

#### **Activities of the Biotech Lab:**

We select, install, calibrate, certify, repair, and maintain laboratory equipment for optimum results in health facilities supported by IHVN across the country and IHVN campus.

- 1 Design, certification and maintenance of Biosafety Laboratory Level 1,2&3
- 2 Laboratory equipment installation and maintenance
- 3 Certification of Biosafety Cabinet
- 4 Laboratory equipment calibration (Volume, Mass, Temperature, Speed & Time)
- 5 Train users and technicians on the proper use and maintenance of laboratory equipment.
- 6 Maintenance of Liquid Nitrogen plant

# **Activities of the Clinical Pathology Unit:**

The Clinical Pathology is equipped with the capacity to carry out:

- 1. DNA extraction from blood samples using Paxgene and Gentra purgene methods
- 2. DNA extraction from saliva samples using Novogene kit
- 3. Quality Control of extracted DNA samples
- 4. Tissue processing using ATP
- 5. Histological analysis using H&E techniques
- 6. Immunohistochemistry analysis on tissue samples
- 7. Genexpert assays on breast and HVS samples
- 8. Grundium Ocus scanning of tissue slides
- 9. Counselling training for return of results
- 10. Separation, aliquoting of blood components, and storage in the biorepository for future analysis

### **Activities of the Genomics Lab:**

In the Genomics lab, we engage in a variety of advanced molecular biology techniques which include:

- 1. DNA and RNA extraction (manual and automated)
- 2. Conventional and Real-Time PCR
- 3. Manual and automated gel electrophoresis
- 4. Gene sequencing (Sanger and Next-Generation Sequencing-NextSeq 500 series)
- 5. HIV and TB drug resistance testing
- 6. Other Genomics tests
- 7. Bioinformatics



## **Activities of the Quality Assurance Lab:**

- 1. Conducted Needs Assessment and Biosafety/Biosecurity Assessment of National reference laboratories and surveillance/sentinel sites for AMR
- 2. Developed Capacity Strengthening Plans (CSPs) for 9 Surveillance Site Laboratories supporting AMR for Human Health and submitted reports
- 3. Renovated Surveillance sites
- 4. Conducted First Biannual Equipment Maintenance and Calibration and Certification of Biosafety Cabinets at 2 NRLs and 9 Surveillance Sites supporting Human Health
- 5. Developed End-user equipment maintenance protocol
- 6. Conducted feasibility Assessment on AMR surveillance capabilities for state and local laboratories in 12 states
  - Four states assessed through physical visits to the states and LGAs
  - Eight states assessed through virtual meetings
- 7. Conducted virtual training on Biosafety and Biosecurity for 60 staff at laboratory facilities supporting **AMR**
- 8. Developed Draft Policy to guide operations and procedures at the biorepositories for archiving bacterial isolates for AMR
  - Freezerworks Software for the management of samples in the Biorepositories has been selected, approved, and being procured
- 9. Identifying an appropriate External Quality Assessment provider (UK NEQAS) for NRLs and Surveillance facilities for both Human Health and Animal Health. Provided EQA for 11 Human Health sites and 8 Animal Health laboratories through OASYS

### **Activities of the Genomics Lab:**

- 1. Developing and reviewing laboratory safety SOPs, ensuring alignment with ISO standards and relevant international/national guidelines.
- 2. Conducting capacity-building initiatives and providing mentorship on biosafety, biosecurity, waste management, and infection prevention and control (IPC) practices for organization
- 3. Procuring essential safety supplies to equip laboratories with the necessary protective equipment and materials.
- 4. Aligning the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) Manual with ISO standards to ensure best practices are followed and regularly updated.
- 5. Conducting annual audits to assess overall compliance with safety regulations and identify areas for improvement.
- 6. Tracking waste volume to ensure proper disposal and minimize hazards.
- 7. Providing supportive supervisory visits and monitoring to foster a culture of safety and address concerns or questions from laboratory staff.