

**S21: Remove ATT, TABST & LABST. How far away are we to global harmonization for those safety tests?**



**HUMANE SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL**



# This Session

- Laura Viviani (Humane Society International): Remove ATT, TABST & LABST. How far away are we to global harmonization for those safety tests?
- Katrin Schutte (EPAA - European Partnership for Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing): REMOVE ATT, TABST & LABST. The journey of how they became obsolete.
- Corinne Philippe (Boehringer Ingelheim): Waiving the Target Animal Batch Safety Tests of veterinary vaccines. An industry perspective.
- Marcos Vinicius de Santana Leandro (Ministry of Agriculture Brazil): The interest to adopt a change on TABST & LABST in Brazil.
- Brinda Poojary (Humane Society International, India): The process for the deletion of ATT, TABST and LABST in India.
- Sunil Kumar Goel (Serum Institute of India): Removal of Abnormal Toxicity Test from human vaccines in India: a successful approach.



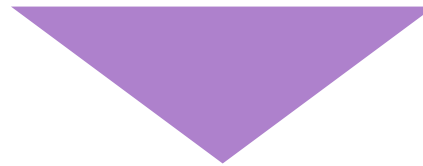
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# Objectives

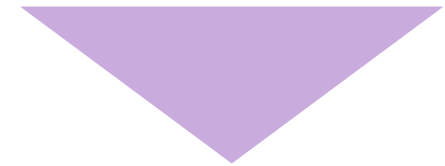
Many institutions and organization have been working independently or jointly to remove those obsolete safety testing from the batch release testing for human (ATT) and veterinary vaccines (TABST, LABST). Many regulatory agencies and international organizations have successfully removed or recommended the deletion or the waiver of those tests. How far away are we from the global elimination of those tests?



Map the status of  
ATT, TABST & LABST  
deletion



Present the process  
and the stakeholders  
involved



Share some concrete  
and successful  
examples

# **Remove ATT, TABST & LABST. How far away are we to global harmonization for those safety tests?**

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Laura Viviani

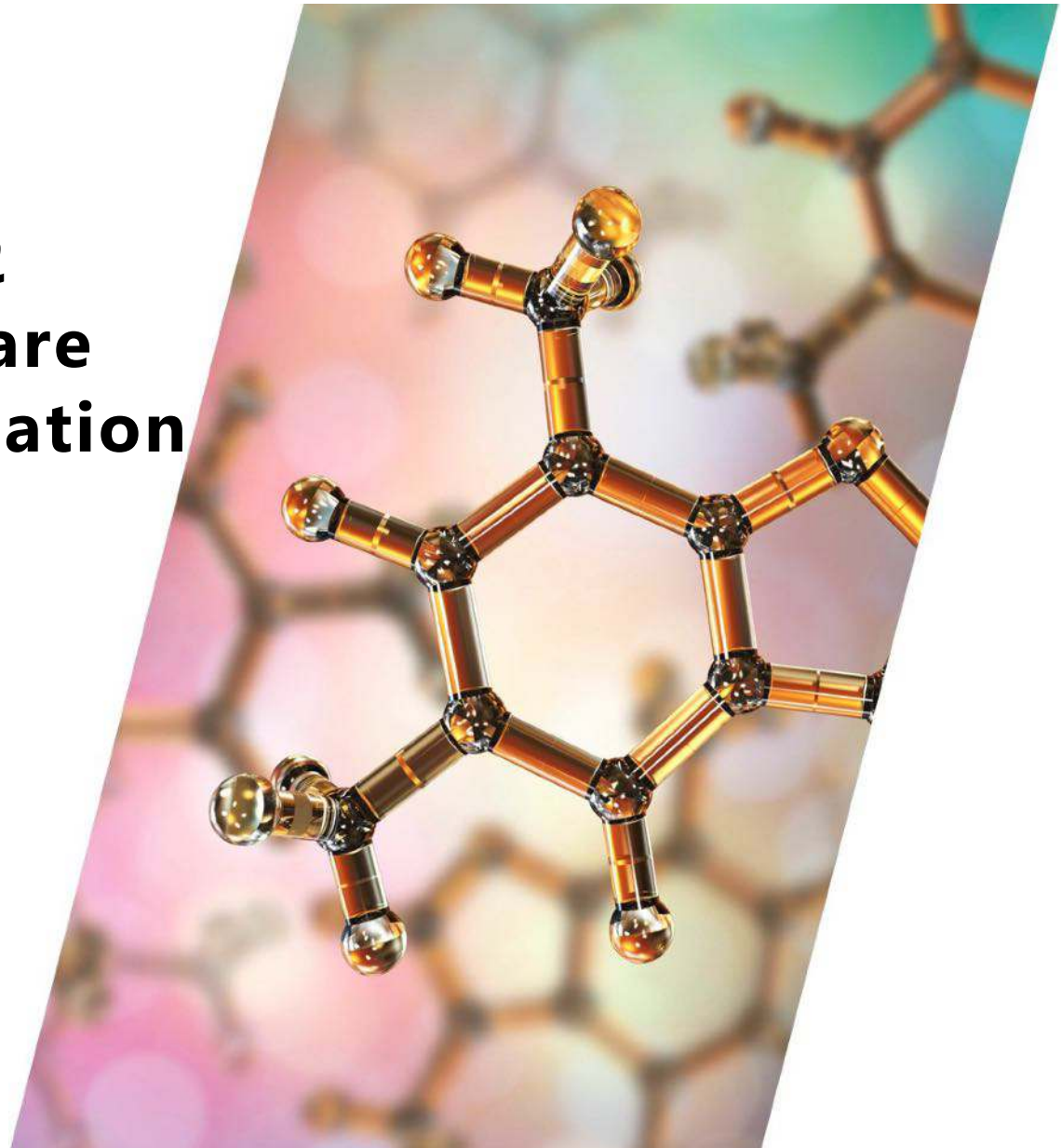
Director, Biologicals

Research & Toxicology

Humane Society International



**HUMANE SOCIETY**  
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ADVANCING  
PREDICTIVE, NON-ANIMAL  
APPROACHES IN TOXICOLOGY  
& BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH  
WORLDWIDE

## About the Humane Society family of organizations

- HSI & its affiliates together represent the largest force for animal protection globally, active on the ground in >50 countries across the Americas, Europe, Asia & Africa
- Our team brings together experts in human & environmental toxicology, regulatory science, public policy, law, biomedicine, etc.
- Working with lawmakers, regulators, industry, test developers & other stakeholders
- Stakeholder status with the OECD, governmental & corporate advisory bodies on alternative methods & product safety, etc.



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THE HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF THE UNITED STATES



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LEGISLATIVE FUND

World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences | 23 August – 3 September 2021



The AFSA Collaboration works to accelerate global adoption of a modern, species-relevant approach to safety assessment that will better protect people and our planet and hasten the replacement of animal testing.

COSMETICS



CHEMICALS



BIOLOGICALS



TOX21



L'ORÉAL



ExxonMobil



**LUSH**  
FRESH HANDMADE COSMETICS



AVON



symrise



Listed organizations are members of at least 1 AFSA workstream; listing does not imply participation in or endorsement of other work areas

# Biologicals Regulatory Requirements

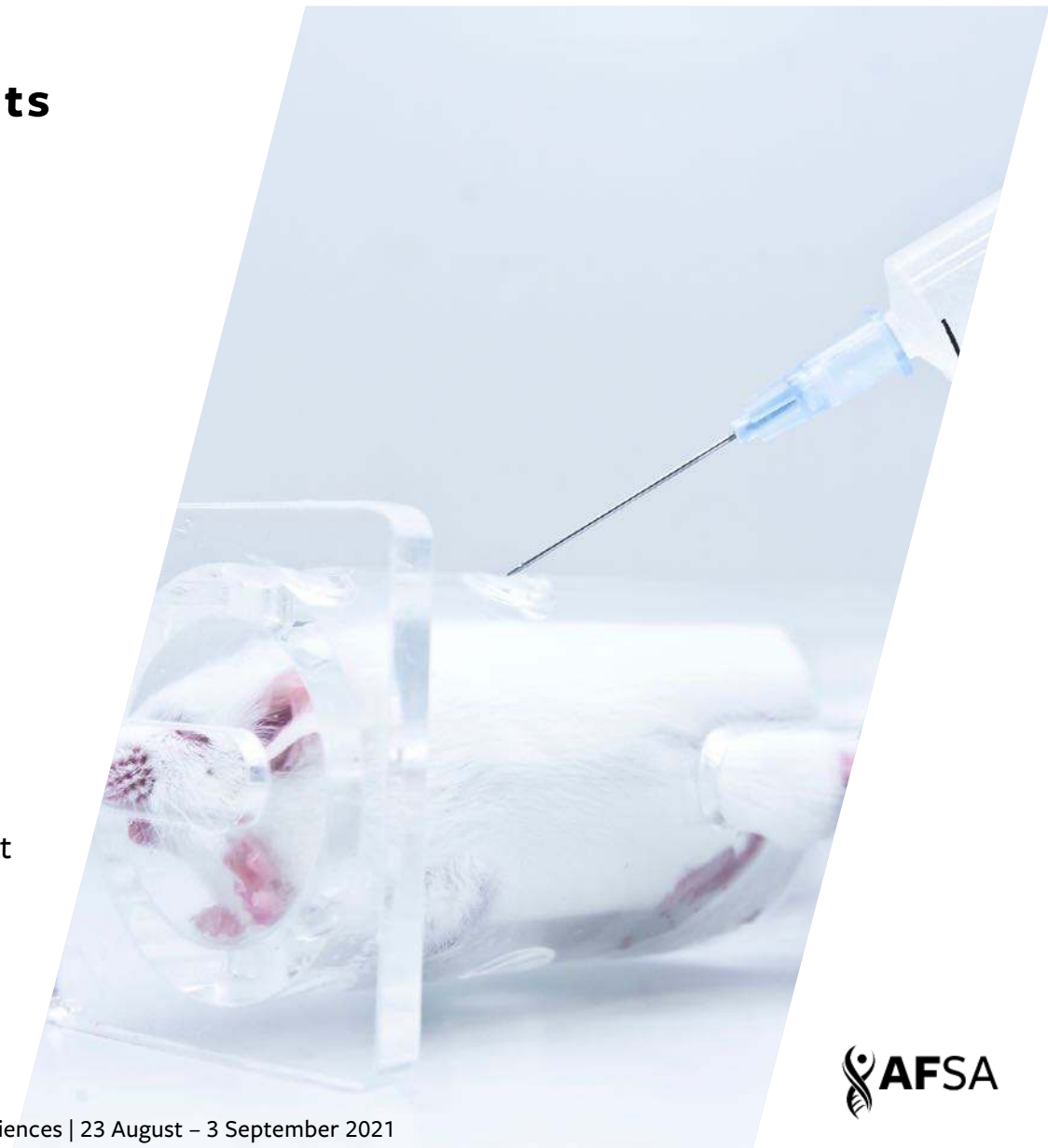
## Issue overview

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- 10-15 million animals used for batch release testing\*
- Final animal-based batch release testing is still viewed as the 'gold standard' in many countries
- Legacy vaccines: fundamental vaccines for worldwide health safety & highest consumption of animals; also where we can have the most significant economic, safety & availability impacts
- 3Rs + consistency approach being introduced & sometimes implemented in WHO, OIE, EU, US, Canadian & Indian regulations; others are considering it
- 3Rs + consistency approach can significantly reduce the cost of vaccines eliminating, reducing/replacing *in vivo* testing & can reduce lead-time of batch release\*\*

\* It is an estimation: few countries/regions collect precise numbers of animals used for research purposed

\*\* ~\$1K USD for a 28 days batch release test in India vs 5 USD for 1 day in vitro potency test.  
Source Vaccine Manufacturer, India



## Lack of regulatory alignment

Varying national requirements challenge manufacturers, drive up costs & hinder transition to NAMs.



## Industry/regulator relationships

The relationship between industry & regulators is complex, often hindered by uncertainty regarding data, priorities, perspectives & responsibilities; need greater openness regarding expectations, data requirements & information availability



