

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2024

This report has been submitted: 28 janvier 2025 17:30

## LABORATORY INFORMATION

<b>*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:</b>	Equine rhinopneumonitis
<b>*Address of laboratory:</b>	Irish Equine Centre, Johnstown, Naas, Co. Kildare, Ireland
<b>*Tel:</b>	+353-45 86.62.66
<b>*E-mail address:</b>	acullinane@irishequinecentre.ie
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="https://irishequinecentre.ie">https://irishequinecentre.ie</a>
<b>*Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):</b>	Deborah Grey MBA CEO
<b>*Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:</b>	Professor Ann Cullinane MVB PhD Head of Virology
<b>*Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:</b>	Registered Charity

## 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 WOAH Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
CFT	Yes	354	261
VNT	Yes	0	260
ELISA	Yes	0	40
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally

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Real-time PCR	Yes	2745	305
Virus Isolation	Yes	11	0

## TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

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

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient WOA?H Member Countries	Country of recipients
EHV-1 antibody negative serum control	CFT, VNT	Provide	0	2mls	1	HONG KONG,
Horse anti-serum against EHV-1	CFT, VNT	Provide	0	2mls	1	HONG KONG,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

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

Yes

Name of the new test or diagnostic method developed	Description and References (Publication, website, etc.)
PoC LAMP	Equivalence study with real time PCR. Results demonstrated high specificity but LAMP less sensitive than real time PCR. Results not yet published.

8. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

9. Did your laboratory validate vaccines according to WOA?H Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

## TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

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Yes

Name of WOA 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
FRANCE	2024-01-26	CFT	36	0
FRANCE	2024-02-02	CFT	72	0
FRANCE	2024-03-14	CFT	72	0
FRANCE	2024-01-19	CFT	9	0
FRANCE	2024-04-18	CFT	10	0
FRANCE	2024-09-17	CFT	14	0
FRANCE	2024-09-19	CFT	16	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-12-31	CFT	1	0
FRANCE	2024-11-14	CFT	31	0
FRANCE	2024-01-26	VNT	36	0
FRANCE	2024-02-02	VNT	72	0
FRANCE	2024-03-14	VNT	72	0
FRANCE	2024-01-19	VNT	9	0
FRANCE	2024-03-18	VNT	10	0
FRANCE	2024-09-17	VNT	14	0
FRANCE	2024-09-19	VNT	16	0
FRANCE	2024-11-14	VNT	31	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-01-15	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-02-06	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-02-08	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-02-12	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-03-12	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-04-01	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-05-17	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-07-17	real time PCR	1	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-11-04	real time PCR	2	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-11-27	real time PCR	1	0
FRANCE	2024-01-19	real time PCR	2	0
FRANCE	2024-01-02	real time PCR	1	0
FRANCE	2024-02-02	real time PCR	270	0
FRANCE	2024-08-07	real time PCR	10	0
BELGIUM	2024-02-14	real time PCR	5	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2024-01-24	real time PCR	6	0
ALGERIA	2024-09-13	real time PCR	39	0

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

Yes

Name of the WOA Member Country receiving a technical	Purpose	
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consultancy		How the advice was provided
UKRAINE	Validation of Complement Fixation Test for EHV-1	Email
GERMANY	Primers for detection of EHV-1	Email
FRANCE	Use of the ORF30 2254 genotype assay by some diagnostic laboratories.	Email

## TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	WOAH Member Countries involved other than your country
First Molecular and Phylogenetic Characterization of Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) and Equine Herpesvirus-4 (EHV-4) in Morocco	2021-2024	Molecular Characterisation.	Department of Medicine, Surgery, and Reproduction, Agronomy and Veterinary Institute Hassan II, Rabat 10000, Morocco.	MOROCCO
Comparison of four primary vaccination protocols.	2021-2024	Compare humoral response of foals to different vaccination regimes.	University of Hanover	GERMANY

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

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:

Epidemiological investigation of outbreaks and virus characterisation by sequencing and vaccine efficacy.

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

*El Brini Z, Cullinane A, Garvey M, Fassi Fihri O, Fellahi S, Amraoui F, Loutfi C, Sebbar G, Paillot R, Piro M. First Molecular and Phylogenetic Characterization of Equine Herpesvirus-1 (EHV-1) and Equine Herpesvirus-4 (EHV-4) in Morocco. Animals (Basel). 2025 Jan 5;15(1):102. doi: 10.3390/ani15010102. PMID: 39795045; PMCID: PMC11718982.*

b) International conferences:

4

1. Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations FEEVA Disease Surveillance Network VIII Summit: Updates from WOAHA on Equine Influenza and Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV) [Ann Cullinane].

