



THE EUROPEAN DIRECTORATE FOR THE QUALITY OF MEDICINES & HEALTHCARE (EDQM)















Setting the Scene: Ph.Eur. changes in management of extraneous agents in IVMPsrisks, challenges, why and how......

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Drivers for Change

- Regulatory acknowledgement & capitalisation of new science/ technology and modern molecular methods
- Noting the changes in the wider regulatory landscape....Continuous Improvement and regulatory harmonisation
- Consistency Approach to manufacturing quality control: moving quality control upstream and removing reliance on batch testing: building quality into the process rather than at the end
- Need for a flexible dynamic framework and tools for industry and regulators to respond quickly to emerging infectious agents......
- Reduction, refinement and replacement of in vivo tests -3Rs agenda

Limitations of the established approach to handling extraneous agents

- ▶ No harmonized approach, requirements scattered over several texts
- Focus on laboratory testing only
- Consequences of good manufacturing not taken in account
- Testing requirements different from species to species
- Newer methodology such as molecular methods neglected

PRESCRIPTIVE

LIMITATIONS = RISKS

- Some existing methods are known to be insufficiently sensitive or of variable detection: e.g. general test: it is known that detection may in fact vary depending on the strain of virus and cell line used to perform the test
- Methodology not generally reflective of modern methods and no longer fit for purpose to underpin a risk management approach e.g. limited validation requirements Internal validation: how to compare test results from different sources
- Existing methods may not be suitable for state of the art productslimit market availability
- Tick box approach not flexible and does not allow mechanism for dealing with new infectious agents......limit market availability

EMERGING INFECTIOUS AGENTS

- Lists of agents represent known occurring disease agents across regions
- Infectious Disease is dynamic e.g. bluetongue/avian flu outbreaks 2000s ---agents largely already known
- New diseases and agents: Schmallenberg, RD 114, Torque Teno virus, BSE prion

Generic lists cannot cover all possibilities and there must be a dynamic mechanism and tools available for industry and regulators to respond to emerging infectious agents......... Risk management and risk assessment..... flexibility

What is risk management?

A step wise process to identify, evaluate and assess the risk allowing it to be controlled and mitigated against resulting in elimination or reduction of the risk to a negligible or acceptable level.

- Identify: biologicals starting materials and biological materials used during the process
- Mitigate and control: Sourcing and treatment/ process mitigations
- Assess and evaluate risk: May lead to removal of tests for risk agents in end product if absent or negligible

New Ph.Eur. Texts

NEW CHAPTERS 5.2.5 and 2.6.37 provide

- a framework and step wise approach to allow risks to be managed
- general principles and examples of parameters to be taken into account to use fit-for-purpose methods and widens use of state of the art methods
- > a comprehensive list of agents to be considered
- a decision tree to enable identification of mitigations and control steps during sourcing and manufacture of vaccines

How to implement change: rationale of Ph.Eur. revisions

- Build on existing chapters with risk management approach especially chapter 5.2.5 which covers impact of manufacturing process on risk management.
- New Chapter 5.2.5 introduces new methods and allows a mix and match approach and individual product risk evaluation and justification to authorities rather than tick box approach
- New chapter 2.6.37 keeps existing methods although in less detail (can be used in liaison with CVMP reflection paper re historic data plus CVMP/IWP

Q+A document)

- Deletion of unnecessary tests such as final product extraneous agents testing in specific inactivated vaccines
- Consistency of manufacture and risk assessment approach introduces the potential for an overall reduction of testing

Challenges of change

- Would revalidation of existing methods be required? Would this lead to termination of older master seeds/ old products?
- Would introduction of new methods mean existing master seeds terminated due to cost, lack of MS for testing, discovery of extraneous agents
- Would introduction of new approach cause misinterpretation leading to delay/prevent development of new products and re testing of old products?
- Molecular techniques...No indication of current infectivity of agent, expensive, only detect one virus (newer methods can overcome this with bioinformatics), Primer specificity: how to standardise/validate methods; what do the results mean?

Coordinated Ph. Eur./EU approach allows all information to sit in one place and updating of species extraneous agents lists

Ph.Eur. 15V has worked with IWP to develop training for assessors and Q+A documents for industry and developers



Risk Management Approach

- > Exploits and builds on consistency of manufacture approach
- May lead to removal of end product tests for specific products
- May reduce in -process testing upstream
- Provides a mechanism to handle new extraneous agents which may not have a practical risk of infection e.g. torque tenovirus
- Provides mechanism to deal with results from increased sensitivity of tests
- Reflects May 2017 revision to EMA/CVMP/IWP/206555/2010

OPPORTUNITIES

- New approach based on risk assessment allows reduction in testing during manufacture and deletion of unnecessary tests for EAs on final product
- Comprehensive requirements for EA testing are centralised, Ph. Eur. texts now cover all species, this brings more clarity (no duplication, no discrepancies)
- Flexibility to choose methods for specific EA testing fit-for-purpose sensitive techniques reflecting progress in science
- Methods no longer described in detail, building in flexibility of approach and allowing tailoring to individual product needs
- Use of state-of-the-art methods results in reduction of *in vivo* testing (decreased reliance on less robust methods)
- Coordinated Ph. Eur./EU approach, important also in a global context
- Reduction in costs per batch

And Finally.....

- It is not all new: mix and match risk assessment approach has been used for EMA; DCP products have used "old " data sets without the advantage of the consistency approach
- There will be challenges because of emerging new technology irrespective of legislative change It may be better to have an up to date framework
- Industry and regulators must work together to provide robustly safe and efficacious IVMPs using fit for purpose methodology which reflects modern science in a cost effective manner















GENERAL PRINCIPLES

According to the principles of risk management, [...] the list of extraneous agents to be TESTED in the final product is LIMITED to those that cannot be excluded by other means.

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ANNEX I: LIST OF EXTRANEOUS AGENTS TO) BE CONSIDERED FOR THE RISK ASSESSMENT
AVIAN (Poultry) - main list	
Aviadenoviruses	Salmonella pullorum
Avian encephalomyelitis virus	Avibacterium (Haemophilus) paragallinarum
Avian leucosis virus (excluding endogenous type)	Mycob acterium avium
Avian nephritis virus (ANV)	Chlamydia spp.
Avian orthoreoviruses	
Avian paramyxovirus type I	
Avian poxvirus	
Avian reticuloendotheliosis virus	
Avian rotavirus	
Avian metapneumovirus Atadenovirus (group III avian adenoviruses)	
Infectious bursal disease virus type I and II	
Marek's disease virus and meleagrid herpesvirus type 1 (HVT)	
Type A influenza virus	

Ann	nex l	
AVIAN (additiona	l list for Chicken)	
Viral agents	Bacterial agents	
Avian infectious bronchitis virus		
Chicken anemia virus (CAV)		
Gallid herpesvirus type I		
AVIAN (addition	nal list for Duck)	
Viral agents	Bacterial agents	
Duck hepatitis B virus (DHBV)		
Duck and goose parvoviruses		
Duck enteritis virus		
Duck hepatitis virus type 1		
AVIAN (addition	al list for Goose)	
Viral agents	Bacterial agents	
Duck and goose parvoviruses		
Duck enteritis virus		
Goose haemorrhagic polyomavirus (GHPV)		
AVIAN (addition	al list for Turkey)	
Viral agents	Bacterial agents	
Avian paramyxoviruses serotype 3 (APMV-3)		
Siadenovirus (group II avian adenovirus)		
Turkey coronavirus		
Turkey viral hepatitis virus		
Turkey lymphoprofilferative disease virus		-
AVIAN (addition	al list for Pigeon)	👝 anses 🖓
Viral agents	Bacterial agents	
Columbid herpesvirus 1		



























METHODS OF DETECTION - GENERAL PREREQUISITES

Molecular methods [...] may be used either as an alternative to *in vivo* tests or as a supplement/ alternative to *in vitro* culture tests based on the risk assessment.

The results of molecular methods require appropriate interpretation and further investigation may be necessary. For example, if a positive signal from NAT detection methods is obtained, other *in vitro* methods are used to verify and document the absence of viability of possible contaminants.

In the case of divergent results produced by several different methods, a risk assessment must be performed. [...]

 METHODS OF DETECTION - SPECIFIC INFORMATION

 Sterility : → chapter 2.6.1.

 For bacteria and fungi that are not detectable by the sterility test other suitable methods are used, e.g.

 NAT (2.6.21).

 Mycoplasmas: → chapter 2.6.7.

 Extraneous viruses:

 → molecular techniques, e.g. NAT (2.6.21),

 → or 2.6.37. Principles for the detection of extraneous viruses in immunological veterinary medicinal products using culture methods.

CONCLUSION
A CHAPER DEDICATED TO
GLOBAL APPROACH FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EA
AGENTS TO BE CONSIDERED
RISK MANAGEMENT APPROACH
RISK CONTROL MEASURES – Materials / production system
INFORMATION FOR TESTING
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AGENCIA	ESPAÑOLA DE MEDICAMENTOS Y PR	UCTOS SANITARIOS	
	(1) Viru	A (MSV):	
	Information prov	led by the applicant	
 Viru Lon MS\ 	s isolated more than 50 ye g history of cell passages /-A produced in the last 5 y Tests performed (validated ▶Identity ▶ Sterility	s ago in the US esulting in MSV – A ars on the MSV -A: Absence of Mycoplasma	
	For ▶ Extraneous agents,	e applicant takes into account the li	st
for '	"bovine" from Guideline on of immunolo	quirements for the production and control al veterinary medicinal products	
		OVINE	
	<u>Viral agents</u>	<u>Bacterial agents</u>	
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(1) Virus A (MSV): Information provided by the applicant			
Extraneous agents listed in Annex 2 EMA (CVMP/IWP/206555/2010)	Not tested	Freedom from EAs shown by testing	
Akabane virus	x ¹		
Alcelaphine herpesvirus	x ²		
Bluetongue virus		х	
Borna disease virus		х	
Bovine adenovirus		х	
Bovine coronavirus		х	
Bovine enterovirus		Х	
Bovine ephemeral fever virus	x ³		
Bovine herpesvirus (BoHV-1)		Х	
Bovine papilloma virus	X ⁴		



























New approach for extraneous agents testing **Concrete examples**

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Overview of the presentation	Example 1	Risk Management Vaccine component B produced from eggs from healthy chicken flocks
	Example 2	Risk assessment Test for Avian reticuloendotheliosis
		virus – sensitivity issue
	Example 3	Risk assessment Schmallenberg virus in WCB









Agents considered for RA		
Agent	Vertical	Consideration for further RA
	transmission	(potential contaminants)
Avian adenoviruses, group 1	Yes	YES
Avian encephalomyelitis Virus	Yes	YES
Avian Infectious bronchitis Virus	No	No vertical transmission
Avian infectious laryngotracheitis virus	No	No vertical transmission , negative serology
Avian leucosis viruses	Yes	YES
Avian nephritis virus	No	No vertical transmission
Avian orthoreoviruses	Yes	YES
Avian reticuloendotheliosis virus	Yes	YES
Chicken anaemia virus	Yes	YES
Egg drop syndrome virus	Yes	YES
Infectious bursal disease virus	No	No vertical transmission
Influenza A virus	No	No vertical transmission , negative serology
Marek´s disease virus	No	No vertical transmission
Newcastle disease virus	No	No vertical transmission
Turkey rhinotracheitis virus	No	No vertical transmission, negative serology
Fowl pox virus	No	No vertical transmission
Mycoplasma gallisepticum	Yes	NO, absence required by 5.2.13
Mycoplasma synoviae	Yes	NO, absence required by 5.2.13
Salmonella pullorum	Yes	NO, absence required by 5.2.13





Risk management – new approach

Ph.Eur. 5.2.5.:

...the list of extraneous agents to be tested in the final product is limited to those that cannot be excluded by other means..

The evidence for the efficacy of the procedure may take the form of references to published literature and/or experimental data generated by the manufacturer, but must be relevant to the conditions that will be present during the production and inactivation/processing of the material.

....the other materials used in the production process are free from extraneous agents (based on risk assessment, testing or treatment); amongst these materials, the quality of the substrates can be considered according to a decision tree of the type proposed in Annex II to possibly alleviate testing of extraneous agents in final products.









RT-PCR for **REV**

- Validation report provided by the applicant
- Validation parameters: LOD, accuracy and precision, specificity, robustness (VICH 1 and 2)
- Results:

Sensitivity of the NAT method

LOD 10³ CCID₅₀ (ALV: 10 CCID₅₀; CAV:10 CCID₅₀) considered high in comparison to ALV, CAV

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New approach Requirements for "Fit for purpose" method		
Result of RA : EA (REV) cannot be exclu	ded – need for testing \longrightarrow RT PCR for REV	
Requirements for the method Reference to Ph.Eur. chapter		
Adequate sensitivity		
Adequate specificity		
Quality control samples - positive and negative run controls	Ph.Eur.5.2.5., 4-3-1	
Alternative in vitro method preferred		
Positive signal – confirmation of absence of viability	Ph.Eur.5.2.5., 4-3-1 Other in vitro methods available, e.g. cell culture method → Ph.Eur. 2.6.37 (in connection with requirements stated in Ph.Eur. 5.2.5.)	
Further requirements for molecular methods	Ph.Eur.5.2.5., 4-3-2 with reference to Ph.Eur. 2.6.21 (NATs)	







Risk assessment for Schmallenberg virus

Applicant justification for not testing (2):

- Internal data supporting of in vitro growth of SBV on VERO
- MSV origin wild strain successfully passaged in VERO cells
- Serum geographical origin excludes contamination by SBV at the time of establishment of WCB batch
- Irradiation validation report provided "Bunyaviridae" not included

Bibliographic data available for similar ssRNA enveloped Akabane virus – NO risk of contamination (reduction of at least 14 log)











Agenda

Introduction Consequences of the Ph. Eur. changes General recommendations Specific recommendations







Consequences of the Ph. Eur. changes

Decreased predictability

Removal of all EA technical requirements (Ph. Eur. 5.2.4, 0062, 2.6.24, 2.6.25) - Previously accepted as validated (rare questions)

The risk assessment may be perceived differently by different assessors

List of EA is open, and subject to change over time

Explicit preference for NAT - Despite presumed high sensitivity, also limitations (such as, detection of non-living agents)

Extent of expected validation (primer coverage, positive controls...)?

