

Forthcoming 2026 rounds

23rd Annual Meeting of the TSE EURL Rome, Italy - May 7-8, 2026

Discriminatory Western Blot in Small Ruminants (DS26),

PRNP Genotyping in sheep (GS26) and goats (GG26)

Clarissa Ferreri



EURL-TSE

Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale del Piemonte, Liguria e Valle d'Aosta – Turin
Istituto Superiore di Sanità - Rome

NEXT ROUND of Discriminatory Western Blot

Discriminatory WB in Small Ruminants (DS26)

Samples: *5 homogenates of brainstem material*

Shipment: end of October

Deadline for results' submission: within November

Participants: 17 NRLs

Belgium	Hungary	Romania
Bulgaria	Ireland	Slovakia
Czech Republic	Italy	Spain
France	Netherlands	Switzerland
Germany	Poland	UK
Greece	Portugal	

NEXT ROUNDS of PRNP Genotyping

PRNP Genotyping in sheep (GS26)

Samples: *10 blood samples*

Participants: 22 NRLs

Austria	Hungary	Romania
Belgium	Iceland	Slovakia
Croatia	Italy	Slovenia
Cyprus	Latvia	Spain
Czech Republic	Lithuania	Sweden
Estonia	Netherlands	UK
Germany	Poland	
Greece	Portugal	

PRNP Genotyping in goats (GG26)

Samples: *5 blood samples*

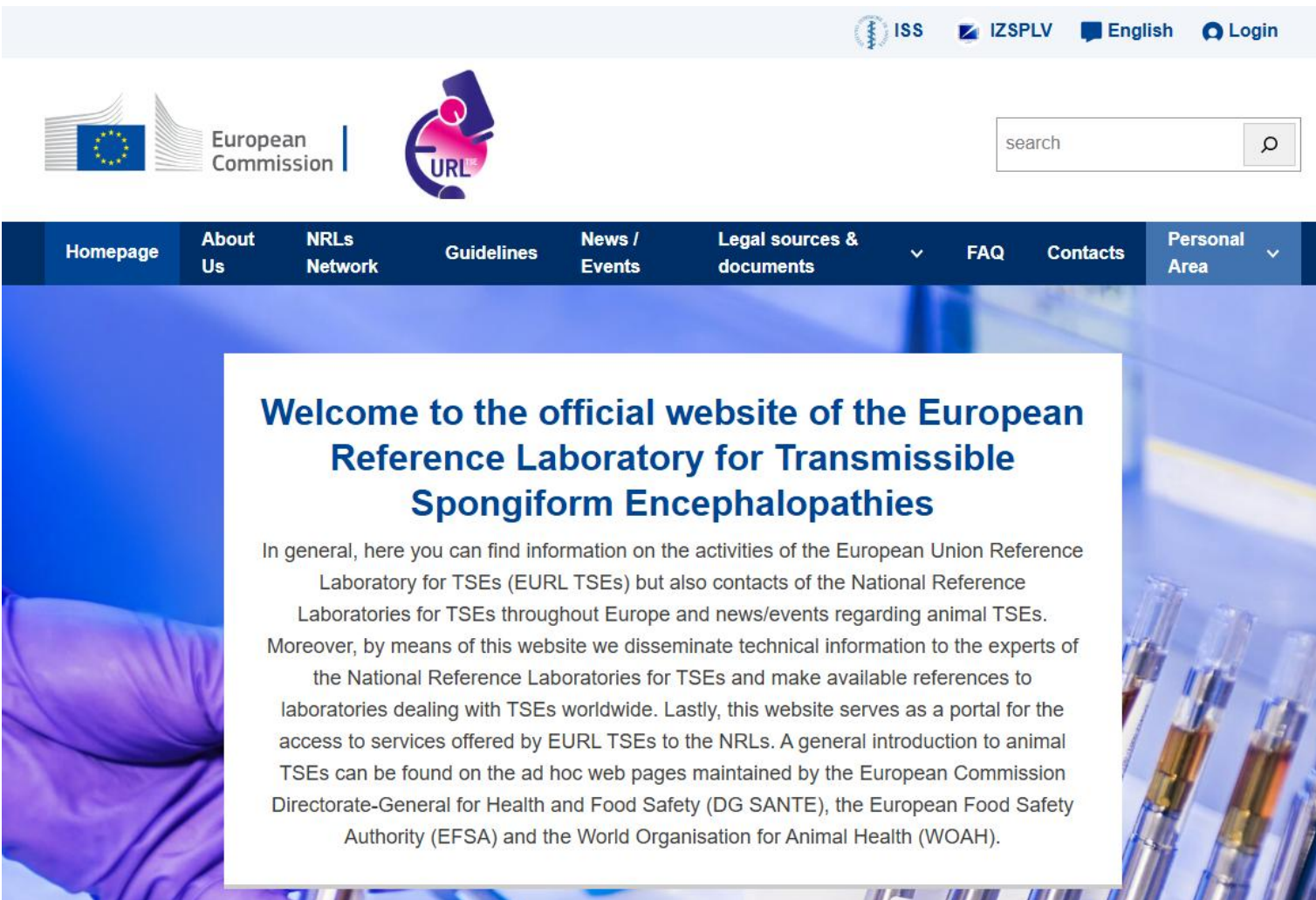
Participants: 15 NRLs

Austria	Latvia	Spain
Belgium	Netherlands	Sweden
Czech Republic	Poland	UK
Germany	Portugal	
Greece	Romania	
Italy	Slovenia	

Shipment: last week of September

Deadline for results' submission: within October

RESULTS SUBMISSION ONLINE



The screenshot shows the homepage of the European Reference Laboratory for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies (EURL TSE). At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for ISS, IZSPLV, English, and Login. Below this, the European Commission logo and the EURL TSE logo are displayed. A search bar is located on the right. The main navigation menu includes links for Homepage, About Us, NRLs Network, Guidelines, News / Events, Legal sources & documents, FAQ, Contacts, and Personal Area. The central content area features a welcome message and a detailed description of the laboratory's mission and services.

ISS IZSPLV English Login

European Commission

search

Homepage About Us NRLs Network Guidelines News / Events Legal sources & documents FAQ Contacts Personal Area

Welcome to the official website of the European Reference Laboratory for Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies

In general, here you can find information on the activities of the European Union Reference Laboratory for TSEs (EURL TSEs) but also contacts of the National Reference Laboratories for TSEs throughout Europe and news/events regarding animal TSEs. Moreover, by means of this website we disseminate technical information to the experts of the National Reference Laboratories for TSEs and make available references to laboratories dealing with TSEs worldwide. Lastly, this website serves as a portal for the access to services offered by EURL TSEs to the NRLs. A general introduction to animal TSEs can be found on the ad hoc web pages maintained by the European Commission Directorate-General for Health and Food Safety (DG SANTE), the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH).

<https://www.eurl-tse.eu/>



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DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PT SAMPLES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

The PT samples produced by EURL are intended for this activity.

The samples sent for a PT could be used by the laboratory as reference materials after the final tabulation of results is released but, if you need reference materials, especially in order to check your method, enroll in a PT is not the right way.

To provide reference materials is one of the RL duties, so, if your NRL needs RM, just send a formal request and the materials will be sent with the related certification.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PT SAMPLES AND REFERENCE MATERIALS

The PT samples produced by the PT providers are used for the PT activity.

The

This is the moment!

Check and send promptly a request of RM if needed.

We will send them together with the samples of the round you signed up for.

For the RL duties, so, just send a formal request will be sent with the related certification.

COMMUNICATION MEANS ASSISTANCE

When a laboratory provided the results (also as expected) but analysis of the raw data showed poor sensitivity and poor image quality, it is recommended to review protocols, procedures, reagents used and training of the personnel responsible for the test.

If you have any doubts about the fine-tuning of your methods or have had issues in previous rounds, please contact us in advance

PTDS: Laura Pirisinu
laura.pirisinu@iss.it

PTGS/GG: Barbara Chiappini
barbara.chiappini@iss.it



PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF ERROR IN THE PAST

Submission of the results using a wrong NRL ID code

Solved

No mistakes in 2025

Reference persons of each NRL:

Please don't forget to check in advanced your specific and unique
NRL ID code for every round

NEW PROBLEMS ARE COMING

The number of laboratory that performs the PTs using expired reagents is growing every year.

Please check in advance that your laboratory has all the necessary reagents to perform the analysis and that they will not expire before the PT is performed.

Requalifying expired reagents is also one option.

DOUBLE CHECK OF THE SUBMITTED RESULTS

If you submit them and realize you made a mistake, send them again and we'll take into account the most updated data.

If the issue is reported to us only after the Gold Standard release, we can only consider it as an error and send a new set of samples.

This means:

no double-check = double work for both parties.

COMMUNICATION MEANS ASSISTANCE

When a NRL registers for a round,
it formally commits to participate and submit results.
If there are ongoing issues, contact us for our support
and/or let us know your issues in time

Reporting issues on the day of the deadline is not correct
and does not give us the opportunity to help you in any way

COMMUNICATION MEANS ASSISTANCE

Please do not hesitate to contact the EURL for any further assistance or request.

I will be your contact point for any matter related to the PT DS, GS, GG rounds: clarissa.ferreri@iss.it

However, also the NRLs personnel must be available and responsive

to communications from the EURL

Please don't leave our email unresponse for weeks!



COLLABORATION IS A TWO-WAY STREET

We are always looking for positive samples to enrich our “brain library” and the genetic variability of our available sheep and goat blood samples.

I would like to take this opportunity to officially thank all the laboratories that collaborated with us and sent us the material last year.



COLLABORATION IS A TWO-WAY STREET

If you have had positive cases in the last year and have enough material to share, please contact us and we will arrange the import of the tissues/blood.

We will use it to create RMs and to increase sample variability in future PTs.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR
ATTENTION