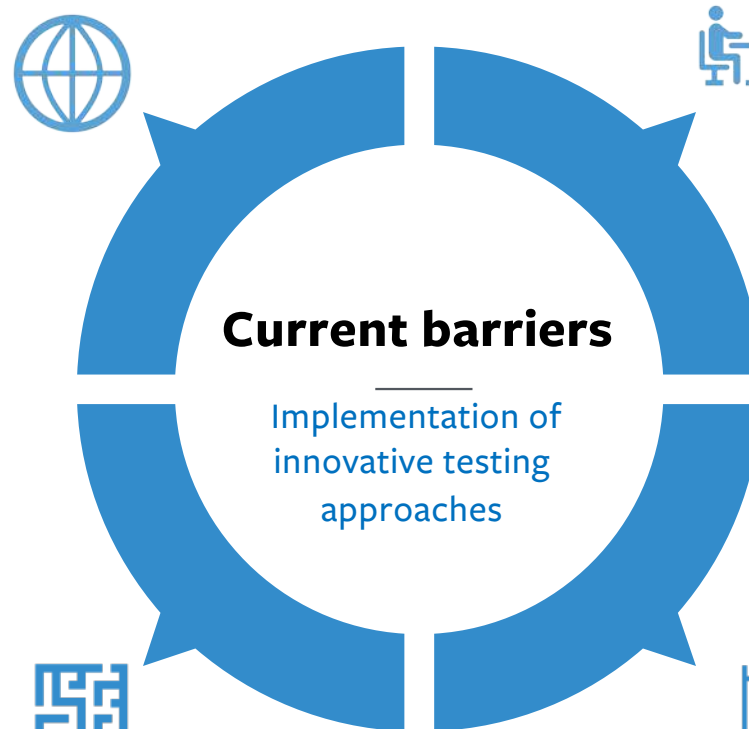
## Regional infrastructures

Economic, technical & human resources challenges/possibilities differ among countries. No silver bullet; tailored approach is needed, based on a thorough understanding of local issues & complexities



## New methods for old products

Transitioning old products to non-animal-based methods can be a challenge due to poor product characterization &/or complexities in new methods development & validation



Based on HSI's experience and on the exercise reported in Bruyster et al. Biologicals 2017 and in Akkermans et al, 2020.





## Biologicals Workstream Strategy

### IDENTIFY 'RIPE' 3R OPPORTUNITIES

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- Deletion/waiving of Abnormal Toxicity & Target Animal Batch Safety tests
- Replacement of Rabbit Pyrogen & LAL tests with Monocyte Activation Test or recombinant Factor C.

### ENGAGE & INFORM KEY STAKEHOLDERS

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- Recruit interested regulators, companies & other stakeholders
- Host workshops to share best practices, success stories, identify barriers & possible solutions
- Peer reviewed publications

### GLOBAL REGULATORY ALIGNMENT

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- Advance changes to national regulations, pharmacopeia monographs/test guidelines, etc.
- Communicate best practices

“ **We** are working to accelerate the removal of obsolete *in vivo* testing requirements from human & veterinary vaccine regulatory frameworks globally ”

World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences | 23 August – 3 September 2021



# Biologicals Workstream Projects

Scheduled Activities in 2021-22

## ABNORMAL TOXICITY TEST DELETION

*Human Immunobiologicals  
(incl. Vaccines)*

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Global  
Prioritized Countries:  
India (*done for vaccines*)  
South Korea  
Indonesia  
China  
Russia  
Japan  
South America

## ANIMAL BATCH SAFETY TEST DELETION

*Veterinary Vaccines*

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Global  
Prioritized Countries:  
North America  
India  
Brazil  
South Korea  
Indonesia  
China  
Russia

## PYROGENICITY

*Biologicals*

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Global  
Brazil  
India



# International workshop on deletion of ATT & TABST

March 2019, Rome



→ Brought together experts, regulators & industry from Argentina, Brazil, China, Europe, India, Russia, South Africa, Switzerland & USA

→ Report accepted for publication in *Biologicals*  
→ Secured funding with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to advance tests deletion in Russia, India, South Korea, Indonesia, China and Brazil till 2022.

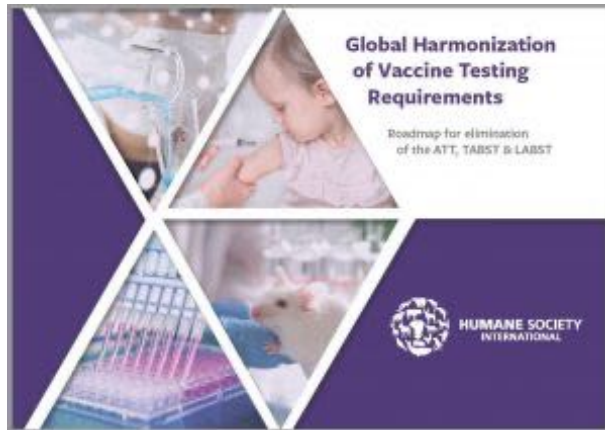
<https://www.gatesfoundation.org/How-We-Work/Quick-Links/Grants-Database/Grants/2019/10/INV-003740>



## AFSA Roadmap for the Elimination of ATT, TABST & LABST

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- ✓ Establish a climate that is conducive, and fertile, to the use of innovative non-animal methods and delete obsolete testing.
- ✓ Build multi-stakeholders collaborations: involving all stakeholders in an exercise of mutual transparent **cooperation and trust-building**.
- ✓ Facilitate science-driven dialogue, mindful of various cultural and policy difference.
- ✓ Share virtuous examples to promote what is possible
- ✓ Leverage benefits in terms of costs, time and safety to stimulate regulatory and industry to take onboard innovation.



Download the AFSA Roadmap for the Elimination of ATT, TABST & LABST:  
English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian  
[www.afsacollaboration.org/biologicals/vaccines-regulatory-alignment](http://www.afsacollaboration.org/biologicals/vaccines-regulatory-alignment)

## CONFIRMED DELETION

(Test removed from regulatory requirements)

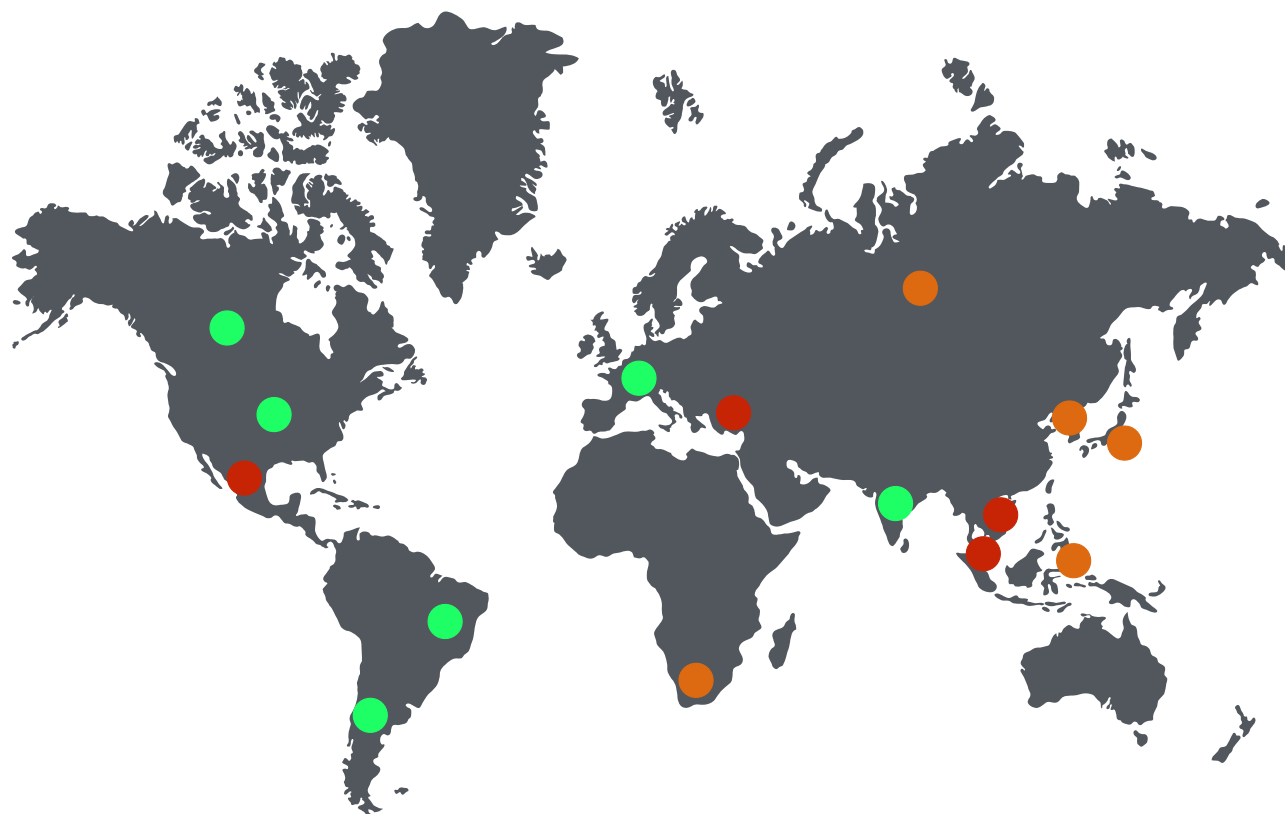
- Europe
- Canada
- United States
- India (almost all vaccines)
- Brazil (one exception)
- Argentina (one exception)

