

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 5th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 21 May 2021

(Agreed on 27 May 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Fabien Schneegans, Jean-Baptiste Perrin (Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety
G4 – Food Hygiene)
- EFSA:
BIOCONTAM Unit: Angel Ortiz Pelaez, Pietro Stella
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

¹ 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>.



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 8 March 2021

The minutes of the 4th Working Group meeting held on 23 April 2021 were agreed by written procedure on 28 April 2021⁴.

5. Scientific topic for discussion

5.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁵

After the review of actions agreed in the previous meeting, the chair led the discussion of the final results of the simulation model and how to present them in the report. Then, the conclusions and answers to the ToRs were agreed. A review of the pending comments in the draft report were addressed. A work plan including tasks and deadlines was agreed.

6. Any Other Business

The Chair, after thanking the participants for the contribution of the production of the scientific report and the participation in the meetings, closed the meeting.

7. Next meeting

This was the last meeting scheduled.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wgs/biological-hazards/wg-atypical-scrapie-surveillance-efsa-q-2020-00662.pdf>

⁵ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00662>

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 4th MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 23 April 2021

(Agreed on 28 April 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
BIOCONTAM Unit: Angel Ortiz Pelaez, Pietro Stella
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

¹ 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>.



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 8 March 2021

The minutes of the 3rd Working Group meeting held on 8 March 2021 were agreed by written procedure on 11 March 2021.

5. Scientific topic for discussion

5.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁴

After the review of actions agreed in the previous meeting, the chair led the discussion and approval of the protocol as well as the presentation and discussion of the final results to answer ToR1. The preliminary conclusions drafted between meetings for ToR2 were reviewed. The tables of the uncertainty analysis were reviewed and agreed. The draft of the conclusions and answers to the ToRs were reviewed and amended. There was not time to review the other sections of the draft report. A work plan including tasks and deadlines was agreed.

6. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

7. Next meeting

This was the last meeting scheduled. Since the conclusions were not drafted in their final wording, the chair proposed to have an extra meeting on the date agreed by the WG following the availability expressed in the circulated doodle poll. The extra meeting will take place as a half-day web meeting on Friday 21 May 2021 10:00-14:00h CET.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <https://open.efsa.europa.eu/questions/EFSA-Q-2020-00662>

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 3rd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 8 March 2021

(Agreed on 11 March 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
BIOCONTAM Unit: Katrin Bote, Angel Ortiz Pelaez, Pietro Stella
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

¹ 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>.



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 28 January 2021

The minutes of the 2nd Working Group meeting held on 28 January 2021 were agreed by written procedure on 4 February 2021⁴.

5. Scientific topic for discussion

5.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁵

After the review of actions agreed in the previous meeting, the chair led the discussion and approval of the protocol as well as the presentation and discussion of the preliminary results to answer ToR1. The methodology for ToR2 had been agreed in the previous meeting but not how to implement it. The way ahead was agreed, as well as the uncertainty analysis. There was not time to review the draft report. A work plan including tasks and deadlines was agreed.

6. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

7. Next meeting

The 4th meeting will take place on Friday 23 April 2021 10:00-14:00h. The chair asked the WG to consider available dates for an extra meeting in May, should it be considered necessary and decided during the next meeting.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-atypical-scrapie-surveillance-efsa-q-2020-00662.pdf>

⁵ Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January 2021 until 30 March 2021. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available [here](#)

SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 2nd MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 28 January 2021

(Agreed on 4 February 2021)

Participants

- Working Group Members:
Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz
- Hearing Experts¹:
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:
Not Applicable
- EFSA:
BIOCONTAM Unit: Katrin Bote, Angel Ortiz Pelaez, Pietro Stella
- Others:
Not Applicable

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. No apologies were received.

¹ 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>.



2. Adoption of agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

In accordance with EFSA's Policy on Independence² and the Decision of the Executive Director on Competing Interest Management³, EFSA screened the Annual Declarations of Interest filled out by the Working Group members invited to the present meeting.

Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Agreement of the minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 11 December 2020

The minutes of the 1st Working Group meeting held on 11 December 2020 were agreed by written procedure on 17 December 2020⁴.

5. Scientific topic for discussion

5.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁵

After the review actions agreed in the previous meeting, the chair led the discussion on the state of play of the data available and the implementation of the analytical strategy. The protocol was initiated following the decisions made on the approaches and assessments questions were drafted. The uncertainty analysis was also addressed for the first time. The draft opinion was reviewed and a work plan including tasks and deadlines was agreed.

6. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

7. Next meeting

It was agreed to have the 3rd meeting on Friday 5 March 2021 10:00-14:00h, and the 4th meeting on Friday 23 April 2021 10:00-14:00h.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <https://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/wqs/biological-hazards/wq-atypical-scrapie-surveillance-efsa-q-2020-00662.pdf>

⁵ Please be aware that EFSA's Register of Questions is unavailable from 21 January 2021 until mid-February. The temporary suspension of the tool is necessary to allow us to implement the launch of our new OpenEFSA portal. We apologise for the inconvenience. Further information is available [here](#)



SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS BIOCONTAM UNIT

MINUTES OF THE 1st MEETING OF THE WORKING GROUP ON “the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie”

WEB-conference meeting, 11 December 2020

(Agreed on 17 December 2020)

Participants

■ Working Group Members:

Pietro Stella (Chair)
Mark Arnold
Angel Ortiz Pelaez
Giuseppe Ru
Marion Simmons
Alberto Vidal Diaz

■ Hearing Experts¹:

Not Applicable

■ European Commission and/or Member States representatives:

Fabien Schneegans (DG-SANTE G-4)

■ EFSA:

BIOCONTAM Unit: Katrin Bote, Angel Ortiz Pelaez.

TRANSFORMATION SERVICES (TS): Francesca Generali, Marco Conterbia, both for point 6 of the agenda

■ Others:

Not Applicable

¹ 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:
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1. Welcome and apologies for absence

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2. Adoption of agenda

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3. Declarations of Interest of Working Groups members

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Oral Declaration(s) of Interest were asked at the beginning of the meeting and no additional interest was declared.

4. Scientific topic for discussion

4.1. Scientific Opinion on the request for scientific and technical assistance to examine the data collected by the Member States in the framework of the 2-years compulsory intensified surveillance in case of atypical scrapie⁴

After introductory presentations, the chair led the discussion of the background of the mandate and the term of reference. The representative of the EC added information on the background of the mandate. A brainstorming session about the approaches and methodology to address the ToR and the review of the data provided by the EC followed. Descriptive and analytical methods will be applied after assessing the data needs and availability. A number of actions were agreed to start the population of the draft opinion and to explore the analyses of the data.

5. Any Other Business

The Chair thanked the participants and closed the meeting.

6. Next meeting

It was agreed to have the 2nd meeting provisionally as a full-day web meeting on Thursday 28 January 2021. The format will be reviewed once the first batch of task is delivered mid-January. The date of the 3rd meeting will be fixed during the second meeting.

² http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/policy_independence.pdf

³ http://www.efsa.europa.eu/sites/default/files/corporate_publications/files/competing_interest_management_17.pdf

⁴ <http://registerofquestions.efsa.europa.eu/roqFrontend/questionLoader?question=EFSA-Q-2020-00662>