

## 4.0. CONCLUDING REMARKS

### 4.1 Sites of Biological and Toxin Research

This study examined the open scientific literature to determine the patterns, locations and apparent nature of Iranian biological and toxin research. In regard to these objectives, the following observations can be made.

Judging from the published research, there seemed to be some differences between the nature and quality of research at Iranian government laboratories and the laboratories located at universities. When examining the range of experimental procedures, equipment and publication output per institute, the government laboratories appear to have the more sophisticated resources in relation to the types of biological and toxin research that this study focused on.

The main sites of research were: the Faculty of Medicine, University of Tehran; the School of Public Health, Tehran University of Medical Sciences; and the Razi State Vaccine and Serum Institute; all in Tehran. While the first two above-mentioned research centres published the most papers, they were not necessarily involved in the most advanced research. This distinction appears to have belonged to the following three research institutes: the Razi State Vaccine and Serum Institute; the Pasteur Institute; and the Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Tehran; all in Tehran. This conclusion is based on the nature of the published research, and on the inference of the types of equipment needed to conduct that research. Also notable for the advanced level of research and development was the