification services in Singapore since her company, LBCT Pte. Ltd. was recognised as a BSL-3 facility certifier by the Singapore MOH in 2021. She has been a trainer for the Professional Biorisk Management Courses offered by NUSMed and providing ad-hoc biosafety/biosecurity consultancy services to different institutions/ companies within Singapore and abroad. One of the main clients is the EU CBRN CoE Regional Secretariat. During her free time, she has been sharing her professional knowledge and skills among biosafety professionals regularly through the Biorisk Association of Singapore. In addition, she has contributed to preparing the Singapore Standard specifications for BSL-3 Facility (organised by Enterprise Singapore) and the development of the National Biosafety Guidelines for large-scale production of biological agents (organised by the Biosafety Branch, MOH).

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Dr Tessy JOSEPH



Dr Tessy Joseph is the Senior Assistant Director of BSL-3 Core Facility, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine). In addition to the current portfolio in NUS, she serves in various organizations and committees at national level relating to biorisk. She also publishes and conducts trainings on related topics. Dr Joseph is a certified Biosafety Professional (RBP) by American Biosafety Association (ABSA) and International Federation of Biosafety Associations (IFBA). She is also an active member of Biorisk Association of Singapore (BAS) from its start and was a EXCO member with various roles including as President and Vice-President. She is the current President of the Association.

Dr Joseph holds a Ph.D. in Life Sciences from NUS and had worked as a Scientist in NUS Medicine for several years. Before taking up the current role with BSL-3 Core Facility in 2019, she was the Group Leader of the Biomedical Group at NUS Office of Safety Health and Environment (OSHE), that is responsible for safety and health management of research laboratories in NUS. During this period, she has gained in-depth knowledge and experience in developing and implementing various biorisk and animal research Policies and Programmes including trainings. She has obtained full qualification in Advanced Certificate in Training and Assessment (ACTA) and Biosafety Coordinator that is recognised by MOH.