

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023

## Activities in 2023

This report has been submitted : 7 juin 2024 12:11

### Laboratory Information

<b>Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA Reference Laboratory:</b>	Enzootic Bovine Leukosis
<b>Address of laboratory:</b>	APHA Weybridge. Woodham Lane, New Haw, Addlestone, Surrey. KT15 3NB
<b>Tel.:</b>	+44 (0)7920 020 671
<b>E-mail address:</b>	bhudipa.choudhury@apha.gov.uk
<b>Website:</b>	www.gov.uk/apha
<b>Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</b>	Mr David Holdsworth
<b>Name (including Title and Position) of WOA Reference Expert:</b>	Dr Bhudipa Choudhury
<b>Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</b>	Governmental

### 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

Diagnostic Test	Indicated in WOA Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
ELISA		4633	5
AGIDT		417	5
Direct diagnostic tests			
PCR		7	0

### TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

2. Did your laboratory produce or supply imported standard reference reagents officially recognised by WOA?

No

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

No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

Not applicable

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOA Members?

Not applicable

### 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 WOAHS 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 WOAHS Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

**TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES**

10. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other WOAHS Members?

Yes

NAME OF WOAHS MEMBER COUNTRY SEEKING ASSISTANCE	DATE	WHICH DIAGNOSTIC TEST USED	NO. SAMPLES RECEIVED FOR PROVISION OF DIAGNOSTIC SUPPORT	NO. SAMPLES RECEIVED FOR PROVISION OF CONFIRMATORY DIAGNOSES
KAZAKHSTAN	2023-10-10	ELISA	0	5
KAZAKHSTAN	2023-10-10	AGIDT	0	5

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

Yes

NAME OF THE WOAHS MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY	PURPOSE	HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Quality assurance query	Email.
HUNGARY	Proficiency Testing query	Email
NEW ZEALAND	Quality assurance query	Email
CHINESE TAIPEI	PCR technical issues	Email

**TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES**

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

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	PURPOSE OF THE STUDY	PARTNERS (INSTITUTIONS)	WOAHS MEMBER COUNTRIES INVOLVED OTHER THAN YOUR COUNTRY
WOAHS Twinning	2 years	Primarily capacity building, the opportunity is also being used to investigate BLV genotypes in Kazakhstan and sero-positivity in camels herd which are in close proximity to cattle.	Poland	KAZAKHSTAN

13. In exercising your activities, have you identified any regulatory research needs\* relevant for WOAHS?

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:

National surveillance data which proves disease freedom.

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

No

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:

b) International conferences:

c) National conferences:

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

## TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

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

Yes

a) Technical visit : 1

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 0

d) Internships (>1 month) 0

Type of technical training provided (a, b, c or d)	Country of origin of the expert(s) provided with training	No. participants from the corresponding country
A	KAZAKHSTAN	3

## TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO:17025	ISO 17025	ISO17025 Certificate.pdf
ISO:9001	ISO 9001	ISO 9001 Certificate.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
ELISA	UKAS
AGIDT	UKAS
PCR	UKAS

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

Yes

APHA maintains a complete and functioning laboratory biological risk management system, which ensures that the laboratory is in compliance with applicable local, national (UK Health and Safety Executive), regional, and international standards and requirements for biosafety and laboratory biosecurity. (in accordance with the Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals, Chapter 1.1.4)

## TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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

Yes

NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL	TITLE OF EVENT	CO-ORGANISER	DATE (MM/YY)	LOCATION	NO. PARTICIPANTS
International	WOAH EBL Twinning Workshop	Not applicable	2023-10-10	England (APHA, Weybridge)	3

22. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings related to the pathogen in question on behalf of WOA?H?

Yes

Title of event	Date (mm/yy)	Location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
Check-point telecon as part of the WOA?H Twinning Project	2023-11-06	Online	Speaker	Overview and discussion of next steps following a technical visit by Kazakh colleagues in October 2023.

## TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOA?H REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Yes

24. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other WOA?H Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

NETWORK/DISEASE	ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOA?H REF. LABS
EBL	Not applicable: informal network as there are only two Reference Laboratories for EBL.	1	Poland.

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOA?H Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Yes

PURPOSE OF THE PROFICIENCY TESTS: 1	ROLE OF YOUR REFERENCE LABORATORY (ORGANISER/ PARTICIPANT)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOA?H REF. LABS/ ORGANISING WOA?H REF. LAB.
PCR	Participant	12	Poland

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

Yes

TITLE OF THE PROJECT OR CONTRACT	SCOPE	NAME(S) OF RELEVANT WOA?H REFERENCE LABORATORIES
WOAH Twinning Project.	Production of standards by the NRL in Kazakhstan for use nationally and internationally. This work is in collaboration with the fellow WOA?H Ref Lab in Poland as part of the Twinning Project.	Poland

## TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

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

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons <sup>1</sup>	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the Test	WOAH Member Countries
Serology: milk	Organiser	11	ELISA	AUSTRIA, CANADA, DENMARK, GREECE, KOSOVO, MALTA, NORWAY, SERBIA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM,

Serology: serum	Organiser	26	ELISA; AGIDT	AUSTRALIA, AUSTRIA, BELGIUM, CANADA, CYPRUS, CZECH REPUBLIC, DENMARK, FRANCE, GREECE, INDIA, IRELAND, KOREA (REP. OF), MALTA, MONTENEGRO, MOROCCO, NEW ZEALAND, NORWAY, POLAND, PORTUGAL, SERBIA, SLOVENIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SWEDEN, SWITZERLAND, UNITED KINGDOM,
-----------------	-----------	----	--------------	--

## TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

28. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of WOA?H?

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

*Q4/5 and 8/9: Not applicable: BLV (the causative agent of EBL) is a retrovirus, as such vaccine design/production is highly unlikely.*

*Q6 and 7: The diagnostic techniques are established so whilst their performance is continuously monitored limited updates have been required i.e., there is only one BLV serotype and despite multiple genotypes there is no impact on molecular diagnosis with existing tests.*

*Q15: answer "No", as explained in Q14 surveillance was conducted, as BLV was not detected there was accordingly no need for follow up. These data were shared with the fellow Ref Lab in Poland and the NRL in Kazakhstan with whom there's currently a Twinning Project.*

*Q24: As the Commission is aware there are only two Reference Laboratories for EBL: GB and Poland, accordingly there isn't a "network" as such, rather we routinely maintain informal contact with each other.*

*END.*