

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2023

Activities in 2023

This report has been submitted : 31 mai 2024 03:25

Laboratory Information

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAHO Reference Laboratory:	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
Address of laboratory:	3-1-5 Kannondai, Tsukuba, Ibaraki, Japan. Postal code 305-0856
Tel.:	+81-29 838 83 33
E-mail address:	gan@affrc.go.jp
Website:	https://www.naro.go.jp/english/laboratory/niah/index.html
Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Ken KATSUDA (Director-General) National Institute of Animal Health, NARO
Name (including Title and Position) of WOAHO Reference Expert:	Yoshifumi IWAMARU (Head of Virus Group)
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Research agency

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 WOAHO Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
PRNP genotyping		657	
Direct diagnostic tests			
WB tests for TSE surveillance		657	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

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

No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAHO 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 WOAHP 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 WOAHP Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

No

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

Yes

NAME OF THE WOAHP MEMBER COUNTRY RECEIVING A TECHNICAL CONSULTANCY	PURPOSE	HOW THE ADVICE WAS PROVIDED
MALAYSIA	Inquiry about detecting BSE prion from MBM.	Via email

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

No

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

No

TOR6: EPIZOOLOGICAL DATA

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

No

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:

2

1. Iwamaru Y, Furusaki K, Sugiura K, Haritani M, Onodera T. Ceramic absorbed with calcium bicarbonate mesoscopic crystals partially inactivate scrapie prions. *Microbiol Immunol.* 2023 Oct;67(10):447-455.

2. Kobayashi A, Hirata T, Shimazaki T, Munesue Y, Aoshima K, Kimura T, Nio-Kobayashi J, Hasebe R, Takeuchi A, Matsuura Y, Kusumi S, Koga D, Iwasaki Y, Kinoshita T, Mohri S, Kitamoto T. A point mutation in GPI-attachment signal peptide accelerates the development of prion disease. *Acta Neuropathol.* 2023 May;145(5):637-650.

b) International conferences:

1

Asian Pacific Prion Symposium 2023

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 WOAHP Members?

Yes

a) Technical visit : 0

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 0

d) Internships (>1 month) 5

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
D	NAMIBIA	1
D	PARAGUAY	1
D	PHILIPPINES	1
D	UZBEKISTAN	1
D	ZAMBIA	1

TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO/IEC 17025:2017	PDF	img20231207_09221963.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Western Blot	Japan Accreditation Board

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

Yes

Biosafety Committee for managing pathogens is in place. We have biosafety procedures and comply with national regulations. We have annual biosafety educational program.

TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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

No

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

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAHP REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Yes

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

No

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

No

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOA 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 REFERENCE LABORATORIES
TSE diagnosis	To improve PMCA method	OIE Ref Lab for CWD, Korea(REP. OF)

TOR11: OTHER INTERLABORATORY PROFICIENCY TESTING

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

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons ¹	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the Test	WOAH Member Countries
A proficiency test for TSE diagnosis	ORGANIZER	1	WB test	JAPAN,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

Regarding to question 25, we are planning to join VETQAS Proficiency Testing Schemes 2024/2025 provided by the Animal and Plant Health (APHA). It is expected that we will report this in our annual report of activities in 2024.

Since the countermeasures against BSE have worked so well, the BSE prevalence drastically decreased and stays low worldwide. Nowadays only several BSE cases (seven cases in 2023) were reported. Particularly, in the Asia and Oceania region, no BSE case has been reported except for Japan. Under these circumstances, simply we did not have chance to carry out the international diagnostic activity nor supply of reference material. We predict that this situation will not change suddenly.