World Organisation for Animal Health

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WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

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LABORATORY INFORMATION

***Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:**	Epizootic haematopoietic necrosis
***Address of laboratory:**	5 Portarlington Road East Geelong Victoria 3219 Australia
***Tel:**	+61-3 52 27 00 00
***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 WOAH Reference Expert:**	Dr. Nick Moody, Group Leader, Australian Centre of Disease Preparedness
***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 WOAH Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
WOAH Ranavirus Pallister qPCR	Yes	2	0
EHNV Hyatt PCR	No	2	0

TOR2: REFERENCE MATERIAL

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

No

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

No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

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

TOR4: DIAGNOSTIC TESTING FACILITIES

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

No

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

No

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

12. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with WOAH 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
Validation of an ENHV-specific real-time PCR	2025 (ongoing)	Development, evaluation and validation EHNV-specific real-time PCR assays.	EURL for Finfish Diseases	DENMARK
Validation of an ENHV-specific real-time PCR	2025 (ongoing)	Development, evaluation and validation EHNV-specific real-time PCR assays.	Department of Fisheries and Oceans	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?

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:

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 WOAH 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:9001	BSI ISO9001 FS 605099-001 NOV 2028.pdf	BSI ISO9001 FS 605099-001 NOV 2028.pdf
ISO:17025	NATA ISO 17025 APR 2024.pdf	NATA ISO 17025 APR 2024.pdf
ISO:17043	NATA ISO 17043 NOV 2022	NATA ISO 17043 NOV 2022.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
ISO:9001	BSI
ISO:17025 As per NATA ISO:17025 scope of accreditation: Accreditation No. 13546 Australian Animal Health Laboratory - Accredited Organisation (Site No. 13539) - NATA	NATA

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 Polices • 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 WOAH?

No

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

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOAH REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

Not applicable (only WOAH Reference Laboratory designated for the disease

24. Are you a member of a network of WOAH Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen?

Not applicable (only WOAH Reference Laboratory designated for the disease

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?

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

Only WOAH Reference Laboratory designated for the disease

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?

Not applicable (only WOAH 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 WOAH Reference Laboratories for the same pathogen during the past 2 years?

Yes

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons1	Role of your reference laboratory (organizer/participant)	No. participating laboratories	Name of the test	WOAH Member Countries
EURL Inter-laboratory Proficiency Test 2025	Participant	1	EURL Inter-laboratory Proficiency Test 2025	AUSTRALIA,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
Megalocytivirus pagrus 1 ad hoc Group	Online	Chair of ad hoc Group
Meet with AAHSC	19 February 2025, Paris, France	Discuss relinquishing Ranavirus Reference Laboratory and update of the work of the Megalocytivirus pagrus 1 ad hoc Group
WOAH and STAR-IDAZ Workshop on Identifying Priority Research Areas for Finfish Health	20-21 February 2025, Paris, France	Participant and Facilitator for Workshop 2
WOAH ad hoc Group meeting on susceptibility of crustacean species to infection with Aphanomyces astaci.	8-10 April 2025, Paris, France	ad hoc Group member

29. Additional comments regarding your report: