

# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

## 8<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales (CPEs) in the food chain



28 February 2025  
9:00-13:00 (Parma time)  
MINUTES - Agreed on 7 March 2025

**Location:** Web

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello, Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen, Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme, Dominique Monnet (ECDC)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Gunilla Eklund
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Raquel García Fierro, Hanne Rabbås, Nuria Ferrer
- Others:  
Not applicable

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Ernesto Liébana Criado (EFSA).

## **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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s". No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 11 February 2025**

The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 15 February 2025.

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



## V. Feedback from the BIOHAZ Panel plenary meeting

There was not BIOHAZ Plenary since the last WG meeting. However, before the WG meeting, the opinion was shared with some Panel members appointed as reviewers, and comments received were addressed.

## VI. Scientific topic(s) for discussion

### a. Draft opinion on the current status of the occurrence and spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in the food chain in the EU/EFTA-Part 1 (EFSA-Q-2024-00149)

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 11 February. This Part 1 opinion (ToR1/3) focuses on i) the occurrence of CPEs in the food chain, ii) transmission dynamics, iii) detection methods, and iv) existing control measures and contingency plans in EU/EFTA countries. Discussions during the meeting focused on the conclusions and recommendations. The current Part 1 draft opinion will be presented for adoption by the Panel in March 2025.

To generate new data (ToR2), a Monopole Framework Partnership Agreement was signed with the EU and National Reference Laboratories on antimicrobial resistance (2024-2027). Planned studies will focus on isolation and characterization protocols, epidemiological investigations, in-depth genetic analyses of isolates, and genomic comparison of isolates from different sources. The duration of the activities of the whole mandate is up to the end of 2027.

## VII. Any Other Business

Not applicable

## VIII. Next meeting

No further meetings planned for the Part 1 opinion.  
Further meetings for the period 2025-2027 will be planned *ad-hoc*.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

## 7<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales (CPEs) in the food chain



11 February 2025  
9:30-13:00 (Parma time)  
MINUTES - Agreed on 15 February 2025

**Location:** Parma

**Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello (online), Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen (online), Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme, Dominique Monnet (ECDC, online)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: see apologies
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado, Raquel García Fierro, Hanne Rabbås, Nuria Ferrer
- Others:  
Not applicable

### I. Welcome and apologies for absence

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Gunilla Eklund (EC).

### 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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s". No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

### IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 8-9 January 2025

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



The minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 15 January 2025.

## **V. Feedback from the 175<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ Panel plenary meeting**

Comments received from the thorough reading of the opinion at the 175<sup>th</sup> Panel plenary meeting were discussed.

## **VI. Scientific topic(s) for discussion**

### **a. Draft opinion on the current status of the occurrence and spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in the food chain in the EU/EFTA-Part 1 (EFSA-Q-2024-00149)**

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 8-9 January and the thorough reading of the 175<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ Plenary meeting. This Part 1 opinion (ToR1/3) focuses on i) the occurrence of CPEs in the food chain, ii) transmission dynamics, iii) detection methods, and iv) existing control measures and contingency plans in EU/EFTA countries. Discussions during the meeting focused on i) and ii) and their respective conclusions. The current Part 1 draft opinion will be presented for adoption by the Panel in March 2025.

To generate new data (ToR2), a Monopole Framework Partnership Agreement was signed with the EU and National Reference Laboratories on antimicrobial resistance (2024-2027). Planned studies will focus on isolation and characterization protocols, epidemiological investigations, in-depth genetic analyses of isolates, and genomic comparison of isolates from different sources. The duration of the activities of the whole mandate is up to the end of 2027.

## **VII. Any Other Business**

Not applicable

## **VIII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 28 February by webconference.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

## 6<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales (CPEs) in the food chain

8-9 January 2025

13:30-18:00; 9:00-15:30

MINUTES - Agreed on 15 January 2024



**Location:** Parma

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello (online), Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen (online), Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme, Dominique Monnet (ECDC, online)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Gunilla Eklund
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado, Raquel García Fierro, Hanne Rabbås, Nuria Ferrer
- Others:  
Not applicable

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Anke Kohlenberg.

## **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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s". No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 10 December 2024**

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



The minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 17 December 2024.

## **V. Feedback from the 174<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ Panel plenary meeting**

No new BIOHAZ Plenary meeting took place after the previous WG meeting, where the comments received from the first reading of the opinion at the 174<sup>th</sup> Panel plenary meeting had been discussed.

