

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

1<sup>st</sup> WG meeting on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales  
(CPEs) in the food chain

01 July 2024

09:00-17:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 12 July 2024



**Location:** Web-conference

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello, Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen, Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme (partially)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Cai Chen, Shu-Le Li
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Gunilla Eklund
- ECDC:  
Dominique Monnet, Marius Linkevicius
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado, Raquel García Fierro, Martin Goudjihounde, Pietro Stella (partially), Anca Stoicescu (partially)
- Others:  
Not Applicable

## I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

## II. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

## III. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence<sup>2</sup> and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management<sup>3</sup>, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting. No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in this meeting have been identified during the screening process. Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

## IV. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

- a. **Draft Scientific opinion(s) on the current status of the occurrence and spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in the food chain in the EU/EFTA ([EFSA-Q-2024-00149](#))**

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 17 of the Decision of the Executive Director concerning the selection of members of the Scientific Committee, the Scientific Panels, and the selection of external experts to assist EFSA with its scientific work: <http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/keydocs/docs/expertselection.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/policy\\_independence.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> [http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate\\_publications/files/competing\\_interest\\_management\\_17.pdf](http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf)



EFSA provided an introductory presentation on: a) the remit and governance of EFSA and the way the scientific advice is produced; b) administrative and logistical matters, the use of Microsoft Teams as the platform for communications and repository of data and documents during the lifespan of the mandate; c) uncertainty and protocol development guidance documents to be followed and d) the work plan, meetings planned and technical and scientific support provided by EFSA. EFSA staff and the chair of the WG presented the background and Terms of Reference (ToR) of the BIOHAZ Panel self-task Mandate to the WG and clarifications of the ToRs were done.

The current scientific opinion, Part 1, with deadline March 2025, will cover the state of the art of CPEs in the food chain, addressing ToR1 and the review of the new scientific literature mentioned in ToR3. The first steps for protocol development: the problem formulation (step 1) and the planning of the methods to conduct the assessment (step 2) were initiated using a brainstorming session. Information will be gathered by means of a review of the literature and data available since the previous EFSA 2013 opinion on the topic<sup>4</sup>, and surveys targeting the MS/EFTA countries participating in the AMR Monitoring.

Leaders and contributors to the different parts of the risk assessment were assigned and tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts. A timeline for BIOHAZ Panel Plenaries and WG meetings in 2024 was presented.

## **V. Any Other Business**

No applicable.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held online on 27 August 2024.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/efsajournal/pub/3501>