WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2022

Activities in 2022

This report has been submitted: 8 mars 2023 11:06

**Laboratory Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:</th>
<th>Equine Influenza</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address of laboratory:</td>
<td>Irish Equine Centre, Johnstown, Naas, Co Kildare, Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.:</td>
<td>045866266</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:acullinane@irishequinecentre.ie">acullinane@irishequinecentre.ie</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</td>
<td>Deborah Grey MBA CEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:</td>
<td>Professor Ann Cullinane MVB PhD Head of Virology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</td>
<td>Registered Charity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR1: DIAGNOSTIC METHODS**

1. Did your laboratory perform diagnostic tests for the specified disease/topic for purposes such as disease diagnosis, screening of animals for export, surveillance, etc.? (Not for quality control, proficiency testing or staff training)

   Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Diagnostic Test</th>
<th>Indicated in WOAH Manual (Yes/No)</th>
<th>Total number of test performed last year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Indirect diagnostic tests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single Radial Haemolysis</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haemagglutination Inhibition</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct diagnostic tests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2022
Tor2: Reference Material

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOAH?  
No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (nonWOAH-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to WOAH Members?  
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Reagent Available</th>
<th>Related Diagnostic Test</th>
<th>Produced/Provide</th>
<th>Amount Supplied Nationally (ML, MG)</th>
<th>Amount Supplied Internationally (ML, MG)</th>
<th>No. of Recipient WOAH Member Countries</th>
<th>Country of Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Virus A/eq/Newmarket/77 (H7N7)</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>Produced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15ml</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virus A/eq/Meath/07 (H3N8) FC2</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>Produced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15ml</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virus A/eq/South Africa</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>Produced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15ml</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Negative Control Antiserum</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>Produced</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.5ml</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?  
No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAH Members?  
No

Tor3: New Procedures

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods for the designated pathogen or disease?  
No

7. Did your laboratory validate diagnostic methods according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?  
No

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?  
No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOAH Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?  
No

Tor4: Diagnostic Testing Facilities

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAH Members?  
Yes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF WOAH MEMBER COUNTRY SEEKING ASSISTANCE</th>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>WHICH DIAGNOSTIC TEST USED</th>
<th>NO. SAMPLES RECEIVED FOR PROVISION OF DIAGNOSTIC SUPPORT</th>
<th>NO. SAMPLES RECEIVED FOR PROVISION OF CONFIRMATORY DIAGNOSES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>2022-02-03</td>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>2022-02-08</td>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>2022-01-04</td>
<td>HI</td>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITED KINGDOM</td>
<td>2022-02-09</td>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>2022-03-24</td>
<td>SRH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>2022-04-14</td>
<td>SRH</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>2022-05-05</td>
<td>SRH</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRANCE</td>
<td>2022-09-21</td>
<td>SRH</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAH Member?

Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME OF THE WOAH MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY</th>
<th>PURPOSE</th>
<th>HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TURKEY</td>
<td>Molecular diagnostics</td>
<td>e-mail</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWITZERLAND</td>
<td>FEI response re interruption to vaccination supply</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GERMANY</td>
<td>Validity of SRH analysis</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Comparative efficacy of vaccines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CZECH REPUBLIC</td>
<td>SRD methodology</td>
<td>e-mail</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH Members other than the own?

Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of the study</th>
<th>Duration</th>
<th>PURPOSE OF THE STUDY</th>
<th>PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)</th>
<th>WOAH MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investigation of vaccination regimes in foals with maternal antibodies</td>
<td>2021-2023</td>
<td>Investigation of equine influenza antibody kinetics in four protocols of primary vaccination of foals</td>
<td>Hanover University and Cornell University</td>
<td>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Characterisation of recent clade 1 viruses</td>
<td>2021-2024</td>
<td>Antigenic characterisation of recent viruses to determine if current vaccine strains are fit for purpose.</td>
<td>Japanese Racing Authority</td>
<td>JAPAN</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA**

14. Did your Laboratory collect epidemiological data relevant to international disease control?
Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

Epidemiological investigation of outbreaks and virus characterisation by sequencing

15. Did your laboratory disseminate epidemiological data that had been processed and analysed?
Yes

IF THE ANSWER IS YES, PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE DATA COLLECTED:

As above nationally and internationally

16. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory? (Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category and list the details in the box)

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals:

1

b) International conferences:

3
British Equine Veterinary Association Congress September 2022 - Presentation entitled Equine Influenza Vaccination - New Regimes and Challenges
FEEVA Disease Surveillance Network Croatia - October 2022 Presentation 1 entitled Equine Influenza and Equine Herpesvirus Mandatory Vaccination – Protectiveness V Legitimacy
Presentation 2 entitled Update on Activities of WOAH Expert Surveillance Panel for Equine Influenza
Presentation to equine clinicians at Veterinary Faculty in Zagreb entitled Evidence Based Vaccination Against Equine Influenza
Annual Congress of Equine Veterinarians Czech Republic, December 2022 Equine Influenza – Evidence Based Vaccination of Horses

c) National conferences:

