2.6.2 Labelling/Recording

Blood tubes and urine vials were numbered according to a three-digit random procedure. History/number sheets were retained by the Canadian medical doctors. (Team members also kept diaries of their daily activities.)

No problems were experienced with labelled tubes (blood); but, at the base camp, condensation was found to have affected the labelling on a number of the vials (urine). It was necessary to cross-check these urine samples and to re-label them. All but one could be positively identified.

For the return trip to Canada with the samples, a copy of the sample number sheets was carried by the escort. Similarly, a list of unused numbers was given to the escort who would, in turn, add appropriately-labelled spiked and blank samples to the coolers prior to delivery to the analytical laboratory.

2.6.3 Temporary Storage and Security

Samples remained in the custody of a team member in the field and during transportation to the Canadian embassy. Once returned to the "base camp", the samples were locked in a specifically-designated refrigerator in a secure area of the embassy.