## STILL REQUIRED

(Recently reported interest in advancing discussions)

- Mexico
- Turkey
- Vietnam

# ATT Global Status



DISCUSSION on  
DELETION or WAIVER  
ONGOING

(different level of  
engagement and  
planning, test still  
required)

- South Korea
- Indonesia
- China
- Japan (waivers)
- South Africa
- Russia
- Thailand

WHO RTS 1016, 2018  
recommended the  
deletion of the test

\* Eurasian Pharmacopoeia will replace the Russian Pharmacopoeia and will be the regulation for Russia, Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kirgizistan.  
The regulatory requirements will be the same as per the current Russian Pharmacopoeia.

\*\* Africa has not yet an harmonized regulatory system. Laboratories follows mainly the WHO International Pharmacopoeia.





## ATT Deletion Status

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### WHAT IS HAPPENING AND WHERE

- **Brazil**, deleted for all but one injectable product, 6th Edition of the Brazilian Pharmacopoeia (2019).
- **Argentina**, 7th Edition, 2013 - not required in the vaccines' marketing authorization and in the batch release testing. (aP vaccine still has ATT but the monograph is under review).
- **South Africa**, the NCL stopped to perform ATT in December 2019.
- **Japan**, May 2020, the notification No.221 introduced ATT exemption rule for the Influenza HA vaccine, Haemophilus b conjugate vaccines, pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine and Japanese encephalitis vaccine lot release (Hepatitis B vaccine exemption was already in place).
- **India**, deleted from IP2018 for almost all human vaccines in July 2020.
- **South Korea** plans to delete ATT within 2021 (not performed by the NCL since 2020).
- **China**: still required in the Chinese Pharmacopoeia 2020.
- **Russia**: long-term plan to reduce the testing, products for which the production stability has been confirmed, the ATT can be performed only for 1 series every 5.

## CONFIRMED DELETION

(Tests removed from  
regulatory  
requirements)

→ Europe

## CONFIRMED WAIVER

(Waivers are approved  
based on data  
submission to  
regulatory authorities)

→ United States

→ Japan

→ Canada

## AD-HOC WAIVER AUTHORIZED

Leading multinational veterinary vaccines manufacturers have been able to waive TABST for some products based on variations requests submitted to local regulatory authorities even where the waiver is not officially recognized within the regulatory framework. Company specific and product specific experience.

# TABST&LABST Global Status

International Guidelines for the waivers: VICH GL 50, GL55, GL59 – Reported into the OIE Guidance.



## DISCUSSION on DELETION or WAIVER ONGOING

(different level of  
engagement and  
planning, test still  
required)

→ India

→ Brazil

## STILL REQUIRED

(Tests required, limited  
options for policy  
changes or difficulties  
in stakeholders  
engagement)

→ South Korea

→ China

→ Russia

# TABST&LABST Global Status

- ✓ Harmonisation of criteria to waive TABST / LABST for veterinary vaccines
- ✓ GLs developed by VICH experts
- ✓ Outreach to VICH Forum members to extend waivers implementation
- ✓ Country/region differences in quality standards and pharmacovigilance systems
- ✓ Country specific strategy (Brazil, India)

| Animal species                            | Inactivated vaccines                            | Live vaccines |
|---|---|---------------|
| Target animals                            | GL50R (2017)<br>1 <sup>st</sup> release in 2013 | GL55 (2017)   |
| Laboratory animals<br>(mice, guinea pigs) | GL59 (2020)                                     |               |



## Next Steps

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**Accelerating Global Deletion of the Abnormal Toxicity Test.**  
*Planning common next steps.*

A workshop organized by AFSA/HSI and EFPIA in collaboration with IABS  
October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 // 12:30 – 16:30 CET

*To register go to*  
*[www.afsacollaboration.org](http://www.afsacollaboration.org)*  
*[www.efpia.eu](http://www.efpia.eu)*





**Thank you!**



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