

## Summary of the 33<sup>rd</sup> Biological Testing Accreditation Advisory Committee Meeting

Date 16 June 2016

Venue Melbourne Office

### Membership

The Committee structure was reviewed and found to reflect the range of activities for which accreditation is offered. In 2017 the terms of several members will expire and EOI will be sought.

### Committee Member reports

Issues raised:

- Demand in the following areas is likely to increase:
  - Food spoilage investigations
  - Testing to standard methods from other economies for export
  - Requests for parts of tests to be undertaken at different locations even in other economies.
- Laboratories are seeing increased requests for testing composite samples as manufacturers work to decrease the testing overheads while still assuring the safety of their products.
- In food manufacturing, real time testing in line is expected to be implemented in the foreseeable future. As an alternative to traditional microbiological testing, this will change how food is tested in manufacturing environments.
- Data integrity is now a growing focus for international and domestic regulators. In the past, data integrity has been reviewed in manufacturing facilities, but the scope is now extending to testing facilities to assure credible data generated by appropriate quality management.
- Cell based therapeutic products are an emerging trend in healthcare. Depending on the nature of the product, the methods used for testing can be quite different to those commonly used for conventional therapeutic products.
- The move to molecular methods is driving the need for more molecular reference materials to be available.