**Definitions of Suspected and Confirmative Diagnostic Tests (WOAH, 2023)**

The presence of RSIV or ISKNV should be suspected if at least one of the following criteria is met:

1) Presence of typical clinical signs and confirmation of abnormally enlarged cells on stamp-smear or tissue sections.

2) Presence of typical clinical signs and confirmation of the presence of virions in abnormally enlarged cells by electron microscopy.

3) Virus isolation with specific CPE.

4) Presence of IFAT positive cells on stamp-smear.

The presence of RSIV or ISKNV should be considered as confirmed if, in addition to the criteria in 7.1, one or more of the following criteria is met:

1) Virus isolation with specific CPE and positive result of IFAT using infected cell cultures.

2) Virus isolation with specific CPE and positive for PCR using extracted DNA from isolated virus as template.

3) Positive for PCR using extracted DNA from affected organs as template.

4) Presence of typical abnormally enlarged cells showing positive IFAT results on stamp-smear.

**Table 1. Methods for targeted surveillance and diagnosis of Fish Iridoviruses**

<https://www.woah.org/en/what-we-do/standards/codes-and-manuals/aquatic-manual-online-access/> (accessed on 8th July 2024)

[Red sea bream iridoviral disease](https://www.woah.org/fileadmin/Home/eng/Health_standards/aahm/current/2.3.07_RSIVD.pdf) (version adopted in May 2012)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Method | Targeted surveillance | | | | Presumptive  diagnosis | Confirmatory  diagnosis |
| Larvae | PLs | Juveniles | Adults |
| Gross signs | D | D | D | D | B | D |
| Bioassay (virus isolation in cell culture) and IFAT or PCR | C | C | C | C | A | A |
| Direct LM | D | D | C | D | B | D |
| Histopathology | D | D | D | D | B | D |
| Transmission EM | D | D | D | D | B | D |
| Antibody-based assays(IFAT) of isolated virus or stamp-smear | C | C | C | C | A | A/B |
| PCR | C | C | C | C | A | A |
| Sequence | D | D | D | D | A | A |

PLs = postlarvae; IFAT = immunofluorescent antibody test; PCR = polymerase chain reaction; LM = light microscopy; EM = electron microscopy.

A. Specificity and sensitivity-guided recommended method; B. Standard method with good diagnostic sensitivity; C: Method with limited application; D: Method not recommended.