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:**	Classical swine fever
***Address of laboratory:**	Animal and Plant Health Agency, New Haw, Addlestone Surrey KT15 3NB UK
***Tel:**	+44-208 026 9665
***E-mail address:**	helen.crooke@apha.gov.uk
Website:	https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/animal-and-plant-health-agency
***Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):**	Richard Lewis Chief Executive officer
***Name (including Title and Position) of WOAH Reference Expert:**	Dr Helen Crooke, Head of Swine Fever and Pestivirus Research. Deputy Mammalian Virology Workgroup leader
***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
CSFV antibody ELISA	Yes	3136	0
CSFV Antibody NPLA	Yes	7	0
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
CSFV RT 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
						CZECH REPUBLIC, HONG KONG,

WH303 mab	Virus detection	Provided	0	36 mg	8	INDONESIA, JAPAN, MEXICO, THAILAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, VIETNAM,
WH211	Virus detection	Provided	0	7	3	CHINESE TAIPEI, HONG KONG, VIETNAM,

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
Epitope mapping of the structural protein E2 of pestiviruses	Ongoing	Characterisation of epitopes to enhance differential diagnosis	Animal Health research Institute Taiwan/School of veterinary medicine National Taiwan University	CHINESE TAIPEI
Characterisation of pestivirus monoclonal antibodies	Ongoing	Characterisation of monoclonal antibodies to assist in diagnosis of infections with pestiviruses	University of Veterinary medicine, Hannover Germany	GERMANY

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:
Collected data to support continuing disease freedom

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
DNAJC14 gene-edited pigs are resistant to classical pestiviruses. Trends in biotechnology https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tibtech.2025.09.008

b) International conferences:

1
DNAJC14 gene-edited pigs are resistant to classical pestiviruses
European Society for Veterinary virology, Slovenia Sept 2025

c) National conferences:

0

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

1
Press release
https://www.ed.ac.uk/news/gene-edited-pigs-resistant-to-deadly-viral-disease.

Study of CSFV resistant pigs was covered by over 50 news titles around the world including the Guardian and New Scientist.

https://www.theguardian.com/science/2025/oct/22/scientists-create-pigs-resistant-to-classical-swine-fever-gene-editing

https://www.newscientist.com/article/2500908-gene-edited-pigs-resistant-to-swine-fever-could-boost-animal-welfare/

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 17025	UKAS pdf	UKAS Certificate Dec 25.pdf
ISO9001	ISO9001 pdf	ISO 9001 Certificate.pdf

19. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
CSFV virus isolation	UKAS
CSFV /ASFV RT- PCR	UKAS
CSFV antibody ELISA	UKAS
Pestivirus comparative neutralisation assay	UKAS
CSFV antigen ELISA	UKAS

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

Yes

APHA maintains a complete and functional laboratory biological risk management system which ensure that the laboratory is in compliance with applicable local, national (UK Health and Safely Executive), regional and international standards and requirements for biosafety and laboratory biosecurity

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?

No

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

Purpose of the proficiency test:	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/ participant)	No. participating Laboratories	Participating WOAH Ref. Labs/ organising WOAH Ref Lab
PT0036 Detection of CSFV antibodies by ELISA or neutralisation	Organiser and participant	9	Animal and Plant Health Agency (Organiser)
CSF Inter laboratory Comparison test 2024	participant	Not known	University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Germany (Organiser)

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?

Yes

Title of the project or contract	Scope	Name(s) of relevant WOAH Reference Laboratories
Epitope mapping of the E2 protein of Classical swine fever	Target epitope characterization of monoclonals targeting CSFV E2 glycoprotein	Animal Health Research Institute, Chinese Taipei
Characterisation of pestivirus monoclonal antibodies	Testing of monoclonal antibodies using pestivirus strains that were discovered in ruminants, pigs or in non-ungulate hosts	University of Veterinary, Medicine of Hannover, Germany

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
PT0036 Detection of CSFV antibodies by ELISA or neutralisation	Organiser and participant	7	CSFV Ab ELISA CSFV NPLA/SNT	AUSTRALIA, BRAZIL, MALTA, NEW ZEALAND, SERBIA, SOUTH AFRICA, UNITED KINGDOM,

TOR12: EXPERT CONSULTANTS

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

No

29. Additional comments regarding your report:

No