



VETBIONET

Veterinary Biocontained facility Network for excellence in animal infectiology research and experimentation

Deliverable D1.3

List of samples available from collections and procedure for the generation of samples on-demand published on the website

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Organisation name of lead contractor: APHA

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Dissemination level			
Public	Х		
Confidential, only for members of the consortium (including Commission Services)			
Classified, as referred to in Commission Decision 2001/844/EC			





Table of contents

1.	Summary	3
2.	Introduction	3
3.	Results	4
4.	Conclusions	4
5	Annexes	5





1. Summary

Deliverable 1.3 "List of samples available from collections and procedure for the generation of samples on-demand published on the website" has been completed. As well as access to materials through VetBioNet, the website also has links to other projects, including EU funded, which offer services in the same research area.

It is expected that materials available through the VetBioNet website will increase during the project' lifetime as the project has more material being generated and/or appropriately characterised and validated by partners.

Objective:

The objective of this task is the supply of material from sample collections held by VetBioNet partner institutes. These collections include viruses, bacteria and prions as well as animal study derived products (sera, tissue etc.). This service is primarily for high containment viruses, bacteria and prions associated with farmed animal diseases. It will be made available through the VetBioNet website and the requests for this type of material will be coordinated by the Transnational access point (TNAAP, Wageningen University). The website and TNAAP will also have information about other collections that can be accessed, including EU projects such as EVAg.

Using databases with information on the collections of partner institutes, the TNAAP will match requests with material from VetBioNet partners or from other projects when possible.

If the material is unavailable through any VetBioNet partners' or other projects' collections, production of "on-demand" samples will be considered through the mechanism of a TNA request. This TNA will then need to be approved by the VetBioNet TNAAP including the selection by the user selection panel (USP) and VetBioNet ExCom. This process checks the proposal eligibility and ensures that, if a project is funded, ethical standards are met and the material generated will be of sufficient scientific merit.

Rationale:

The VetBioNet infrastructure project is a comprehensive network of pre-eminent high-containment (BSL3) research facilities, academic institutes, international organisations and industry partners that is dedicated to advance research on epizootic and zoonotic diseases in farmed animals. Key materials generated by their work should be available to other research institutes for scientific research, education and disease control through veterinary and human health programmes.

Teams involved:

The setup of the website was primarily done by EAAP with input on this deliverable from APHA and CVI.

The other institutes involved in provision of access to collections are INRA, FLI, TPI, MRI, INIA and ANSES

2. Introduction

The VetBioNet infrastructure project is to integrate a comprehensive network of pre-eminent high-containment (BSL3) farmed animal facilities in Europe. Research on high containment pathogens of farmed animals requires a significant investment in physical infrastructures, staff





training and competence and legislative compliance. This is a significant economic barrier for achieving the associated benefits research should bring to animal and human health.

The ability to supply key material derived from animal experiments undertaken by partner institutes will improve the competitiveness of European research and health (animal and human) in this area. This task is to provide access to key materials from the partner institutes sample collections to meet this need.

3. Results

The access to sample collections and on demand sample generation, with associated procedures, has been created and placed on the VetBioNet website.

This includes information about other EU funded projects who offer similar services, such as European Virus Archive (global) EVAg. The project EVAg aims at the characterisation, conservation, production and distribution of biological materials in the field of virology. Although this primarily focused on human viruses, some of the VetBioNet partners (APHA, TPI and FLI) are members of this project and supply animal derived viruses. Procedures are in place in VetBioNet to prevent the inefficiencies of duplication of supply (also an ethical concern if animals are used) or as some VetBioNet partners are also partners in other EU projects, double funding of the same supply of material.

Screenshot of the relevant part of the website and application form are given in Annexes 1 and 2.

It is expected that materials available through the VetBioNet website will increase during the lifetime as the project as more material being generated and/or appropriately characterised and validated by partners.

A list of all material and samples available from partners' institutes at the beginning of the project was generated (Spreadsheets available in Annex 3). This list contains information on the material available, pathogens (including aquatic), diagnostic reagents and monoclonal antibodies, the partner in charge of the material and the contact. General information about the type of materials available is on the website, but the list will not be; it will be used by the TNAAP for routing requests.

If something is requested and not listed, the partners will be contacted by the TNAAP to see if they have material that could be suitable. If there is nothing available through this route, the VetBioNet TNAAP will invite the applicant to produce samples through Transnational Access (TNA) requests. It should be noted this will be done through the normal approval process for TNA.

4. Conclusions

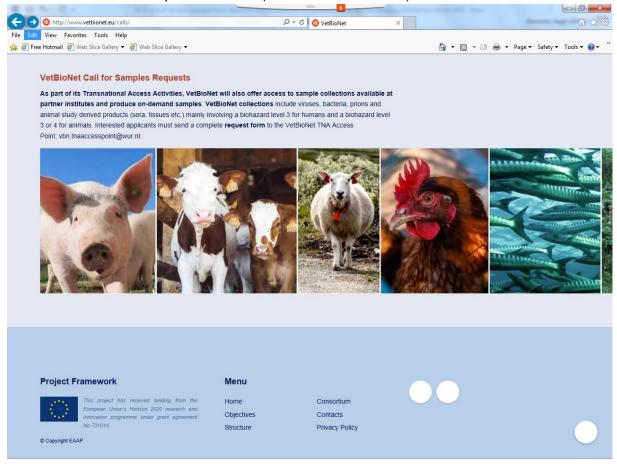
The ability to supply key materials derived from experiments undertaken on farmed animals in the VetBioNet high containments facilities will improve the competitiveness of European research in this area by overcoming the financial barriers involved in this work and will establish and maintain the leadership of Europe and VetBioNet in this field.





5. Annexes

Annex 1: Access to sample collections (on VetBioNet website)



Annex 2: The form for access to sample collections is available via the following link: http://www.vetbionet.eu/calls/samples-requests/





Annex 3: Initial Pathogens and related materials available

