

20th Workshop of the National Reference Laboratories for Parasites

28-29 October 2025

POCCHIARI room

(Lecture theatre; Viale Regina Elena 299)

Department of Infectious Diseases

ISTITUTO SUPERIORE DI SANITÀ

28 October

09:00	Registration
09:40	Welcome and aims of the meeting <i>Adriano Casulli</i> (Director, EURL-P)
	Session 1: EURL-Parasites Proficiency Tests
09:50	The 2025 PTs on <i>Trichinella</i> - PT on artificial digestion to detect <i>Trichinella</i> larvae in meat samples. - PT on the identification of <i>Trichinella</i> larvae at the species level by a molecular method. <i>Irene Tartarelli</i> (EURL-P)
10:10	The 2025 PTs on <i>Echinococcus</i> - PT on the detection of <i>Echinococcus</i> sp. worms in the intestinal mucosa of the definitive host. - PT on the molecular identification of <i>Echinococcus</i> at the species level. <i>Azzurra Santoro</i> (EURL-P)
10:30	The 2025 PTs on <i>Anisakis</i> - PT on the detection of Anisakidae L3 larvae in fish fillets. - PT on the molecular identification of Anisakid nematodes at the species level. <i>Francesco Celani, Antonio Di Grazia</i> (EURL-P)
10:50	The 2025 PT on serology of <i>Trichinella</i> and <i>Toxoplasma</i> - PT on the detection of anti- <i>Trichinella</i> IgG in animal serum samples. - PT on the detection of anti- <i>Toxoplasma</i> IgG in animal serum samples. <i>Alessandra Ludovisi</i> (EURL-P)
11:10	General discussion
11:30	Coffee break
	Session 2: Updates from the EURL-Parasites
12:00	The rise of the EU Reference Laboratory for Public Health on Helminths and Protozoa (EURL-PH-HP) <i>Adriano Casulli</i> (EURL-P)
12:15	Uncommon findings at the EURL-Parasites in 2025 <i>Azzurra Santoro</i> (EURL-P)
12:30	Genotyping the zoonotic pathogen <i>Cryptosporidium parvum</i> by a new Multi-Locus Sequencing Typing scheme <i>Simone Mario Caccio</i> (EURL-P)
13:00	Lunch break
14:00	One Health and Parasites <i>Laura Rinaldi</i> (University Federico II of Naples, Italy) - <u>Invited speaker</u>
	Session 3: NRLs for Parasites activities
14:45	Free of charge <i>Trichinella</i> analyses for wild boar meat - Estonian lessons on African swine fever control measures <i>Epp Moks</i> (NRL-P Estonia)
15:00	Monitoring of <i>Trichinella</i> species in domestic and wild animals in Bosnia and Herzegovina <i>Naida Kapo</i> (NRL-P Bosnia and Herzegovina)

15:15	Activities of the Italian NRL for <i>Trichinella</i> <i>Gianluca Marucci</i> (NRL-P Italy)
15:30	Trichinellosis: a Study of a human population potentially Exposed to Infection (2024) <i>Maria João Gargaté</i> (NRL Portugal)
15:45	<i>Echinococcus multilocularis</i> in the Netherlands: fruit, foxes and a gorilla <i>Marieke Opsteegh</i> (NRL-P the Netherlands)
16:00	Retrospective analysis of hospital admissions for cystic echinococcosis in Italy (2015-2022) <i>Cinzia Santucci</i> (NRL-P Italy)
16:15	Food contamination by <i>Echinococcus</i> and other taeniid species is essentially due to only several eggs according to digital PCR estimation <i>Gérald Umhang</i> (NRL-P France) - Remotely
16:30	Overview of food- and water-borne Zoonotic Parasites in Croatia <i>Relja Beck</i> (Croatian Veterinary Institute)
16:45	Cloudy digestion fluid: a challenge in <i>Trichinella</i> detection using the artificial digestion method <i>Behdad Tarbiat</i> (NRL-P Sweden)
17:00-18:00	Aperitif - End of day 1

29 October

09:00	Detection of protozoan parasites in food: progress, challenges, and perspectives <i>Stéphanie La Carbona</i> (ACTALIA Food Safety Department, France) - <u>Invited speaker</u>
	Session 4: NRLs for Parasites activities
09:45	Anisakids surveillance in commercial fish species from Norwegian waters <i>Paolo Cipriani</i> (NRL-P Norway)
	Surveillance of <i>Echinococcus multilocularis</i> in Red Foxes in Slovenia (2021-24) <i>Laura Šimenc Kramar</i> (NRL-P Slovenia)
10:00	The importance of <i>Trichinella</i> proficiency tests in food safety in Serbia <i>Sasa Vasilev</i> (NRL-P Serbia)
10:15	Quality control <i>Trichinella</i> slaughterhouse labs: summary from the questionnaires <i>Marieke Opsteegh</i> (NRL-P the Netherlands)
11:00	Suggestions and planning of diagnostics, trainings and PTs for 2026
11:50	Final remarks and closure of the Workshop
12:00	Light lunch break - End of the Workshop

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

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INVITED SPEAKERS:

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