2. International Equine Infectious Disease Conference (IEIDCXII): Molecular characterisation of varicellovirus equid alpha 1 viruses responsible for disease outbreaks (2023-2024) [Marie Garvey]

3. European Society for Equine Reproduction Workshop  
Comparison of primary vaccination regimes for equine influenza and equine herpesvirus [Ann Cullinane]

4. IFCE International Conference: Controlling Equine Influenza and Rhinopneumonitis- the benefits of international collaboration to the equine industry [Ann Cullinane]

c) National conferences:

2

*Irish Equine Veterinary Association Annual Conference: Virology Update including equine herpesvirus. [Ann Cullinane]*

*Irish Thoroughbred Breeders Association Seminar: Emerging Viral Diseases. [Ann Cullinane]*

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

2

<https://www.equinesurveillance.org>

<https://respe.net/>

## TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

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

Yes

a) Technical visit : 1

b) Seminars : 0

c) Hands-on training courses: 1

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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	FRANCE	2
A	ALGERIA	1

## TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO17025	PDF	the-irish-equine-foundation-ltd-151t-cert.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Real time PCR	INAB
CFT	INAB
VNT	INAB

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

Yes

The Irish Equine Centre maintains its laboratory biological risk management system in accordance with the WOAH Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals. Chapter 1.1.4. Biosafety and Biosecurity: Standard for Managing Biological Risk in the Veterinary Laboratory and Animal Facilities.

## TOR9: SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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

Yes

National/ International	Title of event	Co-organiser	Date	location	No. Participants
International	WOAH webinar on Equine herpesvirus.	Co-organiser with Dr. Susanne Münstermann	2024-03-27	Webinar	100

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

Yes

Title of event	Date	location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short	Title of the work presented
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			communications)	
WOAH Regional Workshop on "Facilitation of International Horse Movement" in Asia and Pacific.	2024-01-17	Pattaya, Thailand.	Speaker	Role of a WOAH Reference Laboratory
WOAH Regional Workshop on "Facilitation of International Horse Movement" in Asia and Pacific.	2024-01-17	Pattaya, Thailand.	Chair	Building Laboratory Capacity
WOAH webinar on Equine herpesvirus.	2024-03-27	Webinar	Chair	Vaccines and vaccination policies
WOAH webinar on Equine herpesvirus	2024-03-27	Webinar	Speaker	Diagnostics for EHV, including on-site tests and update on Terrestrial Manual.
Regional WOAH workshop on laboratory expertise for equine diseases in Asia and the Pacific	2024-09-16	Japan	Speaker (by video)	The role of the WOAH Biological Standards Commission (BSC) and an update on the laboratory twinning programme.
Regional WOAH workshop on laboratory expertise for equine diseases in Asia and the Pacific	2024-09-16	Japan	Speaker (by Video)	The role of WOAH Reference laboratories.
Federation of European Equine Veterinary Associations (FEEVA) Disease Surveillance Network VIII Summit	2024-10-04	Deauville, France	Speaker	Updates from WOAH on Equine Influenza and Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV)

## 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. Do you network (collaborate or share information) with other 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 during the past 2 years?

No

0

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 WOAHP Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

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
Assessment of competence	Organiser	3	VNT	FRANCE, SERBIA,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	4	EHV-1 PCR	FRANCE, HONG KONG, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	2	CFT	FRANCE,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	2	EHV-1 PCR	GERMANY,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	2	ELISA	SAUDI ARABIA,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	2	CFT	JAPAN,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	2	VNT	JAPAN,

## TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
WOAH Biological Standards Commission	WOAH Headquarters Paris	Biannual Meetings of Commission. Reports available on WOAHP website.
WOAH General Session.	Maison de la Chimie, Paris	Deputy to President of Biological Standards Commission.
Ad Hoc group	Videoconference	Emerging Diseases and Drivers of Disease Emergence in Animals.



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WOAH Pre General Session Webinar	Videoconference	Deputy to President of Biological Standards Commission.
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29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

*Additional activity: Member of International Scientific Committee for the twelfth International Equine Infectious Disease Conference (IEIDCXII) Deauville, France. 30th September – 4th October 2024.*