



EU Reference Laboratory for *E. coli*
Department of Veterinary Public Health and Food Safety
Unit of Foodborne Zoonoses
Istituto Superiore di Sanità



**9th Annual Workshop of the
National Reference Laboratories for *E. coli*
in the EU
20-21 October, 2014**

Aula “Rossi”

Istituto Superiore di Sanità

Viale Regina Elena, 299 – 00161 Rome, Italy



Funded by the European Commission – DG SANCO

Monday 20 October

14.30 Registration

14.45 Welcome, Introduction, and Housekeeping **Alfredo Caprioli, Susan Babsa**

15.00 Session 1. Update of surveillance and monitoring activities on VTEC in the EU, and the development of a database on molecular typing of foodborne pathogens

Update on the annual reporting of VTEC in the EU and on EFSA activities for molecular typing data collection for food and animal isolates **Valentina Rizzi**

Update of the ECDC-FWD surveillance for VTEC, including molecular typing **Ivo Van Walle**

VTEC Network preparedness for molecular typing data collection: Training activities and External Quality Assessment on PFGE typing **EU-RL VTEC**

16.15 Coffee break

16.30 Session 2. Next Generation Sequencing (NGS): International initiatives and application in surveillance and outbreak investigations

NGS and molecular epidemiology: international initiatives **EU-RL VTEC**

Whole Genome Sequencing applications to VTEC surveillance and outbreak investigations **Flemming Scheutz**

Molecular epidemiology of VTEC O26 **Valeria Michelacci
(EU-RL VTEC)**

17.30 Invited talk

Testing for VTEC in fresh produce in the U.S. Complexities in making health risk decisions **Peter Feng**

Discussion

18.30 Closure of the first day

Tuesday 21 October

09.00 Session 3. Laboratory methods and proficiency testing (PT)

Validation of ISO 16654 and ISO/TS 13136 in sprouts **Stefano Morabito**

Results of the 5th ECDC-FWD network EQA PT on the identification and typing of VTEC **Flemming Scheutz**

Results of the 12th inter-laboratory study (PT12) on the detection of pathogenic *E. coli* in sprouts **EU-RL VTEC**

Results of the 13th inter-laboratory study (PT13) on the identification and typing of VTEC and other pathogenic *E. coli* **EU-RL VTEC**

10.15 Coffee break

10.30 Session 4. Presentations from the NRLs and other participants

Ongoing studies on VTEC in Sweden **Anna Aspan
(NRL Sweden)**

Four years of VTEC O157 enhanced surveillance data in England **Claire Jenkins
(NRL UK)**

E. coli outbreak in Russia, 2013 **Nikolay N. Kartsev
(Russia)**

Comparison of *E. coli* O145 isolates from animal, food and humans with special attention to the O145 real-time PCR **Camilla Sekse
(NRL Norway)**

11.45 Management of the risk posed by VTEC in food

The draft guidelines on the application of article 14 of Regulation (EC) 178/2002 as regards food where VTEC has been detected **Martial Plantady**

12.20 Detection of VTEC in food: the problem of low isolation rates from PCR screening positive samples

Experiences from EU NRLs and the US: Open discussion and proposals for improvement

13.15 Lunch

14.15 Invited talk

Enterοaggregative *E. coli* and other unusual VTEC: a world in motion **Stefano Morabito**

15.00 Network activities, general discussion, and closing remarks

16.00 Closure

Invited Speakers

Peter C. H. Feng

Food and Drug Administration (FDA)
Division of Microbiology
College Park, Maryland, USA

Stefano Morabito

EU-RL VTEC
Rome, Italy

Martial Plantady

European Commission
DG SANCO
Unit G4: food, alert system and training
Brussels, Belgium

Valentina Rizzi

European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)
Unit on Biological Hazards and Contaminants
Risk Assessment and Scientific Assistance
Parma, Italy

Flemming Scheutz

The International Escherichia and Klebsiella Centre (WHO)
Statens Seruminstitut
Copenhagen, Denmark

Ivo Van Walle

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)
FWD Molecular Surveillance
Stockholm, Sweden