

# WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

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## LABORATORY INFORMATION

<b>*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA 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 WOA 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 WOA Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
<b>Indirect diagnostic tests</b>			
CFT	Yes	269	978
VNT	Yes	0	967
ELISA	Yes	0	50
<b>Direct diagnostic tests</b>			
Real-time PCR	Yes	2666	184
Virus Isolation	Yes	9	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?

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
EHV-1 antibody negative serum control	CFT, VNT	Provide	0	2mls x 2	2	HONG KONG, THAILAND,

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Horse anti-serum against EHV-1	CFT, VNT	Provide	0	2mls x 2	2	HONG KONG, THAILAND,
Equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV1)	CFT, VNT	Produced	0	50mls	1	THAILAND,
EHV-1 DNA for Positive Control	PCR	Produced	0	220µl x 100	1	TUNISIA,
Equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV1)	PCR	Produced	0	100mls	1	FRANCE,
Equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV1)	PCR	Produced	0	75mls	1	MOROCCO,
Equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV1)	PCR	Produced	0	75mls	1	UNITED KINGDOM,
EHV- 1 positive reference sample	PCR	Produced	230µl x 6	0	1	IRELAND,
EHV- 1 negative reference sample	PCR	Produced	230µl x 3	0	1	IRELAND,

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to WOAHP Members?

### 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?

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

### TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

Yes

Name of WOAHP 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	2025-01-29	CFT and VNT	10	0
FRANCE	2025-03-07	CFT and VNT	1	0
FRANCE	2025-03-20	CFT and VNT	1	0
FRANCE	2025-04-02	CFT and VNT	11	0
SOUTH AFRICA	2025-04-04	CFT and VNT	90	0
FRANCE	2025-04-16	CFT and VNT	15	0
SOUTH AFRICA	2025-04-29	CFT and VNT	90	0
FRANCE	2025-05-14	CFT and VNT	16	0
SOUTH AFRICA	2025-05-29	CFT and VNT	90	0
FRANCE	2025-06-13	CFT and VNT	45	0
SOUTH AFRICA	2025-07-21	CFT and VNT	105	0
FRANCE	2025-08-21	CFT and VNT	15	0
FRANCE	2025-08-22	CFT and VNT	30	0
MOROCCO	2025-09-02	CFT and VNT	46	0
FRANCE	2025-09-11	CFT and VNT	15	0
MOROCCO	2025-09-15	CFT and VNT	46	0
FRANCE	2025-09-18	CFT and VNT	23	0

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SOUTH AFRICA	2025-09-19	CFT and VNT	25	0
FRANCE	2025-09-25	CFT and VNT	15	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-09-26	CFT and VNT	25	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-10-02	CFT and VNT	25	0
FRANCE	2025-10-03	CFT and VNT	11	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-10-09	CFT and VNT	25	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-10-22	CFT and VNT	18	0
FRANCE	2025-10-29	CFT and VNT	19	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-10-31	CFT and VNT	25	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-11-13	CFT and VNT	20	0
MOROCCO	2025-11-14	CFT and VNT	23	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-11-19	CFT and VNT	20	0
FRANCE	2025-11-21	CFT and VNT	22	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-12-02	CFT and VNT	20	0
SOUTH AFRICA	2025-12-03	CFT and VNT	25	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-01-21	Real-time PCR	6	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-02-06	Real-time PCR	1	0
FRANCE	2025-02-26	Real-time PCR	20	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-04-04	Real-time PCR	2	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-05-01	Real-time PCR	5	0
FRANCE	2025-06-13	Real-time PCR	15	0
ALGERIA	2025-07-18	Real-time PCR	50	0
FRANCE	2025-09-25	Real-time PCR	15	0
FRANCE	2025-10-03	Real-time PCR	11	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-10-22	Real-time PCR	18	0
FRANCE	2025-10-29	Real-time PCR	19	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-12-02	Real-time PCR	20	0
UNITED KINGDOM	2025-12-17	Real-time PCR	2	0

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
TURKEY	EHV-1-4 ELISA and correlation of results with antibody titres and application to vaccination regimes	Email
TUNISIA	Primers and probes for detection of EHV-1	Email
TURKEY	Update of vaccine strains	Email
SWITZERLAND	FEI re outbreak status	Telephone
UNITED KINGDOM	ITBF re outbreak status	Email
UNITED KINGDOM	Management of abortion cases	Telephone
FRANCE	Vaccine studies	Email and videoconferences

## TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	WOAHP Member Countries involved other than your country
Serological and virological analysis of EHV-1 in Algeria	2 years	Serological and virological analysis of EHV-1 in Algeria	Department of Veterinary, University of Batna, Algeria.	ALGERIA

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?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:

Epidemiological investigation of outbreaks and virus characterisation by sequencing. Investigation of 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.*

b) International conferences:

1

*FEVA Disease Surveillance IXth Summit Leipzig (GER) Presentation entitled "2025 Updates from WOAHA on Equine Influenza and Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV)"*

c) National conferences:

2

*Irish Equine Veterinary Association Stud Medicine CPD Event - Presentation entitled "Equine Herpesvirus Update".*

*Irish Equine Veterinary Association Annual Conference Presentation entitled "Comparison of primary vaccination regimes for equine influenza and equine herpesvirus "*

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

2

<https://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: 0

d) Internships (>1 month) 0

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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	JAPAN	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
CFT	INAB
VNT	INAB
PCR	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 WOAHP 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 WOAHP?

No

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

Yes

Title of event	Date	location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
FEEVA Disease Surveillance IXth Summit	2025-09-22	Leipzig, Germany	Speaker	2025 Updates from WOAHP on Equine Influenza and Equine Rhinopneumonitis (EHV)

## 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. Are you a member of a network of 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 during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency test:	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participating Laboratories	Participating WOAHP Ref. Labs/ organising WOAHP Ref Lab
VNT	Organiser	3	Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association
CFT	Organiser	3	Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association

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?

Yes

Title of the project or contract	Scope	Name(s) of relevant WOAHP Reference Laboratories

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Genetic characterisation of equine herpesviruses in Japan	Phylogenetic analysis	Equine Research Institute, Japan Racing Association
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## 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 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	CFT	FRANCE, JAPAN,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	3	VNT	FRANCE, JAPAN,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	3	VNT	SERBIA, THAILAND,
Assessment of competence	Organiser	4	EHV-1 PCR	FRANCE, HONG KONG, THAILAND,

## TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
Vice President WOA Biological Standards Commission.	WOAH Headquarters Paris	Biannual Meetings of Commission. Reports available on WOA website.
WOAH Pre General Session Webinar	Videoconference	Deputy to President of Biological Standards Commission.
Animal Health Forum WOA General Session	Maison de La Chimie Paris	Moderator for session on Vaccine Availability "Vaccine and Vaccination: from science to action - reflections for change"
Participant at WOA Reference Centre Network Meeting	WOAH Headquarters Paris	Overcoming technical challenges
Member of Ad hoc Group on Emerging Diseases	Videoconferences	Development of Emerging Disease Threats Watchlist
Revision of WOA Manual Chapter	Remote	Equine Influenza
BSC observer at Ad hoc Group Meetings	Remote	Revamping of the WOA Register of Diagnostic Kits

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

No