## **VI. Scientific topic(s) for discussion**

### **a. Draft opinion on the current status of the occurrence and spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in the food chain in the EU/EFTA-Part 1 (EFSA-Q-2024-00149)**

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 10 December: 1) Results of the targeted EU-surveys sent to the EU Member States and EFTA countries participating in the EU AMR Monitoring with regards to CPE detection methods in use and existing control measures/contingency plans and CPE positive-findings were presented. The surveys on on-going studies will be sent soon. 2) Within the framework partnership agreement GP/EFSA/BIOHAW/2024/01 with members of the EURL/NRL-ARs network to generate new data (WP1-isolation/characterization protocols, WP-2 epidemiological investigations, WP3- in depth genetic analyses of relevant isolates, and WP4 comparison genomics), the specific grants agreements for the overall coordination (SGA-1, WP-0) and CPE-detection methods (SGA-2, WP1) were signed before the end of 2024. Further SGA(s) to address the remaining WPs will be launched during Q1 of 2025. 3) The meeting focused on the discussion of the updates of the different sections, and specifically on the developments on occurrence of CPEs in the EU food chain, transmission dynamics, detection methods and control options including the preliminary conclusions. Tasks were allocated. Deadline for this scientific opinion, covering the current state of the art of CPEs in the food chain, is end of March 2025.

## **VII. Any Other Business**

Not applicable

## **VIII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 11 February by webconference.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

## 5<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales (CPEs) in the food chain



10 December 2024

9:00-13:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 17 December 2024

**Location:** Webconference

### **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello, Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen, Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme, Dominique Monnet (ECDC)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not Applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
EC: Gunilla Eklund
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado (partially), Raquel García Fierro (partially), Hanne Rabbås, Nuria Ferrer (partially), Simone Baldassa (partially)
- Others:  
Not applicable

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Anke Kohlenberg.

## **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 and the preparatory meetings listed under agenda item "Preparatory meeting/s". No Conflicts of Interest related to the issues discussed in these meetings have been identified during the screening process, and no interests were declared orally by the members at the beginning of this meeting.

## **IV. Agreement of the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting held on 11 November 2024, in Parma**

<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



The minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting were agreed by written procedure on 22 November 2024.

## **V. Feedback from the 174<sup>th</sup> BIOHAZ Panel plenary meeting**

The comments received from the first reading of the opinion at the 174<sup>th</sup> Panel plenary meeting were discussed with the working group.

## **VI. Scientific topic(s) for discussion**

### **a. Draft opinion on the current status of the occurrence and spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacterales in the food chain in the EU/EFTA-Part 1 (EFSA-Q-2024-00149)**

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 11 November and the BIOHAZ Plenary mentioned above: 1) Preliminary results of the targeted EU-surveys sent to the EC Member States and EFTA countries participating in the EU AMR Monitoring with regards to CPEs detection methods in use and existing control measures/contingency plans were presented. The surveys on on-going studies and positive findings will be sent soon. 2) The framework partnership agreement GP/EFSA/BIOHAW/2024/01 with members of the EURL/NRL-ARs network to generate new data (isolation/characterization protocols, epidemiological investigations, in depth genetic analyses of relevant isolates, and comparison genomics) was signed on 7 December. 3) Updates of the draft scientific opinion Part 1 sections - Carbapenems and their use, resistance mechanisms, CPEs epidemiology, occurrence of CPEs in the EU food chain, transmission dynamics, detection methods and control options- were presented by the Task/section leaders and accordingly discussed. Tasks were allocated. Deadline for this scientific opinion, covering the current state of the art of CPEs in the food chain, is end of March 2025.

## **VII. Any Other Business**

Not applicable

## **VIII. Next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 08-09 January physically in Parma.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

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

11 November 2024, Parma

9:00-17:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 22 November 2024



**Location:** Web-conference

## **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello, Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen, Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Gunilla Eklund
- ECDC:  
Anke Kohlenberg (partially), Dominique Monnet (partially)
- EMA: Ana Silva (partially)
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado, Raquel García Fierro, Hanne Rabbås, Nuria Ferrer
- 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**

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



**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)**

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 10 of October: 1) the surveys to the EC Member States, EFTA and EU candidate countries participating in the EU AMR Monitoring to gather information on on-going CPEs studies, positive results and control options are being successively sent. 2) The framework partnership agreement GP/EFSA/BIOHAW/2024/01 with the EURL/NRL-ARs network to generate new data is about to be signed. 3) Updates of the draft scientific opinion Part 1 sections - Carbapenems and their use, resistance mechanisms, CPES epidemiology, occurrence of CPEs in the EU food chain, transmission dynamics, detection methods and control options- were presented by the Task/section leaders and accordingly discussed. Tasks were allocated. Deadline for this scientific opinion, covering the current state of the art of CPEs in the food chain, is end of March 2025.

