WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2022

Activities in 2022

This report has been submitted: 25 avril 2023 16:41

Laboratory Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:</th>
<th>Rabies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Address of laboratory:</td>
<td>WOAH Rabies Reference Laboratory, Onderstepoort Veterinary Institute, Onderstepoort 0110, Republic of South Africa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tel.:</td>
<td>+27125299439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-mail address:</td>
<td><a href="mailto:claude.sabeta@up.ac.za">claude.sabeta@up.ac.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website:</td>
<td><a href="http://www.arc.agric.za">www.arc.agric.za</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official)):</td>
<td>Dr Munangatire Mparamoto</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:</td>
<td>Dr Claude Sabeta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</td>
<td>Governmental</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>Monoclonal antibody typing</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct diagnostic tests</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct fluorescent antibody test</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polymerase chain reaction</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>61</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?
   - No

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?
    - No

11. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an WOAH Member?
    - No

**TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH Members other than the own?
    - No

**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:*
Through the national surveillance for rabies, data for animal samples tested for rabies was included in the rabies database for 2022.

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:**

All the data collected in 2022 on rabies positive and negative samples was shared with the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development weekly.

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:


One way of communicating data for rabies research and diagnosis. During the year under review, the reference laboratory published 6 manuscripts in international journals.

b) International conferences:

None attended but two presentations made during WOAH webinars.

c) National conferences:

Two

Attended the Southern African Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine (SASVEPM Conference), 24-26 August, 2022, and presented the following as a poster: ii. Miyen, M.J., Lopez, L. and Sabeta C.T. A serological assessment of rabies-neutralising
**TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING**

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOAH Members?

**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>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</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>Direct fluorescent antibody test</td>
<td>South African National Accrediting System (SANAS)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluorescent antibody virus neutralisation tests</td>
<td>SANAS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

Yes

Biorisk is now considered a key practice in testing laboratories and was incorporated into our quality system (since 2019) and is co-ordinated by the Quality Representative of the organisation.

**TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS**

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

No

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>Africa Rabies Webinar</td>
<td>2022-09-27</td>
<td>Virtual</td>
<td>Speaker</td>
<td>Laboratory diagnostics for rabies</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?
Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PURPOSE OF THE PROFICIENCY TESTS:</th>
<th>ROLE OF YOUR REFERENCE LABORATORY (ORGANISER/PARTICIPANT)</th>
<th>NO. PARTICIPANTS</th>
<th>PARTICIPATING WOAH REF. LABS/ ORGANISING WOAH REF. LAB.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rabies network</td>
<td>Member</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Has been a member of the network since 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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?
No

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>Inter-laboratory comparisons</td>
<td>Exchange of samples with the Allerton Provincial Laboratory</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOAH?
No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:
Yes

The Reference Laboratory at Onderstepoort was also involved in two capacity development projects, one a twinning project between the ARC (South Africa) and Animal Health Institute (AHI, Ethiopia) and ii. Establishing core cells for a future South African rabies laboratory network involving (Malawi, Lesotho, Eswatini, Mozambique and Zimbabwe and Eritrea. The second project is being done in collaboration with the FLI (Germany) who are carrying the same activities in Botswana, Angola, Namibia and Zambia.