

WOAH Reference Laboratory Reports Activities 2025

This report has been submitted: 21 janvier 2026 20:12

LABORATORY INFORMATION

*Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated WOAH Reference Laboratory:	Equine viral arteritis
*Address of laboratory:	Woodham Lane, Addlestone, UK
*Tel:	+44-20 802 69621
*E-mail address:	falko.steinbach@apha.gov.uk
Website:	
*Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Richard Lewis, CEO
*Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:	Prof Falko Steinbach, Head of Mammalian Virology Group
*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	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
SNT	Yes	2016	23
Direct diagnostic tests			
PCR	Yes	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?

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
RNA reference	PCR	Provided	0	5x50ul	1	TUNISIA,

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?

Yes

Name of the WOAH Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
NEW ZEALAND	Advice	e-mail

TOR5: COLLABORATIVE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL STUDIES

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

No

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:

We collect data on EVA testing at APHA in the UK

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:

We provide the above data for the reports collated by BEVA

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

Bhat S, Karunakaran S, Frossard JP, Choudhury B, Steinbach F. Genetic characterization of equine arteritis virus associated with outbreaks in the UK, 2019. *J Gen Virol*. 2025 Dec;106(12):002181. doi:10.1099/jgv.0.002181.

b) International conferences:

c) National conferences:

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

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The data collated above are then reported in the Veterinary Record as Equine disease surveillance: quarterly updates
In line with providing our data as mentioned above they are then collated into reports at
<https://equinesurveillance.org/under-surveillance-reports>

TOR7: SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL TRAINING

17. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other WOA 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)	
ISO17025	pdf	UKAS Certificate Dec 25.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
SNT	UKAS
Virus isolation	UKAS
PCR	UKAS

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

Yes

APHA maintains a complete and functioning laboratory biological risk management system, which ensures that the laboratory is in compliance with applicable local, national (UK Health and Safety Executive), regional, and international standards and requirements for biosafety and laboratory biosecurity. (in accordance with the 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 WOA?

No

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

No

TOR10: NETWORK WITH WOA REFERENCE LABORATORIES

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

No

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

No

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?

No
no test organised with N=1.5

26. Did your laboratory collaborate with other WOAHA 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 WOAHA 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
Determining laboratories capability to conduct serology	Organiser	27	SNT	CHINA (PEOPLE'S REP. OF), CZECH REPUBLIC, FRANCE, GERMANY, IRELAND, ITALY, KOREA (REP. OF), MOROCCO, QATAR, SAUDI ARABIA, SERBIA, SOUTH AFRICA, SWITZERLAND, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED KINGDOM,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

No