

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2024

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LABORATORY INFORMATION

*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAHO Reference Laboratory:	Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis
*Address of laboratory:	5 Portarlington Road East Geelong Victoria 3219 Australia
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*E-mail address:	nick.moody@csiro.au
Website:	https://www.csiro.au/en/about/facilities-collections/acdp
*Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Dr Debbie Eagles, Director, Australian Centre of Disease Preparedness (ACDP)
*Name (including Title and Position) of WOAHO Reference Expert:	Dr Nick Moody, Group Leader, ACDP Fish Diseases Laboratory
*Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental 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	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
Pallister Ranavirus qPCR	Yes	48	0
EHNV Genotyping PCR	No	44	

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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?

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient WOA Member Countries	Country of recipients
EHN isolate 874	Bioassay	Produced and provided	0	2 x 0.5mL	1	DENMARK,
EHN isolate 774	Bioassay	Produced and provided	0	2 x 0.5mL	1	DENMARK,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

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

No

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

No

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

No

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

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Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	WOAH Member Countries involved other than your country
Development of an EHNv-specific qPCR	2023 to ongoing	Develop, evaluate and validate an EHNv-specific qPCR	DTU Aqua – National institute of Aquatic resources	DENMARK
Development of an EHNv-specific qPCR	2023 to ongoing	Develop, evaluate and validate an EHNv-specific qPCR	Pacific Biological Station Fisheries and Oceans Canada	CANADA

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

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:

AFDL post-doc is undertaken whole genome sequencing of nationally sourced EHNv isolates, collected from 1984 to 2024, for molecular, taxonomic and phylogeny studies.

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:

0

b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

0

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

6

Videoconferences

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOA 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	DENMARK	2

TOR8: QUALITY ASSURANCE

18. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)	
ISO 9001:2015	PDF	BSI ISO9001 QMS 605099 - 001.pdf
ISO 14001:2015	PDF	BSI ISO14001 EMS 605098 - 001 (1).pdf
ISO 17025:2017	PDF	NATA ISO 17025 APR 2024.pdf
ISO 17043:2010	PDF	NATA ISO 17043 NOV 2022.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
AAHL has a certified Quality Management System (ISO 9001) and is accredited (ISO 17025) for the following scope of works which supports delivery to the Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis Reference Laboratory designation Australian Animal Health Laboratory - Accredited Organisation (Site No. 13539) - NATA	NATA/ILAC

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

Yes

The laboratory has a dedicated Biorisk Management Group (18 Members) who provide specialist advice, monitor and improve Biosafety, Biosecurity and Biocontainment activities and perform annual testing and validation on Biocontainment systems. The team uses a biorisk management approach aligned with ISO 35001 to implement a system of managing biosafety and biosecurity across a wide array of biological hazards. The Biorisk Management Group develop and implement standard operating procedures and institutional policies

that set the framework for the handling of biological materials across ACDP and provide ultimate assurance that the laboratory activities pose negligible danger to Australia's agriculture or public health. Policies and procedures are contained in the annually reviewed ACDP Biorisk Manual consisting of various sections as follows. • Section 1 Administration • Section 2 PC2 Procedures and Policies • Section 3 PC3 Procedures and Policies • Section 4 PC4 Procedures and Policies • Section 5 Large Animal Facility (LAF) Procedures and Policies • Section 6 Personnel and Procedural Controls • Section 7 Transport and Storage of Biological Material • Section 8 Movement of Material, Equipment and Waste • Section 9 Engineering Procedures and Policies • Section 10 Microbiological Incident Response Procedures and Policies The ACDP biological risk management system has clear and unequivocal commitment by laboratory management, who ensure that roles, responsibilities, resources and authorities related to biological risk management are defined, documented, and communicated to those who manage, perform, and verify work associated with biological agents and toxins in the laboratory. The Biorisk Management Team are audited over 3 days every 6 months by an external security assessment team to provide an independent review of elements affecting ACDP's microbiological and physical security operations and to advise CSIRO senior executive management of any areas of concern or risk. Biosafety and biosecurity operations are also audited frequently by Australia's regulatory agencies, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF), the Office of the Gene Technology Regulator (OGTR) and the Security Sensitive Biological Agents Regulatory Scheme (SSBA).

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?

Not applicable (only WOAHP Reference Laboratory designated for the disease)

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

Not applicable (only WOAHP Reference Laboratory designated for the disease)

25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Not applicable (Only WOAHP Reference Laboratory designated for the disease)

Only reference laboratory for infection with epizootic haematopoietic necrosis virus

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

Not applicable (only WOAHP Reference Laboratory designated for the disease)

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?

No

No funding source identified

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
WOAH Regional workshop on Preparedness and Response for Emerging Diseases in Aquatic Animals for Asia and the Pacific	29 October 2024 Singapore	Facilitator and participant
Pacific & Regional Workshop on AMU-AMR in Aquaculture for Asia and the Pacific	30 October 2024 Singapore	Participant
Megalocytivirus pagrus 1 ad hoc Group	Online	Chair

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

No