

FOR DISCUSSION

NAHIP Advisory Committee Annual Meeting 2024

Agenda Item 2.3

Last updated: 13 May 2024

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NAHIP DATA QUALITY SUBGROUP UPDATE**RECOMMENDATION**

That the NAHIP Advisory Committee

1. NOTES the update from the NAHIP Data Quality Subgroup
2. PROVIDE DIRECTION on
 - The preferred option/s for improving linkages between NAHIP and SCAHLS
 - Potential further activities (if any) for the NAHIP Data Quality Subgroup

BACKGROUND

The NAHIP Data Quality Subgroup met virtually on 21 February 2024, and then in Brisbane/virtually on 20 March 2024 with the Subcommittee for Animal Health Laboratory Standards (SCAHLs).

The objectives of the meeting with SCAHLs were to:

- Provide SCAHLs with an understanding of NAHIP and the key issues identified during the transition to AUSPestCheck®
- Provide the NAHIP Data Quality Subgroup with an understanding of SCAHLs processes for standardisation of diagnostic protocols.
- Discuss the value of developing 'national guidelines' for case-level interpretation for NAHIP reporting.
- Discuss the SCAHLs agreed syndrome list for reporting purposes, noting any discrepancies across jurisdictions and decide if revision is required.
- Explore how best to improve linkages between these surveillance and diagnostics groups.

DISCUSSION**Case-level guidance for NAHIP reporting**

Participants at the workshop considered the work started by NSW and built on by QLD which provides guidance for NAHIP data submitters on what constitutes a positive or negative in the 'outcome' field of the National Notifiable Disease Investigation (NNDI) reporting (analogous to the 'status' field in AUSPestCheck®). The work done by NSW and QLD represents a resource that other jurisdictions may choose to add to.

An action from the meeting was to seek DAFF's advice on reporting of negative data in the context of DAFF's data needs in relation to trade and market access. (i.e. Should all negative test results from investigations of clinically consistent animals be recorded as negative test result/exclusions in the NNDI program or is there a higher 'bar' for exclusion testing, for example, consideration of sample type, test type for the disease?)

Syndrome list

Participants discussed the SCAHLS syndrome list, which was last endorsed by AHC in 2013 and has since undergone minor updating (e.g. the addition of 'oral lesions and salivation').

Participants noted that QLD had modified the syndrome list that it uses as it had found that the 2013 SCAHLS list was not fit for purpose, and an action from the workshop was for QLD to circulate a list of the additional/disparate syndromes and associated broad case examples to NAHIP members.

SCAHLS has undertaken to review its syndrome list for AHC endorsement and will recommend that SCAHLS members consult with their corresponding jurisdictional NAHIP member. The updated SCAHLS syndrome list will go to AHC for endorsement.

Until a new syndrome list is endorsed by AHC, AHA proposes that the current syndrome list in the Central Animal Health Database continues to be used for national reporting.

Improved linkages between these SCAHLS and NAHIP

Options suggested at the meeting included

- Including a NAHIP update as a standing item on the SCAHLS agenda for its twice-yearly meetings. AHA would provide this update.
- ACDP representation on the NAHIP Advisory Committee

CONSULTATION/COMMUNICATION

AHA will circulate the minutes, once finalised, from the SCAHLS/ NAHIP Data Quality Subgroup meeting of 20 March 2024 to NAHIP and NSDIP members.