OIE Reference Laboratory Reports Activities

Activities in 2019

This report has been submitted : 2020-01-15 15:53:09

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):	Cristina Casalone
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Cristina Casalone
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental Other: Research

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	
Indirect diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
none	none	none	none
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
IDEXX BSE-scrapie Antigen kit EIA	Yes	7251	none
BSE confirmatory immunoblotting	Yes	19	none
Immunohistochemistry for pathological prion protein	Yes	10	none
Histology	Yes	10	none

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?

No

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?

Yes

Title of the study	Duration	Purpose of the study	Partners (Institutions)	OIE Member Countries involved other than your country
Enhancing research and development in Africa through OIE Reference Laboratories and Collaboratoring Centres, and Poles of Excellence, as resultant of OIE twinning Projects	2 years	To provide expertise in the TSE surveillance	IZSAM;IZSM;IZSPB; IZSSI.	BOTSWANA MOZAMBIQUE SOUTH AFRICA ZAMBIA ZIMBABWE

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:
The epidemiological unit collected Italian data and checked data quality (in term of the completeness and congruency of the data received) concerning the several TSE monitoring activities enforced on the national scale.

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:
We send our national data directly to the European Commission or indirectly trough EFSA.

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: 0

b) International conferences: 7
Prion 2019, Edmonton(Canada), May 21-24.

87th OIE General Session, Paris May 2019.

38th Annual Meeting of European Colture Collections Organization (ECCO), Torino, June 12-14 2019.

18th Annual Meeting of the TSE NRLs - Torino, September 12-13 2019.

ECVPH Annual Conference 2019 - Edimburgo GBR, October 2-4.

VIII Iberian Congress on Prions, Castelo Branco (Portugal), October 24-25 2019.

14th EFSA BSE TSE Network meeting - Parma, October 14-15 2019

c) National conferences: 5
Convegno dell'Associazione Italiana di Epidemiologia (AIE),Bologna, March 18-19 2019.

18th National Congress of the Italian Society for Neuroscience - Perugia,September 26-29 2019 .

19° Congresso Nazionale SIDiLV - Matera, October 23-25 2019.

Riunione annuale dell'Associazione Italiana di Epidemiologia - Catania, October 23-25 2019.

Primo Congresso Italiano sulle Vescicole Extracellulari della Società EVIta - Palermo,November 6-8 2019.

d) Other:
(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 9
Partecipation as speaker:

Diagnostics in Veterinary Fields:The role in health surveillance and disease identification. Wiesbaden, Germany, May 15-17.

18th Annual Meeting of the TSE NRLs - Torino, September 12-13.

Controllo delle encefalopatie spongiformi trasmissibili (TSE) in azienda – Brescia, July 9; Mantova, September 24; Milano, October 29.

Working Group:

EFSA cross cutting Working Group on Uncertainty.

Working Group on the request for a scientific opinion on potential BSE risk posed by the use of ruminant collagen and gelatine in feed for non-ruminant farmed animals.

Working group for the evaluation of an alternative method for production of biodiesel from processed fats derived from category 1, 2 and 3 animal byproducts.

International abstracts:

Pelaez AO, Rizzi V, Ru G, Ingravalle F, Van der Stede Y."The European Union Summary Report on Surveillance for The Presence of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (TSE): the situation in 2017". PRION 2019 - Edmonton CAN, May 21-24.

Favole A, Mazza M, Vallino Costassa E, D'Angelo A, Lombardi G, Palmitessa C, Dell'Atti L, Crociara P, Berrone E, Gallo M, Lo Faro M, Avanzato T, Acutis PL, Casalone C, Corona C."RT-QuIC detection of pathological prion protein in subclinical goats following experimental oral transmission of L-type BSE". PRION 2019 - Edmonton CAN, May 21-24.

Bontempi G, Villa R, Beato MS, Casalone C, Mazza M, Iulini B, Campanella C, Razzuoli E, Modesto P, Guercio A, Di Marco P, Tittarelli M, Caporale M, Ferrari M, Boniotti MB. "The Italian biobank network of veterinary resources".Meeting of the European Culture Collections' Organisation - Torino,Italy, June 13-14 2019.

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?

Yes

Quality management system adopted	Certificate scan (PDF, JPG, PNG format)
ISO 17025	ACCREDIA_ILAC_MRA.pdf

16. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
IDEXX BSE-Scrapie Antigen Kit EIA	ACCREDIA-ILAC MRA
BSE confirmatory immunoblotting	ACCREDIA-ILAC MRA
Immunohistochemistry for pathological prion protein	ACCREDIA-ILAC MRA
Histology	ACCREDIA-ILAC MRA

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?

Yes

Title of event	Date (mm/yy)	Location	Role (speaker, presenting poster, short communications)	Title of the work presented
Meeting of TSE NRLs	09/19	Turin,Italy	Speakers, TSE staff	The forthcoming 2019 rounds of EQAs:issue and news.
ERFAN Meeting in SADC Region	09/19	Windhoek, Namibia	Speakers	TSE Working Group to strenght expected activities in SADC Region.

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.
Verify EU approved rapid test diagnostic standards and methods	Partecipant	29	TSE EURL, IT
BSE Confirmatory Immunoblotting	Partecipant	23	TSE EURL, IT
TSE Histopathology and immunohistichemistry interpretation EQA	Partecipant	44	TSE EURL, IT
PrP immunohistochemistry technical EQA	Partecipant	20	TSE EURL, IT

[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
Harmonising existing test methods (IDEXX HerdCheck BSE-scrapie Antigen Kit EIA)	12	☐Africa ☐Americas ☐Asia and Pacific ☒Europe ☐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?

No

25. Additional comments regarding your report: