



HUMAN AND ANIMAL GOOD CELL CULTURE BANKING PRACTICES

M. Ferrari, S. Renzi, L. Sesso, R. Villa

National Reference Cell Culture Centre
Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale della Lombardia
dell'Emilia Romagna – Brescia
Italy

CELL CULTURE LABORATORY BASED ON:

- Laboratory facilities
- Equipment
- Reagents, media
- Competence of staff
- Human and animal cell cultures
- Quality controls
- Validation techniques
- Records of the different steps
- Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)



LABORATORY FACILITIES

- For diagnosis and research (Category 2, ACDP)
- For cell therapy, drugs/biologicals “CGMPs”
- Dedicated laboratories
- Proper maintenance duties
- Environmental contamination kept at minimum

EQUIPMENTS AND FACILITIES

- Class II Biological Safety Cabinets
- Liquid nitrogen tanks in a designated area
- Warm (37°C) and cold (+4°C, -20°C) rooms
- Freezers (-80°C)
- Areas for “*general services*”

*All the instruments are properly maintained,
tested and calibrated*

REAGENTS AND MEDIA

- Names of the suppliers and all information for traceability
- Quality controls
 - ✓ pH
 - ✓ Sterility
 - ✓ Traceability label



Two kinds of media:

- Liquid (ready to use)
- Dried, diluted and sterilized

COMPETENCE OF STAFF

- Basic culture technique
- Safety precautions
- Documented training program
- Regular reviews of training improvements
- Provided in-house
- External courses



**What types of cells
are banked in our centre
and what type of
quality controls
we perform?**



HUMAN AND ANIMAL CELL CULTURES

- Primary cells
- Continuous cell lines
- Hybridomas
- Animal mesenchymal stem cells
- Samples from Alzheimer Disease patients

INFORMATIONS:

- ✓ Origin and name
- ✓ Identification code
- ✓ Methods for cell manipulation
- ✓ Morphological and culture characteristics
- ✓ Specific data

PRIMARY CELL CULTURES

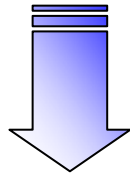
Animal tissues / raw materials



ISOLATION



QUALITY CONTROLS



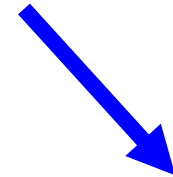
SEEDING



Eubacteria



Viruses



Mycoplasma



Storage

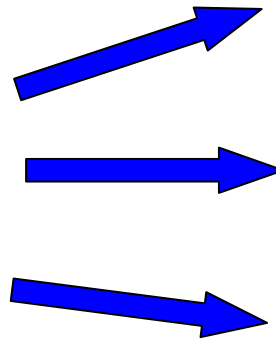


Sub-cultures

ANIMAL MESENCHYMAL STEM CELLS

Isolated from

- Adipose Tissue
- Bone Marrow
- Amnion

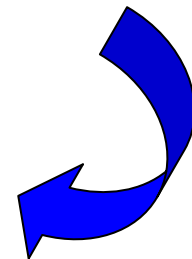


Amplification

Biobanking

Allogenic or
autologous
transplantation

To repair tendon and
cartilage injuries in
equine species



PRIMARY CULTURE DATA RECORD

ORIGIN OF TISSUE						DISAGGREGATION				
Species	Race of strain	Age	Sex	Tissue	Site	Enzyme	Concentration	Duration	Temperature	Solvent

Head of the laboratory:

Date:

SEEDING			MEDIUM					MATRIX COATING
Vassel (n° & type)	Concentration	Volume	Type	Batch n°	Serum (Type & concentration)	Batch n°	Antibiotic (Type & concentration)	Type

Head of the laboratory:

Date:

RISKS OF CELL CULTURE BANKING

- Cross-contamination
- Pathogen contamination
- Phenotypic and genotypic changes

Correct cell banking:

- A master cell bank
- Several working cell banks



ANIMAL CELL LINES AND REAGENTS

- High risk of contamination by viruses and microorganisms
- Viruses: undetectable as non cytopathogenic *in vitro* (*circovirus*, *BVDV*, *TTV*, *pestivirus*, *retroviruses*)
- Sources: SPF animals or controlled raw material
- Proper testing with validated laboratory methods

RISKS OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

- ✓ Enzymes
- ✓ Foetal calf serum

Selection of the source

- Country and herd of origin
- Veterinary certificate
- Production methods
- Analytical data
- Storage and shipping information

RISKS OF ANIMAL PRODUCTS

Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE)

Guideline of the European Directive for the Quality of Medicine:

Certificate of Suitability

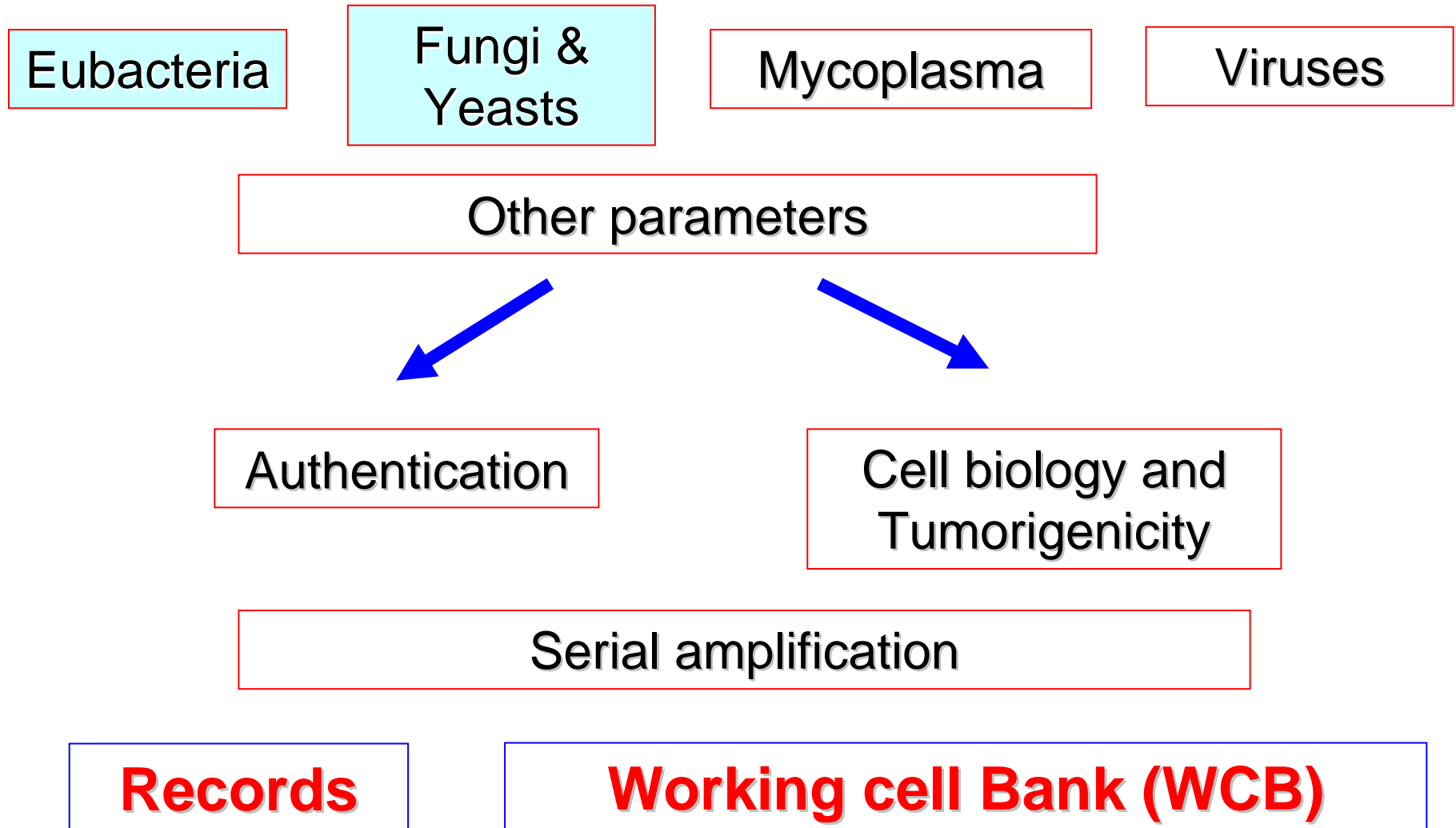
- Geographical origin of the material
- Part of the material
- Age of animals
- Manufacturing process



Note: brain and nervous tissue - targets
diagnostic tests not for PrPSc detection in serum

QUALITY CONTROLS

According to European Pharmacopeia



STERILITY TESTING FOR BACTERIA, FUNGI AND YEASTS:

Cell cultivation in antibiotic-free media

- Inoculation in bacteriological media at different temperatures; 28 days required
- HEPA- filtered air in the laboratory and biosafety cabinets
- Carried out on the MCB and WCB

During routine serial passages

Inoculation in other bacteriological media:

- Blood agar (37°C/72 h)
- Sabouraud medium (30°C/96 h)

STERILITY TEST ACCORDING WITH EUROPEAN PHARMACOPEIA

CELL LINE	PASSAGE N° BATCH N° FREEZING DATA	THYOGLICOLATE MEDIUM BATCH N°	TSB BATCH N°	DATA INOCULUM	TECHNICIAN	FINAL DATA

Head of the laboratory:

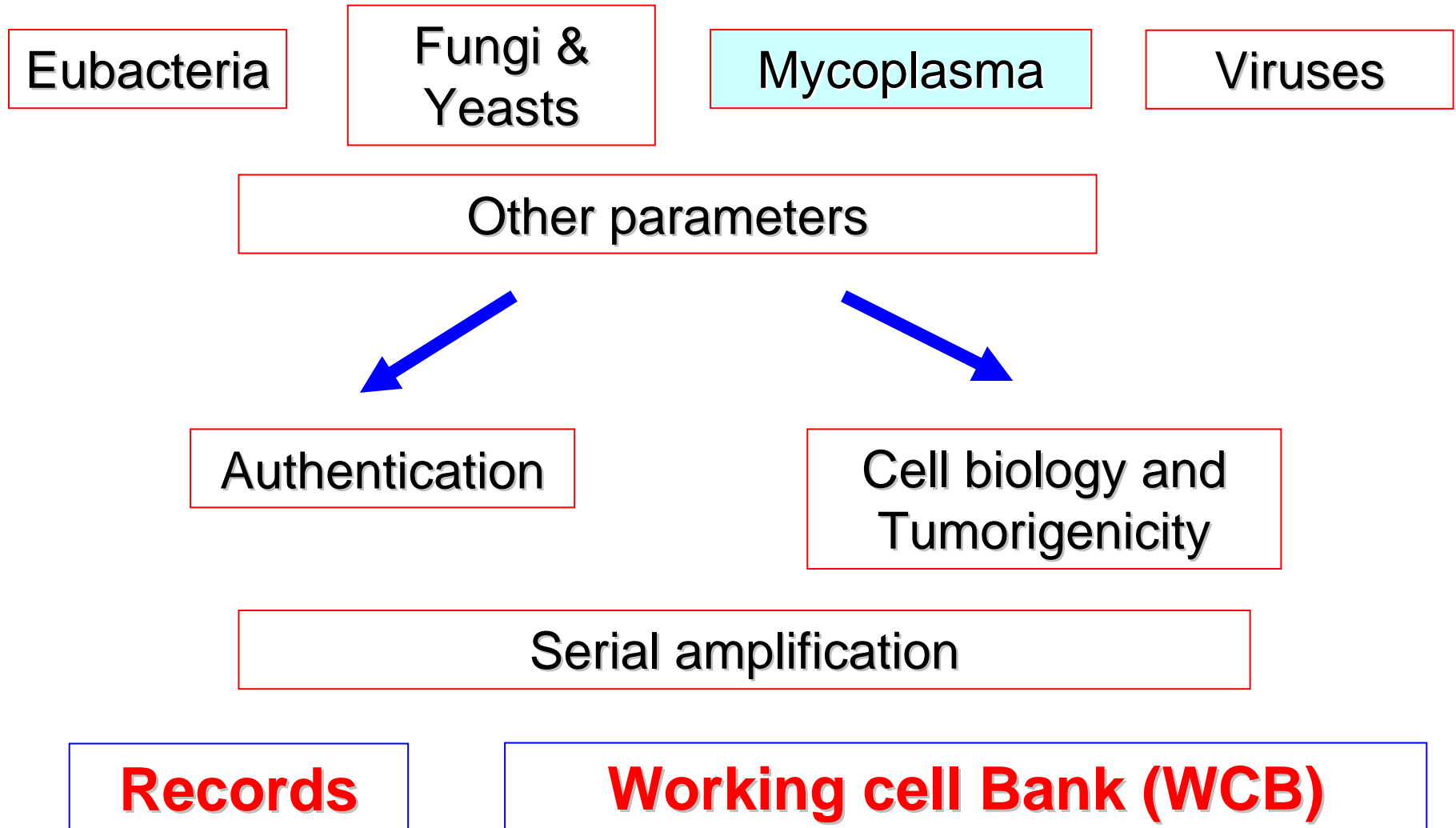
ROUTINE TEST FOR EUBACTERIA CONTAMINATION BLOOD AGAR BASE AND SABOURAUD AGAR MEDIA

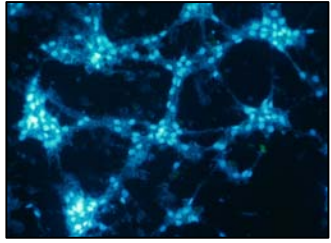
DATA	CELL LINE	PASSAGE	FREEZING DATA	RESULT BLOOD AGAR			RESULT SABOURAUD AGAR			
				DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3	DAY 4

Technician:

QUALITY CONTROLS

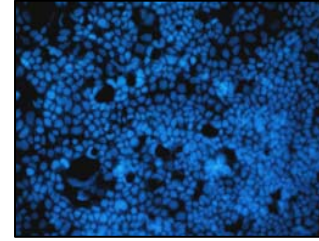
According to European Pharmacopeia





Infected cells

MYCOPLASMA TESTING



Not infected cells

Stringent controls

- Inoculation in sensitive cells (VERO) and staining by Hoechst method
- Isolation in specific growth media
- NAT assay

Rapid tests

- Direct Hoechst staining low sensitivity (10^4 microorganisms/ml not visualized)
- ELISA:
 - identification of four species (M. orale, M. arginini, M. hyorhinitis, A. laidlawi)
- Detection of mycoplasma metabolites (PCR by RNA hybridisation)

Cell Culture Center

Via Bianchi, 9

25124 Brescia

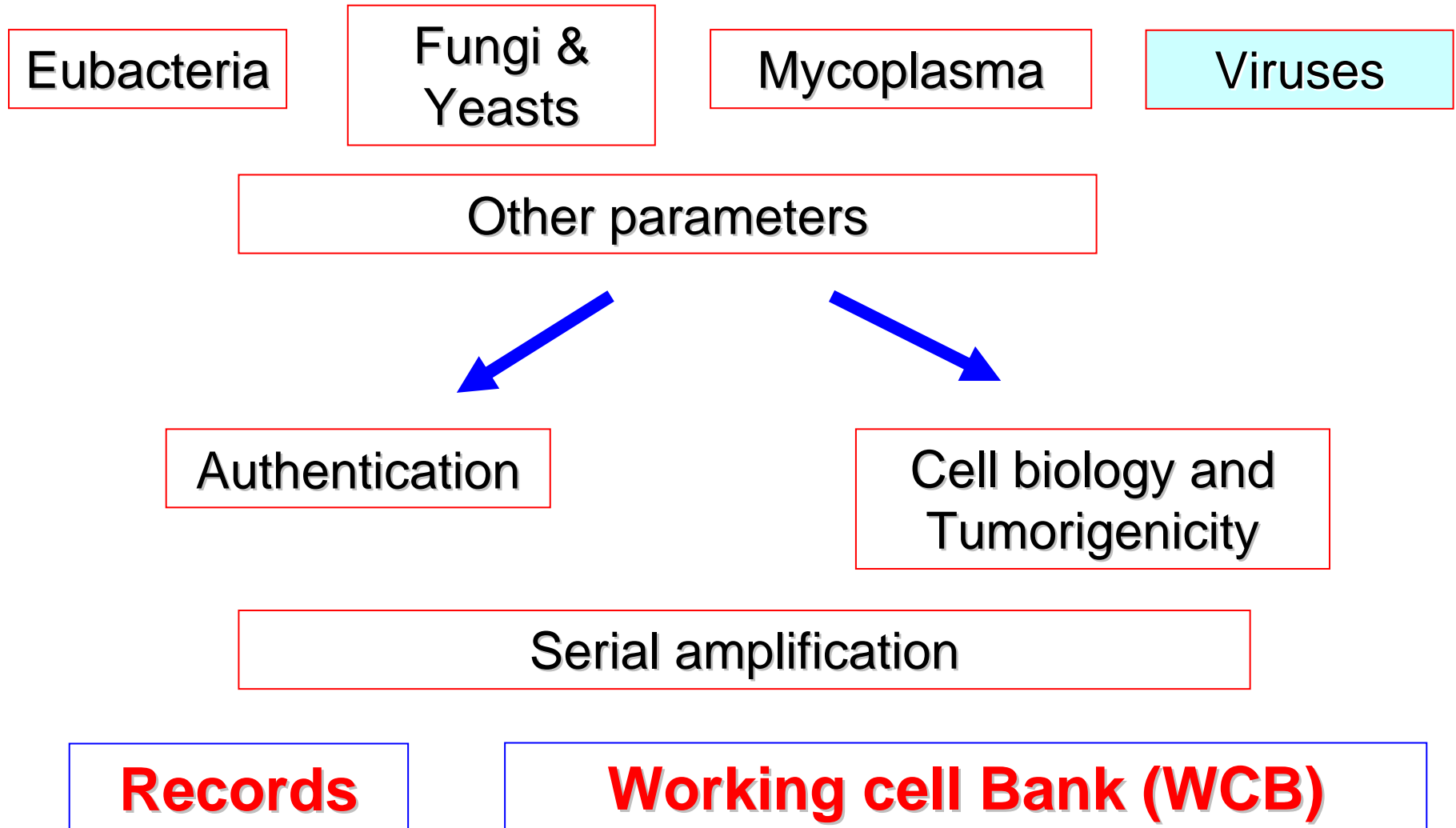
HOECHST STAINING

TEST DATA	INOCULUM DATA	CELL LINE	PASSAGE NUMBER	FREEZING DATA	RESULTS BACTERIA	RESULTS MIYCOPLASMA	TECHNICIAN	RECORD ON SOFTWARE

Head of the laboratory

QUALITY CONTROLS

According to European Pharmacopeia



HUMAN AND ANIMAL VIRUSES MORE FREQUENTLY INVESTIGATED

Species	Virus
Bovine	BVD, Polyoma, Retrovirus
Swine	Circovirus, CMV, Parvovirus, Pestivirus, Retrovirus, Hepatitis E
Fowl	Retrovirus, Chick anemia
Human	HIV, HTLV, HBV, HCV, CMV, Parvovirus, HSV, EBV, Papilloma
Monkey	SV 40, Herpes simiae B, Parainfluenza
Mouse	Reovirus, Sendai, Lactic dehydrogenase, lymphocytic choriomeningitis, Reovirus-3, Hepatitis, Minute virus of mice

VIRUSES IN CELL CULTURES

Related to the species and tissue of origin

➤ Detection by inoculation in:

- susceptible cell cultures
- chicken embryos
- laboratory animals

Time consuming and expensive

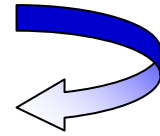
➤ Electron microscopy

➤ Reverse transcriptase assay

- NAT assay
 - ✓ sensitive
 - ✓ rapid
 - ✓ reproducible

No differentiation between alive and inactivated virus

NAT ASSAY



positive

negative

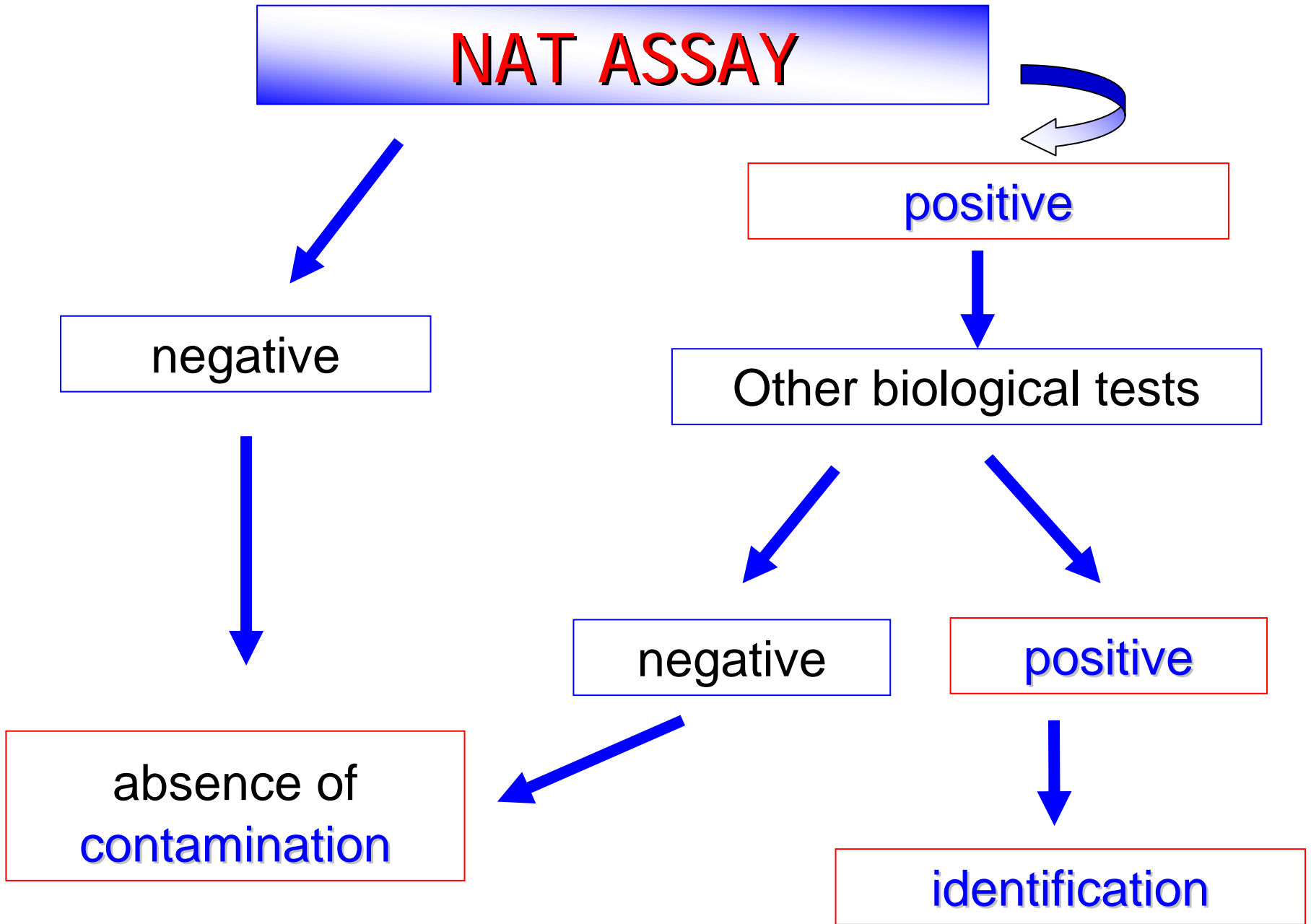
Other biological tests

negative

positive

absence of
contamination

identification



Cell Culture Center

Via Bianchi, 9

25124 Brescia

SUBCULTURE RECORD

CELL LINE		STATUS BEFORE CULTURE				DISSOCIATION		
Cell line	Passage n°	Phase	Morphology	Density	Clarity of medium	Enzyme	Concentration	Duration

Head of the laboratory:

Date:

SEEDING				MEDIUM					MATRIX COATING
Vassel (n° & type)	Cell concentration	Split ratio	Volume	Type	Batch n°	Serum (Type & concentration)	Batch n°	Antibiotic (Type & concentration)	Type

Head of the laboratory:

Date:

TO SUMMARIZE

- Bacteria, fungi and yeasts
- Mycoplasma
- Viruses: exogenous (primary cells) and endogenous

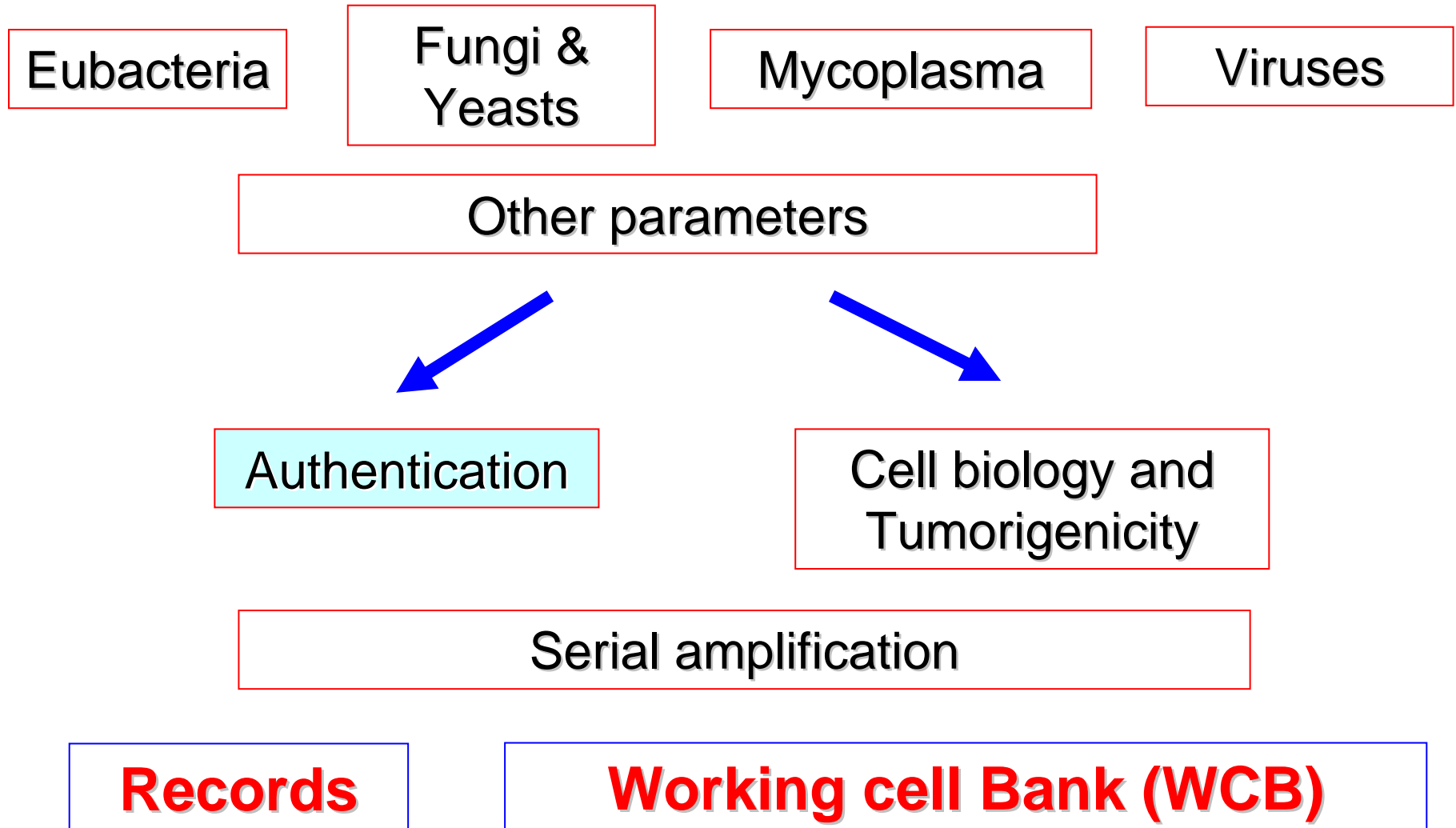
Risks of infection spreading to
other cells / workers

Precautions

- Suitable facilities, processing clearly defined, proper handling during freezing and proper retrieval of vials from liquid nitrogen

QUALITY CONTROLS

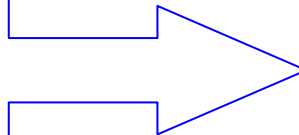
According to European Pharmacopeia



AUTHENTICATION

Identity of cell type:

- ✓ Isoenzyme analysis
- ✓ DNA profile
- ✓ Kariology
- ✓ Mitochondrial DNA analysis



In Vitro Cell.Dev.Biol.—Animal
DOI 10.1007/s11626-008-9125-x

An alternative method to isoenzyme profile for cell line identification and interspecies cross-contaminations: cytochrome *b* PCR-RLFP analysis

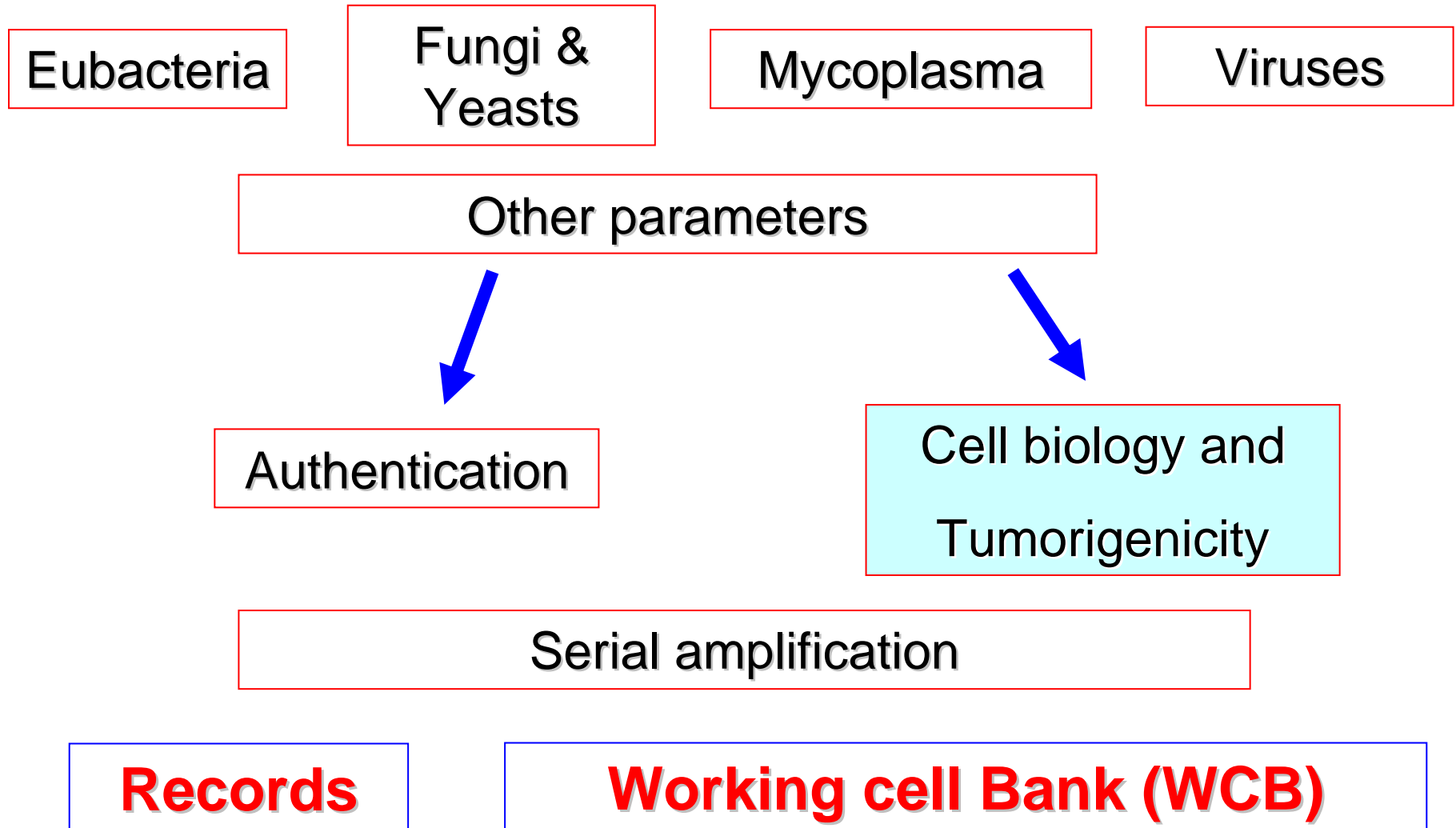
Claretta G Losi • Stefania Ferrari • Enrico Sossi •
Riccardo Villa • Maura Ferrari

