World Organisation for Animal Health

Katarzyna Podgórska - - POLAND

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:**	Classical swine fever
***Address of laboratory:**	National Veterinary Research Institute, Partyznatow 57 Str., 24-100, Pulawy, Poland
***Tel:**	+48-81 889 30 47
***E-mail address:**	Katarzyna.Podgorska@piwet.pulawy.pl
Website:	https://www.piwet.pulawy.pl/
***Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):**	Professor Stanisław Winiarczyk, DVM, PhD, ScD
***Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:**	Katarzyna Podgorska, MSc, PhD, Assistant Professor, Leader of the Research Team for Viral Diseases of Swine
***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
ELISA	Yes	6579	0
Virus Neutralisation Test	Yes	43	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
RT-PCR	Yes	420	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?

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient WOAH Member Countries	Country of recipients
Porcine tissue homogenate positive for CSFV (planned for distribution in 2026)	RT-PCR	Produced, 78 ml	0	0	1	POLAND,

Porcine tissue homogenate negative for CSFV (planned for distribution in 2026)	RT-PCR	Produced, 61 ml	0	0	1	POLAND,
Certified Reference Material - porcine serum positive for CSFV-specific antibodies	ELISA	Produced/Provided to state veterinary laboratories	19 ml	0	1	POLAND,
Certified Reference Material - porcine serum negative for CSFV-specific antibodies	ELISA	Produced/Provided to state veterinary laboratories	19 ml	0	1	POLAND,
Panel of porcine and wild boar serum and tissue samples positive for CSFV for validation purposes (spiked)	RT-PCR	Produced/Provided to state veterinary laboratories	7 ml	0	1	POLAND,
Panel of porcine and wild boar serum and tissue samples negative for CSFV for validation purposes	RT-PCR	Produced/Provided to state veterinary laboratories	3 ml	0	1	POLAND,

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
Rapid Risk Assessment (EUPAHW		Rapid Risk Assessment (RRA) is a project within the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare. The aim of the project is to adapt risk	UCPH, UoS, NVI, APHA , CIRAD, CSIC, WBVR, IMR, SVA , INRAE,	BELGIUM DENMARK FRANCE ITALY NORWAY SPAIN SWEDEN

002, SOA10)	2024-2026	assessment and alert communication to the new needs in animal health and welfare and improve epidemic intelligence methodologies.	EFSA , PIWET, UGENT, IZS, UNITO, IZSLT, Sciensanco, SSI	THE NETHERLANDS UNITED KINGDOM
Better tools for the diagnosis of infectious diseases (EUPAHW 003, SOA12)	2024-2026	Better tools for the diagnosis of infectious diseases (BETO) is a project within the European Partnership on Animal Health and Welfare. The aim of the project is to develop diagnostic procedures, methodologies and tools to support the surveillance of animal health.	ANSES , CIRAD , CSIC, DEFRA , DTU, EULS, FLI, IMR, INIAV, INRAE, ISS, IZSLER, IZSLT, IZSTeramo, NVI, PIWET, RIVM, Sciensano, SLA , SLU, SSI, UoS, SVA , UAB, UCPH, UGent, UNIPD, UNITO, WR	BELGIUM DENMARK ESTONIA FINLAND FRANCE GEORGIA GERMANY ITALY NORWAY PORTUGAL SPAIN SWEDEN THE NETHERLANDS UNITED KINGDOM

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:
Data on surveillance of the swine and wild boar population for the presence of CSF in Poland.

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:
Results of passive and active surveillance of swine and wild boar populations are regularly reported to the European Union Reference Laboratory for CSF and published annually together with data from other EU countries.

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

Simultaneous Detection of Classical and African Swine Fever Viruses by Duplex Taqman Real-Time PCR Assay in Pigs Infected with Both Diseases. Coronado L., Muñoz-Aguilera A., Wang M., Muñoz I., Riquelme C., Heredia S., Stępniewska K., Gallardo C., Ganges L., Pathogens. 2025 May 13;14(5):473. doi: 10.3390/pathogens14050473

b) International conferences:

0

c) National conferences:

0

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

3

Results of passive and active surveillance for CSFV are submitted annually to the WOAH and EU Reference Laboratory for CSF in Hanover, published in Country and Wild Boar Reports (https://www.tiho-hannover.de)

Presentations in two national workshops for veterinary inspection and agriculture advisory organizations: Katarzyna Podgorska "Classical swine fever".

