



## Basic Molecular Biology: Laboratory Practice

### The Laboratory Working Areas

Laboratory materials must follow uni-directional workflow through separate working areas to minimize contamination.

In the first step of a specimen processing the PCR reagent mix is prepared in area A.

In step 2 the prepared mix is transferred to area B. Never transfer any laboratory materials from Area B to Area A.

In step 3 nucleic acid extraction is performed in Area B where the extracted nucleic acid from the specimen is added to the PCR reagent mix.

In step 4 the PCR product goes through an amplification process in Area C.

In step 5 the post amplification PCR product is analyzed in Area D.

Link to video job aid: <https://reach.cdc.gov/jobaid/basic-molecular-biology-laboratory-practice-laboratory-working-areas>