

Task Title: Identify benchmarking tools, criteria, and methodology.

The task group decided on a line of inquiry about the assessment of accuracy levels in chemical inventory systems and appropriate confidence levels for those accuracy assessments. This may include:

- What are acceptable norms
- What are acceptable methodologies for determining accuracy
- What statistical bases are useful and appropriate
- How to deal with management of changes in inventory, such as moving containers between rooms.

Desired outcomes of the lines of inquiry:

- Consistent definitions
- Consistent methodology and means of measurement for evaluating accuracy
- Appropriate statistics for evaluating accuracy
- A suite of acceptable methods (several different acceptable methods from which users could choose, depending on their institutional needs)

Categories of Inventory Assessment Measures

These are the results of the Post-It Note exercise, where members identified issues and activities currently evaluated in task member institution's accuracy assessment programs.

Container issues: all containers found, correct number of containers

Owner issues: correct owner, owner no longer employed at institution

Location issues: location correct, building and/or room correct

Chemical identity issues: correct chemical name, correct container label

Barcode issues: all containers barcoded; no un-barcoded containers, barcode on the right container

Size issues: size of container (weight, volume) matches size in database

Accuracy Assessment Methods:

- Account for each barcode record once a year
- Periodic field inventories to measure what's in field
- Random verification of location, chemical names name, etc.
- Statistical selection of samples for verification
- Measure resurrection rate in facilities
- Verify all containers in database are in inventory