1
Irish Equine Veterinary Association Conference November 2022 Presentation - Current Equine Virology Issues

d) Other (Provide website address or link to appropriate information):

1
ESP Recommendations on WOAH website https://www.woah.org/en/home/

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING
17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH Members?
No

**TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE**

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Quality management system adopted</th>
<th>Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ISO 17025</td>
<td>pdf</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

19. Is your quality management system accredited?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test for which your laboratory is accredited</th>
<th>Accreditation body</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HI</td>
<td>INAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SRH</td>
<td>INAB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RT-PCR</td>
<td>INAB</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

20. Does your laboratory maintain a "biorisk management system" for the pathogen and the disease concerned?
Yes

Initial laboratory processing of all unknown diagnostic specimens is carried out in calibrated/certified Biosafety Level (BCL)-2, which are decontaminated regularly and after use. Virus culture/inoculation is carried out in dedicated BCL-2 hoods. A precautions checklist worksheet is completed before this work is commenced. Disposable coats must be worn. All liquid waste is decontaminated and exposed to UV irradiation for a minimum of 20 minutes. Biological waste is collected and sealed in a double-autoclave bag. All staff are trained with regard to segregation, handling, storage and transport of clinical waste. Any materials containing live virus are soaked overnight in Virudine or Virkon S. All biological waste liquids are decontaminated prior to drain disposal. All biological waste solids are discarded as regulated medical waste and autoclaved or disinfected as appropriate. All sharps (e.g. pipette tips, pipettes, needles, syringes, broken glassware or any object that can puncture the skin) are disposed of in biohazard sharps containers provided for this purpose. Laboratory clinical soft waste and clinical solid waste is collected weekly by a licensed waste management company. Clinical soft waste and clinical solid waste is treated by a steam disinfection process, at log 6 decimal reduction. Infectious samples shipped by road and air are classified (e.g. biological substance category B UN3373), marked, packed, labelled and documented according to ADR and IATA regulations. All accidents, bio hazardous exposures and work related illnesses are reported to the Health and Safety Manager (biosafety and biosecurity officer)/laboratory head.

**TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

21. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL</th>
<th>TITLE OF EVENT</th>
<th>CO-ORGANISER</th>
<th>DATE (MM/YY)</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>NO. PARTICIPANTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>WOAH Expert Surveillance Panel</td>
<td>Gounalan Pavade</td>
<td>2022-07-07</td>
<td>By Videoconference</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOAH?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title of event</th>
<th>Date (mm/yy)</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)</th>
<th>Title of the work presented</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEEVA Equine Surveillance Meeting</td>
<td>2022-10-11</td>
<td>Zagreb</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Update on Activities of WOAH Expert Surveillance Panel for Equine Influenza</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES**

23. Did your laboratory exchange information with other WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease?
Yes

24. Are you a member of a network of WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?
No

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?
No

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TITLE OF THE PROJECT OR CONTRACT</th>
<th>SCOPE</th>
<th>NAME(S) OF RELEVANT WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expert Surveillance Panel</td>
<td>Global Surveillance, Assessment of Vaccine Efficacy and Virus Characterisation</td>
<td>Gluck Equine Research Centre and Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING**

27. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons1</th>
<th>Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)</th>
<th>No. participating laboratories</th>
<th>Region(s) of participating WOAH Member Countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assessing competency for HI</td>
<td>Organiser</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Asia and Pacific Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessing competency and quality assurance for HI, SRH and real time RT-PCR</td>
<td>Co-organiser</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Europe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAH?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KIND OF CONSULTANCY</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>SUBJECT (FACULTATIVE)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vice President of Biological Standards Commission</td>
<td>Videoconference and OIE Headquarters</td>
<td>International Standards for Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of FAO-WOAH Advisory group on viral evolution of SARS-CoV-2 in animals</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
<td>Joint meeting with AHG on COVID-19 at the human-animal interface.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOAH representative on WHO Advisory Group on viral evolution of SARS-CoV-2</td>
<td>Videoconferences</td>
<td>Monitoring key mutations and their implications for public health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WOAH representative at WHO meeting</td>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Surveillance and risk assessment of SARS-CoV-2 variants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of WOAH Expert Surveillance Panel for Equine Influenza</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
<td>Surveillance of equine influenza virus and recommendations for vaccine composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant at WOAH Brainstorming Meeting</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
<td>Terms of Reference for future WOAH group Emerging Disease Threats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participant at WOAH meeting</td>
<td>Videoconference</td>
<td>Impact of evolving technology on laboratory sustainability</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

29. Additional comments regarding your report:
No