

OIE Reference Laboratory Reports Activities

Activities in 2020

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Name of disease (or topic) for which you are a designated OIE Reference Laboratory:	Viral haemorrhagic septicaemia
Address of laboratory:	Pacific Biological Station - Aquatic Animal Health Laboratory (PBS-AAHL) Fisheries & Oceans Canada 3190 Hammond Bay Road Nanaimo V9T 6N7 British Columbia CANADA
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Name (including Title) of Head of Laboratory (Responsible Official):	Carmel Lowe, PhD Regional Director of Science
Name (including Title and Position) of OIE Reference Expert:	Kyle Garver, PhD Research Scientist
Which of the following defines your laboratory? Check all that apply:	Governmental

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		Nationally	Internationally
-	-	-	-
Direct diagnostic tests		Nationally	Internationally
RT-qPCR	Yes	2466	
RT-PCR	No	16	
Virus Isolation	Yes	44	

**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?

Yes

Type of reagent available	Related diagnostic test	Produced/ provide	Amount supplied nationally (ml, mg)	Amount supplied internationally (ml, mg)	No. of recipient OIE Member Countries	Region of recipients
RT controls - Artificial RNA transcript containing primer/probe binding sites	VHSV RT-qPCR (Garver et al 2011)	Produced	26 aliquots (0.4mL)	0	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East
qPCR controls - cDNA generated from artificial RNA transcript	VHSV RT-qPCR (Garver et al 2011)	Produced	100 aliquots (1.2mL)	0	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Extraction controls - Kidney homogenate spiked with artificial RNA transcript	VHSV RT-qPCR (Garver et al 2011)	Produced	45 aliquots (3.4g)	0	1	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East

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
CANADA	Provide information concerning the biology of VHSV	remote and in loco

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
VHSV outbreak events	2019-2021	Investigate VHSV associated die-off events in wild fish populations	Marrowstone Marine Station	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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:
Survey of wild and farmed populations for presence of VHSV

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:
VHSV prevalence and genotype circulating within wild and farmed fish populations

**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: 0

c) National conferences: 0

d) Other:

(Provide website address or link to appropriate information) 2

Parsons, G. J., Burgetz, I. J., Weber, L., Garver, K. A., Jones, S. R. M., Johnson, S., Hawley, L. M., Davis, B., Aubry, P., Wade, J. and Mimeault, C. 2021. Assessment of the risk to Fraser River Sockeye Salmon due to viral haemorrhagic septicaemia virus IVa (VHSV-IVa) transfer from Atlantic Salmon farms in the Discovery Islands area, British Columbia. DFO Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Res. Doc. 2020/065. viii + 36 p.

(https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ResDocs-DocRech/2020/2020_065-eng.pdf)

Garver, K. A. and Hawley, L. M. 2021. Characterization of Viral Haemorrhagic Septicaemia Virus (VHSV) to inform pathogen transfer risk assessments in British Columbia. DFO Can. Sci. Advis. Sec. Res. Doc. 2020/064. v + 24 p.

(https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/csas-sccs/Publications/ResDocs-DocRech/2020/2020_064-eng.pdf)

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/IEC 17025:2017	2019 ISO 17025 Certificate-resize.jpg

16. Is your quality management system accredited?

Yes

Test for which your laboratory is accredited	Accreditation body
Reverse Transcription Quantitative PCR for Detection of Viral Hemorrhagic Septicemia Virus (VHSV)	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
Isolation of Viral Agents (IPNV, IHNV, EHN, SVCV, ISAV, SAV, & VHSV) from Finfish by Cell Culture	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
Reverse Transcription Quantitative PCR for Detection of Infectious Hematopoietic Necrosis Virus (IHNV)	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
Reverse transcription quantitative PCR assay for detection of infectious pancreatic necrosis virus (IPNV)	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
RT-qPCR Test Method Protocol using TaqMan Universal PCR Master Mix for the detection of infectious salmon anemia virus	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)
Histological Detection and Identification of Bivalve Mollusc Pathogens	Standards Council of Canada (SCC)

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.
Interlaboratory proficiency test by European Union reference laboratory for Fish and Crustacean Diseases	participant	3	OIE reference laboratory for VHS in Korea and Canada/OIE reference laboratory for VHS in Denmark

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
Checking or certifying the performance of individual operators	2	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input type="checkbox"/> Europe <input type="checkbox"/> Middle East
Assess competency for diagnosis of fish disease including VHS	45	<input type="checkbox"/> Africa <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Americas <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Asia and Pacific <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Europe <input checked="" 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)
responding to specific technical queries from OIE	remote	VHSV Chapter in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals
responding to specific technical queries from OIE	remote	Chapter 2.3.0 "General Intro" in the Manual of Diagnostic Tests for Aquatic Animals

25. Additional comments regarding your report: