

## IO2.2. Collection of best practices on zoonoses interventions

### University of Zagreb Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Croatia

<b>Type of practice</b>	guideline/ case study/ project/ <b>intervention programme</b> / testing/ <b>guidance tools</b> / articles
<b>Best practice title</b>	<b>Program for determining the prevalence of tick-born encephalitis in Republic of Croatia</b>
<b>Period of implementation</b>	Two years
<b>Location</b>	All over Croatia with all counties. In order to determine the extent of disease in urban areas, dogs from four town areas will be searched where was recorded the largest number of people with illness.
<b>Geographical coverage</b>	National
<b>Contacts</b>	Ministry of Agriculture Republic of Croatia, Ulica grada Vukovara 78, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia, <a href="http://www.mps.hr">www.mps.hr</a>  Veterinary and Food Safety Directorate, Planinska 2a, 10000 Zagreb, Croatia  University of Zagreb Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases with Clinic. Heinzelova 55, 10000 Zagreb  Veterinary stations from the cities: Slavonski Brod, Sibenj, Varaždin, Ivanec, Bjelovar i Zagreb
<b>Link</b>	University of Zagreb Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases with Clinic. ARTER.lab. Heinzelova 55, 10000 Zagreb  <a href="http://www.vef.unizg.hr">www.vef.unizg.hr</a>
<b>Target audience</b>	People professionally exposed to infection with tick-born encephalitis virus (veterinarians, hunters, farmers, forest workers...)  People who frequently stay in nature (hikers, mountaineers, athletes...)

<p><b>Objectives</b></p>	<p>The objectives of this program are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Collecting information on the activity of the tick-born encephalitis virus in the Croatian territory, including urban areas</li> <li>- Categorization of different areas of Croatia according to the degree of risk for the occurrence of diseases in animals and humans</li> <li>- Determining the circulation of the virus in the urban areas of central and eastern Croatia</li> <li>- Through the overall implementation of the program collected initial data will enable establishment of a disease surveillance system in the following years in accordance with the results of the implementation of preventive measures</li> </ul>
<p><b>Short description</b></p>	<p>During several years of implementation the program will enable to determine the frequency of infections in ticks and domestic animals and determine areas where disease occurs endemic. Based on these results, risk factors for people will be identified, which will ensure the application of quality biosecurity measures for people exposed to infection.</p>
<p><b>Activities/Action plan</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Samples collection and determination of infection frequency in sentinel animals</li> <li>2. Determination of areas where disease occurs endemic</li> <li>3. Investigation and identification of risk factors which lead to an increased occurrence of disease in the major host</li> <li>7. Ensure the application of quality biosecurity measures for people exposed to infection.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Resources/Products</b></p>	<p><b>Resources:</b></p> <p><b>1. Material:</b></p> <p>a) Random collection and serological testing of 1869 serum samples of domestic animal (horses and dogs will be used as sentinel animals)</p> <p><b>2. Methods:</b></p> <p>a) Serological testing of serum samples of horses and dogs with ELISA and virus neutralization test</p> <p><b>Products:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Establishing epizootic and epidemiological situation of disease in Croatia</li> <li>2. Determining risk factors for people exposed to tick-born encephalitis</li> </ol>

	<p>virus</p> <p>3. Application of quality biosecurity measures for people exposed to tularemia.</p>
<b>Impact</b>	<p>Continuous monitoring of epizootiological and epidemiological situation of tick-born encephalitis in Croatia, will enable the application of quality and timely preventive measures for protection of animal and human health.</p>
<b>Key words</b>	<p>tick-born encephalitis, tick-born encephalitis virus, epizootiology, epidemiology, prevention</p>