More focus on non-seed materials (rare questions till now)



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Consequences of the Ph. Eur. changes

New seeds

Very likely, a maximum of precautions :

- -Test for EAs, even where risk assessment concludes on negligible risk
- -Probably extensive use of NAT (where available)

-Consider all international requirements, where seeds intended to be used globally

New approach possibly linked with more testing than previously

Particular case of avian seeds

-New seeds expected to heavily rely on Ph. Eur. 2.6.24







Consequences of the Ph. Eur. changes

Virus seed positive by NAT for one EA

If replicative assay exists (BVD, for example) - Potential way forward

If replicative assay does not exist, how to handle?

...Possible to use the seed if the EA is not on the EA list?

...Possible to use the seed if the EA is from non-target animal species, and no related disease reported in the target species ?

...Possible to use the seed if no EA detection (by NAT) at a next production step (or final product) ?

...Other suggestions?

Risk: different interpretation by non-EU countries. A decision tree is needed



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Specific recommendations

In the spirit of risk assessment, ...

Continue to allow cell- and egg-based assays, and do not request "highest sensitivity"

Expect and allow reduced testing for WS versus MS (also for cell seeds)

Recognize the use of historic safe use in the field

Develop official guidelines on accepted treatment (pH, T° ,...) for the exclusion/inactivation of the listed EA for the most commonly used materials of animal origin (bovine/foetal sera, peptones, trypsin). This could be done in a similar fashion like the EMA reflection paper.

Accept as "supportive" (no question) any testing done to satisfy non-EU regions (and concluded as testing not required from risk assessment)



Risk analysis for extraneous agents – example of methodology on poultry live viral vaccine

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Extraneous agent test for live poultry vaccines produced in SPF eggs or primary cells from SPF eggs -now

a) General virus tests:

• 3 tests on SPF eggs

• Test on CEF

b) Specific virus tests:

Chicken anemia virus

Marek's disease virus

Egg drop syndrome

Turkey rhinotracheitis virus





Step 1. Virus seed

MSV	
Origin Date of isolation	Viruses from list in Annex I not present in geographical region in the time of isolation
Passage history	SPF eggs or cells free from extraneous agents from list in Annex I
Documented production process	Same approach as batch of vaccine at the time point of production
In case of doubt - test on the rer	naining agents listed in Annex 1

WSV	
Same approach as batch of vaccine at the time point of production od WSV	Documented risk assessment



Step 2. Substrate for production

- SPF eggs
 - check CoA for SPF status 5 weeks after collection of eggs
 - What about Avian poxvirus and Avian rotavirus -not on SPF list (5.2.2.)?





Step 3. Substances of animal origin

- Avoid or keep on a minimum
- List all
- Expected or demonstrated to be free from extraneous agents
- Potential infectious diseases that may occur in the source species
- Potential infectious diseases that may occur in the target species
- Inactivation procedure



Step 4. Media for vaccine production

- All ingredients for inoculum in SPF eggs
- All compounds of stabilizer
- Type of media (is it likely to have viruses)
- Geographical region of production
- Inactivation process



Step 5. Production conditions

- Prevention the introduction of extraneous agents during production
- Capacity of the production process to amplify an extraneous agent or to remove it
- GMP
- Standardized production
- Trained personnel
- Well-controlled process
- Cleaning validation
- Virus cross contamination assurance



Additional testing



- List of viruses in Annex I
- Validated methods
- Concerns:
 - Should we develop and validate methods for all viruses listed in Annex I before registration of the product/variation in existing file (July/2020)?
 - QC test should be under GMP-how to outsource this specific testing?

Risk control

- Placing restriction on the source of the material and auditing these restrictions
- Using validated inactivation procedures
- Testing the extraneous agents in cases where their presence cannot be excluded during the risk assessment

Risk analysis -how often?

- SPF status for every batch
- MSV and WSV at time of production documented
- Changes in the incidence of disease occurring in the region or country of origin of substances for production or production itself
- Positive results of any available tests for extraneous agents