## **V. Any Other Business**

No applicable.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the working group will be held online on 10 December 2024.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

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

10 October 2024

13:00-17:00

MINUTES - Agreed on 18 October 2024



**Location:** Web-conference

## **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello, Valeria Bortolaia, Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen, Luisa Peixe, Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Gunilla Eklund
- ECDC:  
Anke Kohlenberg
- EMA: Ana Silva (partially)
- EFSA:  
BIOHAW Unit: Beatriz Guerra, Ernesto Liébana Criado, Raquel García Fierro, Maria Sanz Zapata
- Others:  
Not Applicable

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Dominique Monnet and Marius Linkevicius.

## **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**

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<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



**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)**

EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> of July: 1) Protocol for the risk assessment was adopted by the BIOHAZ Panel at their last Plenary (18 September); 2) the surveys to the EC Member States, EFTA and EU candidate countries participating in the EU AMR Monitoring to gather information on on-going CPEs studies, positive results and control options are under development and will be tested by the WG members and other external before being sent; 3) literature screening, based on title/abstract was done. Data will be extracted by the WG members; 4) Updates of the draft opinion were also presented by the Task/section leaders. Tasks were allocated. Deadline of the Part 1 scientific opinion, covering the current state of the art of CPEs in the food chain, is end of March 2025.

## **V. Any Other Business**

No applicable.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meeting of the working group will be held on 11 November 2024 in Parma.

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# SCIENTIFIC PANEL ON BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS

2<sup>nd</sup> WG mtg on Carbapenemases in Enterobacterales (CPEs) in  
the food chain

27 August 2024 (09:30-13:30, full WG mtg)

11 September 2024 (13:00-17:00, SubWG-survey mtg)

MINUTES - Agreed on 16 September 2024



**Location:** Web-conference

## **Attendees:**

- Working Group Members:  
Hector Argüello (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs), Valeria Bortolaia (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs), Alessandra Carattoli, Wiestke Dohmen (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs), Luisa Peixe (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs), Laurent Poirel, Johan Bengtsson-Palme (partially)
- Hearing Experts<sup>1</sup>:  
Not applicable
- European Commission and/or Member States representatives:  
Gunilla Eklund (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs)
- ECDC:  
Dominique Monnet (WG mtg), Anke Kohlenberg (WG mtg)
- EFSA: Beatriz Guerra (WG and SubWG-survey mtgs), Martin Goudjiounde (WG mtg), Ernesto Liebana (SubWG-survey mtg), Raquel Garcia Fierro (SubWG-survey mtg), Maria Zapata (SubWG-survey mtg), Andrea Buselli (SubWG-survey mtg)
- Others:  
Not Applicable

## **I. Welcome and apologies for absence**

The Chair welcomed the participants.

## **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**

<sup>1</sup> As defined in Article 34 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)



**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)**

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.

On 27.08, EFSA staff and the chair of the WG updated the WG experts on the progress done since the last meeting hold on 1<sup>st</sup> of July: 1) Development of a survey to the EC Member States/EFTA countries participating in the EU AMR Monitoring to gather information on on-going CPEs studies, positive results and control options: a draft has been developed and was presented by the Task leader for discussion. Amendments were done and discussed within the WG experts involved in the survey development (SubWG-survey) on 11.09.24. The surveys are planned to be launched in September. 2) Updates on the draft protocol for the risk assessment, including the approach for literature searches were presented by EFSA staff. After small amendments the protocol would be ready to be shared with the BIOHAZ Panel at their next Plenary (Mid of September) for feedback and potential approval; 3) The updates of table of contents of the draft opinion were also discussed, and Task leaders/contributors for each section were confirmed. Tasks were allocated to EFSA staff and WG experts.

## **V. Any Other Business**

No applicable.

## **VI. Next meeting**

The next meetings of the whole WG is sheduled for 10 October.

# 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](#))**

<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>