

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

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LABORATORY INFORMATION

*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOA Reference Laboratory:	Swine vesicular disease
*Address of laboratory:	Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia e dell'Emilia Romagna (IZSLER) Via A. Bianchi No 9, 25124 Brescia, Italy
*Tel:	+390302290614
*E-mail address:	giulia.pezzoni@izsler.it
Website:	https://www.izsler.it
*Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Dr. Giorgio Varisco
*Name (including Title and Position) of WOA Reference Expert:	Dr. Giulia Pezzoni
*Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	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			
5B7 Competitive ELISA	Yes	8723	0
Virus Neutralization test	Yes	6	0
IgG specific ELISA	No	14	0
IgM specific ELISA	No	14	0
Direct diagnostic tests			
Convention RT-PCR 3D gene	Yes	1	0
Real Time RT-PCR 3D gene	Yes	2	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

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Assembled reagents for 5B7-competitive ELISA (capture and conj. mAb, inactivated SVDV antigen, positive control serum)	5B7-Competitive ELISA (WOAH prescribed test for Ab detection)	Produced and provided	For testing of 29000 samples in regional labs + 8743 sera at Italian NRL	For testing of 16000 sera	2	CANADA, POLAND,
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4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

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

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

No

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

Yes

Name of the WOAHA Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
ITALY	Technical consultancy to laboratories and local veterinary services	Remote technical explanation and advice

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

No

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

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:

1

Bregoli A, Benedetti D, Calzolari M, Benevenia R, Di Nardo A, Castelli A, Corsa M, Grazioli S, Chiapponi C, Brocchi E, Pezzoni G.

Genetic evolution of swine vesicular disease viruses circulating in Italy from 1992 to the eradication in 2015 and emergence of a recent recombinant strain. Virus Evol. 2025 Sep 6;11(1):veaf066. doi: 10.1093/ve/veaf066. PMID: 41019407; PMCID: PMC12476138.

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 WOAHP Members?

No

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	See attached file	Certificato accreditamento 2025-2029.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
5B7- Competitive ELISA (WOAH prescribed for test screening)	Accredia - Italy System Accreditation Service
Virus Neutralization Test	Accredia - Italy System Accreditation Service
Sandwich ELISA for antigen detection (mAbs-based)	Accredia - Italy System Accreditation Service
Conventional RT-PCR 3D-gene	Accredia - Italy System Accreditation Service
Real-Time RT-PCR 3D gene	Accredia - Italy System Accreditation Service
The other tests (Virus isolation, IgG and IgM ELISA) are IZSLER-coded tests	Subject to regular internal and external QC

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

Yes

At IZSLER, SVDV is manipulated in a BSL3+ bio-risk level laboratory, for further details see WOAHP 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 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. Are you a member of a network of WOAHP Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

No

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25. Did you organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with WOA 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 WOA Ref. Labs/ organising WOA Ref Lab
The 2025 proficiency test organized by the FMD-EURL (ANSES, France, and Sciensano, Belgium) evaluated laboratory capacity for the early detection and differential diagnosis of foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV). The test panel included pig serum samples, and participating laboratories were required to perform differential diagnosis, including swine vesicular disease virus (SVDV).	Participant	>30	Participating laboratories: National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) for FMDV from EU member countries, as well as from several EU candidate countries. Organising WOA Ref Lab: ANSES (France) and Sciensano (Belgium)

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?

No

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 ¹	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the test	WOAH Member Countries
Organization of annual inter-laboratory test to monitor the harmonization and performance of the 5B7-competitive ELISA for SVDV Ab detection carried out in 10 Italian regional laboratories.	Organizer	10	5B7-competitive ELISA (WOAH prescribed test for screening)	ITALY,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

SVDV has not been reported for a long time, either in Europe or elsewhere in the world. In Italy, the last reported case dates back to 2015, and the surveillance program is no longer in force. Currently, serological analyses that are performed are requested only for export control purposes.