89th Executive Committee meeting of the EuFMD

International FMD Vaccine Strategic Reserves Network

Author: Katie Hickey

89 ExCom-Belgrade, 12-13 February 2015
How the network was initiated

• In 2004 The OIE convened an *ad hoc* meeting on antigen and vaccine banks. This group aspired to facilitate information exchange, assist countries in the establishment of vaccine banks via creation of vaccine bank networks.

• In 2010, Dr Jef Hammond presented the network concept to the Quadrilateral Animal Health Committee (Quads) group at OIE HQ prior to the general session. Presentations were also made to the EU (Dr Alf Fuessel) and the UK CVO (Dr Nigel Gibbens) and Defra.

• The concept was favourably received and development of the network endorsed by all parties and the title of International FMD Vaccine Strategic Reserves Network’ (IVSRN) was agreed

• Establishment of the network was strongly endorsed by the OIE and FAO

• Membership: US + Canada+ Mexico (NAFMDVB) + Australia +NZ + Pirbright + UK.
The network can facilitate:

Improved control of FMD worldwide¹

• Sharing of information and best practices

• Avoid duplication of work; saving time and money

• Monitoring of developments relating to emergency FMD vaccines and promotion of areas of research.

• Provide a unified voice in discussions with vaccine manufacturers

• Potential to share banked antigens through a ‘virtual international FMD vaccine bank.’

¹ Rev. sci. tech. Off. int. Epiz., 2010, 29 (3), 593-602. Toward a global foot and mouth disease vaccine bank network
What about other vaccination related issues?

- **Vaccination policy** - Vaccinate-to-live vs vaccinate-to-die? There is a global emphasis on vaccination-to-live for control of FMD and avoidance of unnecessary culling of animals.

- **Vaccination operational plans** - Who will carry out emergency vaccination during an outbreak? How will cold chain be maintained?

- **Post vaccination surveillance** - Co-ordination of comments on the proposed changes to the OIE FMD Code Chapter. Advances in DIVA technology. Diagnostic Banks?
Activity of the IVSRN 2010-15

- From 2010 to 2012 WRLFMD Pirbright chaired the network and in late 2012 the leadership of the network was rotated to New Zealand.

- Pirbright provide web support and global surveillance data to the network.

- Chief Veterinary Officers of QUADs (Australia, Canada, US, NZ) are committed to supporting the network.

- Vaccine manufacturers have been approached in turn with a questionnaire about their vaccines. Merial and MSD Animal Health have participated in teleconferences with the network to share information about their production of FMD Vaccines.

- Information sharing on vaccination simulation exercises, vaccination challenge studies and vaccination policy decisions.

- A MOU is being developed between CVO’s to facilitate sharing antigens during an outbreak.

ExCom89
Issues

1. Confidentiality
Real and/or perceived issues of national security and commercial sensitivities of manufacturers that supply banks. Varying legal and political situations in different countries.

2. Sharing vaccine in a crisis
Depending on the proximity of your country to a current outbreak you may be reluctant to share vaccine.

3. Antigen selection
May vary from country to country.

4. Vaccine challenge studies
Expensive and logistically challenging.

5. Size of vaccine bank
The increase of adoption of vaccinate-to-live policies may mean that the size of vaccine banks will need to be increased.
Where to from here for EU member states?

• Creation of a EU FMD Vaccine Bank Manager Network?

• Collaborating with IVSRN?

• Vaccination may be critical to controlling some FMD outbreaks and so information sharing, preparedness and contingency planning in this area should not be underestimated. A vaccine bank network can facilitate all of these areas.
Thank you for your attention.

Questions?