The National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE) was established in 1945 under the Ministry of Health in Vietnam. NIHE oversees the prevention and control of epidemic and common diseases. Its functions include: conducting scientific research in epidemiology, medical microbiology, immunology, and molecular biology; studying and developing new vaccines and biological products for humans; providing the minister of health measures and strategies for the prevention, control, and elimination of epidemic and common diseases (including communicable and non-communicable diseases); conducting different types of specialization training; directing specific national health programs, such as epidemiology, rabies, influenza surveillance, HIV/AIDS surveillance, and dengue fever control and prevention; providing guidance and strengthening technical capacity of the national preventive medicine network; and providing technical services on preventive medicine.

NIHE has approximately 450 staff members and 11 technical departments: Bacteriology, Virology, Epidemiology, Immunology and Molecular Biology, HIV/AIDS, Biosafety and Quality Assurance, Medical Entomology and Zoonosis, the National EPI Office, Training and Research Management, Community Health and Preventive Medicine Network Coordination, and the Center of Experimental Animals.

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