

OIE Reference Laboratory Reports Activities

Activities in 2021

This report has been submitted : 2022-01-31 09:47:01

Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated OIE Reference Laboratory:	Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
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Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Prof. Dr. Torsten Seuberlich
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Prof. Dr. Torsten Seuberlich
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Academic

ToR 1: To use, promote and disseminate diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards

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 OIE Manual (Yes/No)	Total number of test performed last year	
		Nationally	Internationally
Indirect diagnostic tests			
0	no	0	0
Direct diagnostic tests			
BSE rapid test	Yes	2000	50
BSE Confirmatory Western Blot	Yes	25	20
BSE Immunohistochemistry	Yes	7	5

**ToR 2: To develop reference material in accordance with OIE requirements, and implement and promote the application of OIE Standards.
To store and distribute to national laboratories biological reference products and any other reagents used in the diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or disease.**

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

No

3. Did your laboratory supply standard reference reagents (non OIE-approved) and/or other diagnostic reagents to OIE Member Countries?

No

4. Did your laboratory produce vaccines?

No

5. Did your laboratory supply vaccines to OIE Member Countries?

No

ToR 3: To develop, standardise and validate, according to OIE Standards, new procedures for diagnosis and control of the designated pathogens or diseases

6. Did your laboratory develop new diagnostic methods validated according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

7. Did your laboratory develop new vaccines according to OIE Standards for the designated pathogen or disease?

No

ToR 4: To provide diagnostic testing facilities, and, where appropriate, scientific and technical advice on disease control measures to OIE Member Countries

8. Did your laboratory carry out diagnostic testing for other OIE Member Countries?

No

9. Did your laboratory provide expert advice in technical consultancies on the request of an OIE Member Country?

Yes

Name of the OIE Member Country receiving a technical consultancy	Purpose	How the advice was provided
VIETNAM	Diagnostic testing	by email
URUGUAY	reference material	by email

ToR 5: To carry out and/or coordinate scientific and technical studies in collaboration with other laboratories, centres or organisations

10. Did your laboratory participate in international scientific studies in collaboration with OIE Member Countries other than the own?

No

ToR 6: To collect, process, analyse, publish and disseminate epizootiological data relevant to the designated pathogens or diseases

11. Did your Laboratory collect epizootiological data relevant to international disease control?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
Participation in the BSE surveillance programm in Switzerland

12. Did your laboratory disseminate epizootiological data that had been processed and analysed?

Yes

If the answer is yes, please provide details of the data collected:
Participation in the BSE surveillance programm in Switzerland

**13. What method of dissemination of information is most often used by your laboratory?
(Indicate in the appropriate box the number by category)**

a) Articles published in peer-reviewed journals: 2
Neurotropic Astroviruses in Animals.
Wildi N, Seuberlich T.
Viruses. 2021 Jun 23;13(7):1201. doi: 10.3390/v13071201.

A novel Betaretrovirus discovered in cattle with neurological disease and encephalitis.
Hierweger MM, Koch MC, Kauer RV, Bagó Z, Oevermann A, Bertoni G, Seuberlich T.
Retrovirology. 2021 Dec 20;18(1):40. doi: 10.1186/s12977-021-00585-x.

b) International conferences: 2
EFSA Network BSE/TSE 18. - 19.10.2021, Online
EURL TSE Meeting 11. and 13.10.2021, Online

c) National conferences: 0

d) Other:
(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 0

ToR 7: To provide scientific and technical training for personnel from OIE Member Countries

To recommend the prescribed and alternative tests or vaccines as OIE Standards

14. Did your laboratory provide scientific and technical training to laboratory personnel from other OIE Member Countries?

No

ToR 8: To maintain a system of quality assurance, biosafety and biosecurity relevant for the pathogen and the disease concerned

15. Does your laboratory have a Quality Management System?

No

Explain Quality Management System in adoption process or currently in place
We are working under ISO17015 guidelines and are approved as Swiss reference laboratory for BSE by the competent authority. Official accreditation by the Swiss Accreditation Service is currently suspended due to internal reorganization of our laboratory. We expect reaccreditation by spring 2023.

16. Is your quality management system accredited?

No

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

Yes

(See Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals, Chapter 1.1.4)

ToR 9: To organise and participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE

18. Did your laboratory organise scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

No

19. Did your laboratory participate in scientific meetings on behalf of the OIE?

No

ToR 10: To establish and maintain a network with other OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease and organise regular inter-laboratory proficiency testing to ensure comparability of results

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

Yes

21. Was your laboratory involved in maintaining a network with OIE Reference Laboratories designated for the same pathogen or disease by organising or participating in proficiency tests?

Yes

Purpose of the proficiency tests: ¹	Role of your Reference Laboratory (organiser/participant)	No. participants	Participating OIE Ref. Labs/ organising OIE Ref. Lab.
BSE rapid test	participant	23	EURL and OIE Ref Lab Italy
BSE confirmatory WB	participant	23	EURL and OIE Ref Lab Italy
BSE confirmatory IHC	participant	23	EURL and OIE Ref Lab Italy
BSE discriminatory WB	participant	23	EURL and OIE Ref Lab Italy

¹ validation of a diagnostic protocol: specify the test; quality control of vaccines: specify the vaccine type, etc.

22. Did your laboratory collaborate with other OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease on scientific research projects for the diagnosis or control of the pathogen of interest?

No

ToR 11: To organise inter-laboratory proficiency testing with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same pathogens and diseases to ensure equivalence of results

23. Did your laboratory organise or participate in inter-laboratory proficiency tests with laboratories other than OIE Reference Laboratories for the same disease?

Yes

Note: See Interlaboratory test comparisons in: Laboratory Proficiency Testing at: <http://www.oie.int/en/our-scientific-expertise/reference-laboratories/proficiency-testing> see point 1.3

Purpose for inter-laboratory test comparisons ¹	No. participating laboratories	Region(s) of participating OIE Member Countries
BSE rapid tests	5	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East
BSE Western blot	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East

ToR 12: To place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE

24. Did your laboratory place expert consultants at the disposal of the OIE?

Yes

Kind of consultancy	Location	Subject (facultative)
OIE ad hoc group on risk status recognition	Paris online	risk status recognition

25. Additional comments regarding your report: