



March 2020

## ***Policy Decision 20-03***

# **Listing criteria for the National List of Reportable Diseases of Aquatic Animals**

Animal Health Committee

“The *National List* contains some diseases<sup>1</sup> that are exotic to Australia and some that occur in parts of Australia. At the present time, to be listed on the National List diseases must meet at least one of the following criteria:

- a) a disease listed by the OIE in its Aquatic Animal Health Code (Aquatic Code); or
- b) a disease listed by the Network of Aquaculture Centres in Asia-Pacific (NACA) reporting program that is clearly described by its aetiology (causative agent) and the relevant diagnostic method is available; or
- c) a disease is of national and genuine concern to Australia.

Diseases that are not listed by the OIE and NACA may be added to the National List if they are ‘of national and genuine concern to Australia’ (criterion c). For a disease to be listed under criterion c, the following criteria must apply:

- a) a disease is exotic to Australia, or if it occurs in parts of Australia vigilance is necessary to minimise its spread; and
- b) a disease would have significant socio-economic impacts if it occurred; and
- c) a disease can be clearly described by its aetiology (causative agent) and the relevant diagnostic method is available.

<sup>1</sup>**Note:** “Disease” under the listing criteria is defined as *clinical* or *non-clinical* infection with one or more pathogenic agents (the same definition as the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code).

Many of the aquatic animal diseases included on the *National List* are written in the ‘Infection with Pathogen X’ format to align with the disease naming convention of the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Code. This is because reporting of a disease to the OIE is based upon the confirmed detection of the *disease* (clinical or non-clinical infection with one or more pathogenic agents; where *infection* means active replication of the pathogen within the host), not the detection of the pathogen in isolation.”

## **References**

- 1) AHC37\_OOS21\_RESOLUTION\_Revised Listing Criteria for the National List of Reportable Disease of Aquatic Animals

## **More information**

Learn more about the Animal Health Committee.

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### **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

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