

Summary of the workshop and proposal for 2008 activities

VTEC infections in Europe



- Pulse-net

**Liaison and collaboration with ECDC,
Pulse-net and Reference Labs for
human infections**

VTEC Monitoring

- **EFSA is providing data on VTEC but problems with standardization still exist**
- **EFSA has provided a first opinion on VTEC reporting and monitoring**
- **Another EFSA working group on monitoring is about to be established**

VTEC are quite different from salmonella and campylobacter

VTEC detection: standardization of methods

- CEN VTEC group progressed with the PCR method and a draft will be available next spring !!
- a CEN validation study of the standard horizontal method for *E. coli* O157 EN/ISO 16654 has been prepared and is about to start with 13 NRLs involved in the study (waiting for money
- It could also be used for a first assessment of some aspects of the PCR method

VTEC detection: standardization of methods

- **We also are quite ahead with a PCR scheme for VT gene typing !!!!**
- **Agreement with human labs**

NRLs Activities

- **Many NRLs already involved in monitoring-like activities**

VTEC Data Base

- **The DB will begin to collect data soon : next year we'll see the results**

- **Memorandum of understanding among participants on data usage**
- **Harmonization with the EFSA data collection**
- **Harmonization with the Enter-Net human Databases (ECDC)**

1st Ring Trial on VTEC identification

Most NRLs who participated in the test performed well in identifying d typing VTEC

The number of NRLs involved in the proficiency testing must increase !!

2008 - Proficiency testing

- CEN validation study of the standard horizontal method for *E. coli* O157 EN/ISO 16654 **for 13 NRLs**
- (but could be extended **to other NRLs** with CRL funds as a proficiency testing??)
- 2nd Ring Trial on VTEC identification and typing

Other activities 2008

Assistance to NRLs:

- Provision of methods, standard operating procedures, reference strains.
- short visits of NRL staff for individual training
 - Phagetyping of *E.coli* O157 at the CRL by mid 2008 !
 - Move the annual workshop from CRL to other NRLs (verify economic and administrative feasibility)

**Thank you and see you
next year**