Standardization process of methods for *Trichinella* infections

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ISO, International Organization for Standardization, the network of the national standards institutes of 157 countries, and CEN, European Committee for Standardization, on the basis of the Vienna agreement, published in June 1991, collaborate in order to

- increase transparency of work ongoing in CEN to ISO members, and their possibility to influence the content of CEN standards;
- avoid duplication of work and structures, thus allowing expertise to be focused and used in an efficient way to the benefit of international standardization;
- increase the speed of elaboration, availability and maintenance of standards through a need to establish consensus only once.
CEN and ISO Technical Committees

- Most of standards and other approved documents have been drawn up in Technical Committees.
- Usually standards in support of legislation or which require a high level of participation and consensus will continue to be drawn up in the same way.
Standardization bodies

- ISO Technical Committee 34 Food products
  - SC9 Microbiology

- CEN Technical Committee 275 Food analysis – horizontal methods
  - WG6 Microbial contamination

- TAG 2: Validation of alternative methods
- TAG 3: General requirements relating to Molecular methods for detection and quantification of microorganisms
- TAG 4: Horizontal method for detection of hepatitis A virus and norovirus in food using real-time RT-PCR – Part 1: Method for quantitative determination
- TAG 5: Primary Production Stage
- TAG 6: Sampling techniques
Joint annual meetings of
ISO/TC34/SC9 and CEN/TC275/WG6

26th meeting of ISO/TC34/SC9 and of the 14th meeting of CEN/TC275/WG6 23 – 28 April 2007, Cairo, Egypt

27th meeting of ISO/TC34/SC9 and of the 15th meeting of CEN/TC275/WG6 5 – 9 May 2008, Helsinki, Finland

28th meeting of ISO/TC34/SC9 and of the 16th meeting of CEN/TC275/WG6 4 – 8 May 2009, Valencia, Spain
April 2007, Cairo, Egypt RESOLUTION 149 - Creation of a new TAG – Parasites

WG 6 members agreed to launch work on this topic and would like to create a new TAG (CEN/TC 275 has to approve this resolution).

WG 6 members recommended to CEN/TC 275 to write, in conjunction with the CRL, to EC recommending that methods were not described in the legislation.

WG 6 members requested that the work on Trichinella was given priority.

May 2008, Helsinki, Finland RESOLUTION 172 - TAG7 "Parasites"

WG6 members wished DG SANCO to send to the Secretariat a formal agreement letter to standardize both the artificial digestion method for the detection of Trichinella in muscles and serological methods for detection of antibodies to Trichinella.

If WG6 Secretariat has this formal agreement, the Secretariat is asked to launch a call for experts for this new TAG.
Resolution proposed by CRLP to be adopted by WG6 at the Valencia, Spain, meeting, 4–8 May 2009

CRLP asked WG 6 to launch the call for experts for the TAG 7 in order to start the standardization process concerning the methods for the detection of Trichinella in food.

- The magnetic stirred method for pooled-sample digestion for the detection of Trichinella in meat.
- The indirect ELISA test for the detection of anti-Trichinella antibodies in swine serum.

CRLP is available to chair the group.

CRLP asked WG6 members to support the development of reference materials.

CRLP requested the possibility to perform an ad hoc study to determine the quantitative parameters of the artificial digestion method for the detection of Trichinella in meat, once the standardization process will be completed.
WG6 members would like DG SANCO to send to the secretariat a formal agreement letter to standardize both the artificial digestion method for the detection of *Trichinella* in muscles and serological methods for detection of antibodies to *Trichinella*.

If secretariat has this formal agreement, the secretariat is asked to launch a call for experts for this TAG.

WG6 members asked the secretariat to contact the Joint Research Center for reference material.
THE NEXT STEPS TO BE CARRIED OUT TOWARDS THE STANDARDIZATION OF METHODS

Call for experts

Experts in the specific field will be invited to join the TAG 7 for the development of the standards

Development of a standard reference pig serum positive for anti-*Trichinella* IgG antibodies for the calibration of serological tests

The CRLP is looking for a collaboration with experts in the field of development of reference materials at EU level (Institute for Reference Materials and Measurements, IRMM) to start the standardization process