



## **WP3: Molecular epidemiology led by Peter Mertens, IAH CRL,UK**

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# Activities in 2008

- Full genome sequencing of the 9 serotypes of and AHSV, EEV strains (Reference collection)- On the way for BTV strains- OVI, RSA
- Publish full genome sequence analysis of BTV-8 from Netherlands (Virology **377**, 308-318)
- Identification of reassortant BTV-16 /BTV-2 in Italy (Virus Res. **137**:56-63.)
- Identify BTV-6 (vaccine strain) in The Netherlands (first time in Europe)
- Identify reassortment between strains of BTV-6 and 8 in the Netherlands
- BTV-9 in Libya (typed but awaiting official-OIE announcement)
- BTV-1 in Algeria
- BTV-16 in Greece
- BTV-8 in Greece (for first time)
- BTV-25 identified in Switzerland
- Set up Relais system for BTV
- Sequence full genome of 100 BTV strains from around the world, as reference, to help identify reassortment events.
- Identified several reassortment events in eastern Mediterranean field strains

# Recommendations for 2009

- Sequence full genome of BTV strains from reference collection, to help identify reassortment events.
- Comparison of Western strains (OVI, RSA) and Eastern strains of BTV (IAH, UK)
- Identified several reassortment events in eastern Mediterranean field strains with new outbreaks occurring in Europe every year (CIDC, NL and others)