MTN MEETING

CHALLENGES IN GETTING FBC/ CBC CONTROLS.
ZIMBABWE EXPERIENCE.

Yaw Agyei MT (ASCP)
Johns Hopkins University

Allen Matubu BSc.
UZ-UCSF Hematology Lab Supervisor
WHY DO WE NEED FBC CONTROLS?

- FBC Controls:
  - a) Have known values.
  - b) Can assist in detecting problems in a testing method.
  - c) Can assist in detecting shifts, trends and biases.
  - d) Can help in detecting instrument malfunctions.
### SHIPMENTS FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS (1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot Number</th>
<th>Receive Date</th>
<th>Expiration Date</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7228</td>
<td>12-Nov-07</td>
<td>30-Dec-07</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7337</td>
<td>14-Jan-08</td>
<td>17-Feb-08</td>
<td>This lot was late by 2 weeks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8021</td>
<td>19-Feb-08</td>
<td>6-Apr-08</td>
<td>This lot was 2 days late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8070</td>
<td>5-Apr-08</td>
<td>25-May-08</td>
<td>Lot-to-Lot was done on a Saturday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8119</td>
<td>27-May-08</td>
<td>13-Jul-08</td>
<td>This lot was 2 days late.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8168</td>
<td>12-Jul-08</td>
<td>31-Aug-08</td>
<td>Lot-to-Lot was done on a Saturday.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8217</td>
<td>1-Sep-08</td>
<td>19-Oct-08</td>
<td>This lot was 1 day late.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SHIPMENTS FOR THE LAST 6 MONTHS (2)

- Only 2 out 6 lots (33.3 %), were received before the previous lot expired.

- The 2 lots were both received on Saturdays.

- Lot-to-Lot comparisons, were done on the same Saturday, because the previous lot had one day left before expiration.
IMPLICATIONS OF DELAYED CONTROLS

- Late TAT for results.
- Inability to perform Lot-to-Lot comparison with un-expired controls.
- Inability to run urgent and critical samples on time.
- Usage of back-up lab facility?
- Lab staff having to come to work on Saturdays, just to perform Lot-to-Lot comparison.
REASONS FOR LATE ARRIVAL OF CONTROLS

- Specific lot numbers of controls, are manufactured and released on predetermined dates.
- The shipment leaves Germany a week before the previous lot expires.
- Unavailability of direct flights from Germany to Zimbabwe
POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS

- Communication between the Networks and manufactures of controls.
- Contractual arrangements to ensure that controls will be released earlier, than the current dates.
THANK YOU

QUESTIONS?