Received: 10 March 2008 / Accepted: 16 May 2008 / Editor: J. Denry Sato
© The Society for In Vitro Biology 2008

HeLa or contamination with other cells and their current use
Doubtful scientific conclusions on the results
of studies with these cross-contaminated cells

QUALITY CONTROLS

According to European Pharmacopeia



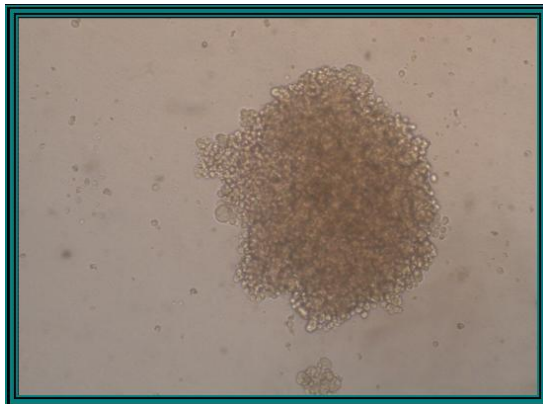
CELL BIOLOGY AND TUMORIGENICITY

- Cell substrate stability – at the beginning and end of the intended span of use
- Karyotyping and life span (cell population doubling) for diploid cells
- Tumorigenicity

In vitro

Transformed

colony



In vivo

Tumor

formation



**Quality system:
accreditation
UNI CEI EN
ISO/IEC 17025
ISO 9001/9002**

DEFINITIONS

In a cell culture bank

- Quality of a product: conforms to specification
- Quality assurance: based on management procedures, environment and quality control
 - to ensure the quality and safety of a product
- Quality controls: based on tests to
 - ensure identity, viability, sterility
- They must be performed by
 - validated methods

Standard operative procedures (SOPS)

- Maintenance and sterility of all equipment and instruments
- Culture reagents
- Good culture techniques
- Coding and recording system for cryopreserved cells
- Quality control procedures

Records for each process

- Subculture
- Passages
- Batches
- Position in liquid nitrogen
- Quality controls
to
- Reduce risks of contamination or misidentification
- Identify cells

Moreover

- Good and standardised handling procedures (records)
- Seed stock at the first passages after validation and working stocks (records and software)
- Distribution and transfer together with detailed cell line information and handling and storage method

Storage of a validated cell line in a cell culture bank allows to protect against loss and to provide authenticated cells

VALIDATION

a cell line is completely characterised and it is suitable for a specific use

Principles of good cell culture technique similar to good laboratory practice

CONCLUSIONS

The maintenance of high standards is fundamental to all scientific community and manufactures which uses cell cultures

However

Quality standards must be selected for each type of operation

THANKS FOR YOUR KIND
ATTENTION