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)	
PN/EN ISO/IEC 17025:2018-02	Certificate of Polish Centre for Accreditation	1016_certificate.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
ELISA, RT-PCR, VNT	Polish Centre for Accreditation

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

Yes

Our institute maintains a complete and functioning laboratory biological risk management system that ensures that the laboratory is in compliance with applicable local, national, regional, and international standards and requirements for biosafety and laboratory biosecurity (in accordance with the WOAH Terrestrial Manual, Chapter 1.1.4). All the work related to classical swine fever virus is performed in agreement with a set of biosafety and biosecurity standard operating procedures. Laboratory tests are performed in Pathogen Containment Level 2 or 3 laboratories (depending on the identified risk), and the work with an infectious virus is performed in Pathogen Containment Level 3 laboratory only. Additional procedures are implemented to verify and continually improve the laboratory performance and management system.

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?

Yes

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

Yes

NETWORK/DISEASE	ROLE OF YOUR LABORATORY (PARTICIPANT, ORGANISER, ETC)	NO. PARTICIPANTS	PARTICIPATING WOAH REF. LABS
Ad hoc group of experts for Classical swine fever (collaboration on updating CSF Chapter in the Terrestrial Manual)	Participant	8	Canada, Chinese Taipei, Germany, Japan, People's Republic of China, Spain, United Kingdom, Poland

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?

Yes

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Purpose of the proficiency test:	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participating Laboratories	Participating WOAH Ref. Labs/ organising WOAH Ref Lab
Determining a laboratory's capability to conduct specific diagnostic tests (RT-PCR, ELISA , VNT, VI) (2024)	Participant	32	Organised by the WOAH CSF Reference Laboratory - University of Veterinary Medicine of Hannover, Department of Infectious Diseases, Institute of Virology
Determining a laboratory's capability to conduct specific diagnostic tests (RT-PCR, ELISA , VNT, VI) (2025)	Participant	not known (report not yet available)	Organised by the WOAH CSF Reference Laboratory - University of Veterinary Medicine of Hannover, Department of Infectious Diseases, Institute of Virology

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 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
Determining a laboratory's capability to conduct specific diagnostic tests (2024)	Organizer (participants - state veterinary laboratories designated by the CVO for CSF diagnosis)	10	ELISA	POLAND,
Determining a laboratory's capability to conduct specific diagnostic tests (2025)	Organizer (participants - state veterinary laboratories designated by the CVO for CSF diagnosis)	10	ELISA	POLAND,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
Update of the WOAH standards	Remote	Update of the WOAH Terrestrial Manual, Chapter 3.9.3 "Classical swine fever (infection with classical swine fever virus)"

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

Yes

ToR 3 – New procedures & ToR 4 – Diagnostic testing for WOAH Members
Classical Swine Fever diagnostic methodologies are well established and internationally standardized. Validated molecular and serological methods, including RT-PCR assays for virus detection and ELISA tests for antibody detection, are routinely applied in veterinary diagnostic laboratories and described in internationally recognized diagnostic guidelines. Numerous commercial diagnostic kits are available and their performance characteristics are well documented.
The activities of the laboratory are therefore primarily focused on maintaining high diagnostic standards and supporting surveillance and preparedness systems through the verification and evaluation of diagnostic assays rather than on the development of new diagnostic procedures. In this context, the laboratory performs evaluations of selected commercial diagnostic kits and quality control testing of new batches of routinely used assays to ensure their appropriate diagnostic performance.
In 2024 one commercial RT-PCR kit for CSF diagnostics was evaluated and three new batches of commercial ELISA kits were tested to verify their sensitivity and specificity. In 2025 one additional RT-PCR kit and two new ELISA batches were evaluated.
As diagnostic methodologies for CSF are already well established and widely implemented, the development of new diagnostic procedures was not required during the reporting period.
In addition, Classical Swine Fever is currently absent in the region and no requests for diagnostic testing were received from other WOAH Members during the reporting period. The laboratory nevertheless maintains the infrastructure, biosafety conditions, diagnostic capacity, and expertise required to perform confirmatory testing and provide diagnostic support if such requests arise.

Consequently, no activities are reported under ToR 3 (New procedures) and ToR 4 (Diagnostic testing facilities for other WOAH Members).

ToR 7 – Scientific and technical training
During the reporting period no requests for scientific or technical training related to Classical Swine Fever diagnostics were received from other WOAH Members. Diagnostic methods for CSF are well established and widely implemented, and many veterinary laboratories already possess the necessary expertise and infrastructure to perform these tests. Furthermore, the absence of CSF in the region reduces the need for specialized international training activities related to routine diagnostics. Nevertheless, the laboratory remains prepared to provide scientific and technical training for other WOAH Members if requested. At the national level, seminars and training sessions for veterinary services and agricultural advisory organizations are organized annually, including dissemination of updated information on CSF epidemiology, diagnostics, surveillance, and contingency preparedness.
As no international requests for training were received during the reporting period, no activities are reported under ToR 7 (Scientific and technical training).